

Bone marrow mitzvah drive

[By TJ Reporter](#) - Thursday 15th November 2007

The Jewish community is being urged to join the bone marrow register to help save the life of a Finchley Reform Synagogue member and thousands of others as part of the Jewish Community Centre's London Mitzvah Day on Sunday.

The day, which has been backed by Minister for the Third Sector Phil Hope, urges volunteers to contribute to local and national projects including the search for donors.

Sharon Berger was diagnosed with MDS last year, a rare bone marrow disease which leads to leukemia. Her children Jonni and Caroline have been leading calls to help their mum and 7,000 others.

Jonni said: "To date we have helped to recruit over 700 more people to the register, which is fantastic. We hope to help lots of people but if just one life is saved it will all have been worth it."

Jonni's fiancée Rabbi Miriam Bayfield of Finchley Reform Synagogue helped ensure over 100 people joined the register at a previous screening in March.

The next screening, for anyone of any religion or ethnic background, is being organised with the Anthony Nolan Trust and hosted by the JCC.

Caroline said "We remain positive that we will find a donor for our mum, all it takes is one special person to give the gift of life".

Praising the JCC's Mitzvah Day, Hope said: The Government wants to encourage a culture of volunteering and JCC's Mitzvah Day is an ideal occasion for individuals to become involved in giving their time, and not just their money to charities."

The screening is at the Britannia Hotel, Primrose Hill Road, NW3 between 1pm and 4pm this Sunday

From TotallyJewish.com