B”H

16 Iyyar 5786
ט”ז באייר ה’תשפ”ו
May 3rd 2026

OP/ED

וַתַּעַן אֶסְתֵּר הַמַּלְכָּה וַתֹּאמַר אִם־מָצָאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ וְאִם־עַל־הַמֶּלֶךְ טוֹב תִּנָּתֶן־לִי נַפְשִׁי בִּשְׁאֵלָתִי וְעַמִּי בְּבַקָּשָׁתִי׃

“If I have found favor in your eyes, Melech Haolam (The True King of the whole Universe), and if it seems good to the Melech (The King of the world)

Please grant me my request and to perform my petition,

by keeping the topic of under-resourced mental health services at the forefront of the public’s attention both in Israel as well as globally.

Especially now during this time of war and when the war is finally over.

#EstherHaMalkaOneDollarFund

I am not alone
I am not anomaly
I am one of many

We are Human

The quantifiable evidence to support my story and the shared experience of the men, women and children who are living with the same reality as I am both globally and in America has been documented and debated in the public's discourse for decades. Both on a domestic and worldwide stage for years with no great avail.

Here are the latest key findings and state rankings of the (MHA) “Mental Health America” which was founded in 1909 as one of America’s leading community-based nonprofits dedicated to addressing the needs of those living with mental Illness and Addiction both in America and globally.

Addiction is a trauma response

#NoShame

Their reports are both staggering and tragic especially in the year 2023

We are now in the year 2026/ **16 Iyyar 5786** ט”ז באייר ה’תשפ”ו

Here are some of their key findings:

21 percent of all adults in America are experiencing a mental Illness.

This is equivalent to over 50 million Americans.

15 Percent of adults have a substance use disorder.

In the past year 93.5% percent did not receive treatment.

The percentage of adults reporting serious suicidal thoughts are 4.8%.

(These statics don't include the most recent findings of IDF soldiers and suicide)

11% of adults who identified with two or more races reported serious thoughts of suicide.

16% of youth report suffering from at least one major depressive episode in the past year.

More than 2.27 million youth are experiencing severe major depression.

55% of adults with a mental illness receive no treatment- over 28 million individuals.

11% of adults with mental illness are uninsured. (over 5.5 million)

I am not an anomaly

The greatest experts in academics from our leading world-renowned institutions have tried to solve this dilemma and they have failed me and countless other individuals and families for many years now.

In the US there are 350 individuals for every one mental health provider.

I have spent the last 17 years doing my due diligence to access this long-term quality care mental health treatment for the advanced level care I have needed

personally to make a full recovery and have been shut out and denied accessibly for years despite my best efforts.

I am not alone in this realty.

Once the war is over our veterans and IDF soldiers and their families are going to need accessibly to long term trauma informed quality mental health care both in Israel and America.

Where is this help going to come from especially for families and soldiers who are low-income?

Mental illness and Addiction are just as serious as cancer.

But with mental health and Addiction there is stigma.

And with that stigma comes indifference, intolerance and a lack of humanity and compassion towards Hashems most vulnerable citizens both in America as well in Israel and across the globe.

I can testify that if a person does not have the right type of health insurance and cannot afford to pay for their treatment out of pocket the odds or not in your favor to make a full recovery.

According to the (MHA) 28 percent of all adults with a mental illness reported that they were not able to receive the treatment they needed. Most reported they did not receive care because they could not afford it.

60% of youth with major depression do not receive mental health treatment.

23%. of adults who report experiencing 14 or more mentally unhealthy days each month were not able to see a doctor due to costs.

Mental illness is acute.

The long-term suffering in a person's life even with treatment is a hard journey to endure.

Without treatment it is a death sentence.

I am one of many

As an artist with a documented disability, I am both a survivor and a victim.

I share this suffering with all of the American people and the global citizens around the world including many Jewish and Israeli families and IDF soldiers who like me who radically accept the unacceptable every day.

Eventually our quality of life does not resemble a humane existence and then we start to die way before our time.

But there is hope and recovery if the right trauma informed quality and comprehensive care is made available for all of Hashems children especially his most vulnerable yeladim.

(Children in Hebrew)

We Are Human

Human beings are not commodities and the budget is very important. How do we create resources that are effective enough to fix this cruelty and the prolonged suffering of so many of citizens from around the globe who are experiencing unspeakable pain right now?

Where are the leaders that understand their legal and ethical reasonability to do the right thing for the most vulnerable citizens among us who suffer silent cries of desperation without any *Lifeline* to hold on to?

Can we put human lives first? And then figure out a robust budget for all of the most pressing social justice issues in our world today?

How can we afford not to?

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