HALACHIC ORGAN DONOR SOCIETY’S
LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2017

1. HODS enabled a number of Jewish families to donate organs saving dozens of lives.

2. The major fundraising event for HODS is the annual 5K race held this year in Brooklyn, New York on May 7, 2017. It was our 6th annual race. As a result of race participants asking their friends and family to sponsor them in the race, HODS raised over $132,000. Our race is an event our members look forward to every year and enjoy. Photos from the race are posted on our Facebook page.

3. Every year there is an increase in the number of Orthodox Rabbis and Orthodox Physicians who register for the HODS organ donor card. There are over 300 Rabbis and over 200 Physicians who carry their HODS Organ Donor Card in their wallets.

4. There is an increase of people using our website and material to give medical and ethics presentations.

5. HODS representatives delivered 50 lectures on Jewish law and organ donation to groups in USA, Australia, Croatia, Germany, Israel, and South Africa reaching hundreds of people. Lectures were given upon invitation to Limmud conferences, hospitals, synagogues, schools, yeshivot, seminaries, college campuses, Hillel Houses, and in private homes.

6. A HODS representative presented at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem to 50 surgeons, nurses, and transplant coordinators at the Department of Anesthesiology about the halachic issues surrounding brain death and organ donation.

7. A HODS representative was interviewed about the importance of organ donation on an Australian radio show, a South African radio show, a very popular yeshivish Podcast and an Arabic TV news program.
8. A HODS representative presented on halachic support for organ donation before an elite unit of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF).

9. A HODS representative was invited to encourage Arabs to donate organs in an Arab school in Jerusalem.

10. HODS Explanation of Death video has received more than 80,000 views. A Non-Profit from India adapted the very effective HODS educational movie on brain death for different dialects in India.

11. Many Rabbis from France issued a proclamation forbidding Jews to donate organs. In response to the proclamation HODS organized a number of presentations in France, translated our source materials and brochures into French, and shipped thousands of them to Paris to be distributed to Jewish communities.

12. HODS was invited again to host an information booth at the Rabbinical Council of America’s Annual Convention in June 2017. HODS representatives attended the conference, staffed a table of HODS literature and distributed flyers. They spoke to many rabbis at the conference. Each year there seems to be more positive interest on the party of Orthodox rabbis to consider the subject of organ donation.

13. LiveOnNY, the local Organ Procurement Organization in NY, continues to use our materials and refer people of Jewish faith to our website.

14. Given that the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) declared November as national organ donor month, HODS sent notices to Rabbis to give a sermon on one Sabbath in that month.

15. HODS annually sponsors a Teaneck League Baseball team and a team in the Jerusalem Football League. The HODS Logo is imprinted on the T-shirts. We have had much anecdotal feedback that these teams raise awareness about the organization, its mission and halachic support for organ donation.

16. HODS was granted free office space in NYC for the year.