“Yours is a beautiful message of Hope.”

Dr. Bruce Dezube, Harvard Medical School

“Always remember how much I love you.
Let’s always remember how lucky we are to have each other.”

Jodi Brodsky

“There is no harder working team of race directors on
Long Island than Richard and Jodi Brodsky.”

Mike Polansky, President of the Greater Long Island Running Club

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Abdul Aziz
Albert Wahnon
Alfonso Zepeda
Alice Patricia McCarthy Miller
Anna Maria Arroyo
Annie R. Battle
Anthony Sartori
Antonia Paulino
Arlene Ringel
Art Somers
Arthur Brodsky
Baby Amanda Giannino
Bartholomew J. Recame, Sr.
Ben & Dorothy Seger
Bernard Klein
Bernice “Honey” Kaufman
Bernice Peloquin
Bertha Apollo
Bessie Ellen Hampton
Betty Schachter
Beverly & Louis Donenfeld
Bonni Goetz
Bradley Kanter
Brian Monaghan
Calvin Holt
Carmela & Sal Centrone
Caroline Scott
Catherine Kirshenbaum
Christina Felice Mazzitelli
Christopher Williams
Clare & Walter Sobol

Daisy Patrick-Singelton
David Brodsky
David Frank
David Swed
Denise Gallardo
Dennis Donnelly
Dennis McCarthy
Dorothy Macaluso
Dr. Bernd W. Scheithauer
Dr. Steven Buzermanis
Dylan Tavares
Ed Goldenberger
Edith & Wally Goetz
Edward Simmons
Elizabeth Beinlein
Ellen Silberman
Elise & John Knoerzer
Enil Sladec
Ennis Johnson
Eric Murray
Erisa Justin Ngolobe
Evelyn Felder
Everyone who died from Cancer & AIDS
Ex-Captain Peter Timmes
Fay Simms
Faye Elizabeth Hughes
Fidel Antonio Melchor
Francis & Arnold Myers

Francois Franklin Conde
Frank Boggiana
Fred Von der Heydt
Fred & Nat Krowne
George Dennis
Giovanna Romeo
Gladya & Confesor Sanchez
Gladya DuBois Frazier
Grace Irene Ross
Grail McGinley
Harold Lynn
Harriet & Alex Frankel
Harriet Cooper
Harry Ford
Helen Peteri
Helen Swackhamer
Henry Orn
Herbert Brodsky
Herbert Stein
Herby Grossman
Ilene Backer
Iris & Michael Friedman
Irwin Rich
Iyabo Egboranbe
Jack & Simone Rosenberg
Jacob Laufer
Jacob S. Mathias
James Hayes
Jay Pomerantz
Jeanette & Khabana Fatoullah
Jeanne Lorey

Jerry LaPenna
Jerry Vaughn, Laura Bouldin
Karlman
Joanne & Jules Slansky
John DeSola
John Fleming
John Kalmar
John Quinn
Jose Nunez
Jose Ortiz
Joseph B. Martin
Joseph Harris, Sheila Reddick
Joseph Sartori
Joseph Scheich
Jules Fever
Julia Espinal
Kurt Osterman
Lee Steinfeld
Leo Dobrzeniecki
Leonore Schiller
Lester & Marcia Langweil
Liberal DeMedeiros
Linda Shad
Lloyd D. Frazier
Lucienne Cahill
Lynette Reyneke
Lynne Maglio
Mama Alice
Mama Pilista Bonyo
Margie Parker
Maria & Jospeh Gehl

Mariana Toala
Mariela Serna.
Marilyn & Jack Beatry
Mario Crispino
Marion Wendland
Mark M. Wallace
Martin Drayer
Martin Kaufman
Mary & Patrick Mulvey
Mary Matathias
Mary Napolitano
Mary Ochoa
Mary, John & Steven Chodkowski
Melvin Wolfe
Michael Lewis Levine
Michael Scott Barish
Mickie Schreiber
Mildred Johnson
Mitchell I. Silbowitz
Mohinde Kaur Virdee
Peter Paxinos
Phu Quoc Nguyen
Rita & Bob Bronfman
Robert Vaughn
Ronnie and Joe Yachnowitz
Rose Cirrin
Ruby & Arthur Marush, Sr.
Ruchel, Aurelia & Samuel
Weisman
Rudy Hartmann
Sam Samanowitz

Scott E. Allen
Senator Ted Kennedy
Shirley Bisogni
Shirley Gershenson
Sierra Morgado
Simon Samuels
Stephen Hazzard, Sr.
Stephen McBride
Steve Carneiro
Sue Salpeter
Sylvia & Al Benesowitz
Sylvia & Lewis Silverman
Sylvia Winterhalter
Sylvijs Lismanis
Terre Swed
Theresa Alessandra Russo
Thomas & Mary Kelly
Thomas Kleinbardt
Timothy Butters
Tom Bedford
Tom Stothoff
Valentina Marie Allen
Valeriu Hetco
Victoria Yagnisis
Vincent Gargano
Walter Y. Lee
Wayne Aubrey Russell
William Graham
William Robertson
Woody Straub
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Richard's Story .................................................................................................................................................................................. 1
American Medical Student Association supports the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation ............................................................ 2
Donating $72,000 in cash & toys to Cohen Children's Medical Center of New York, Five Towns Community Center and other local organizations helping kids ................................................................. 3
Richard M. Brodsky Foundation Board Members .......................................................................................................................... 4
To my Jewish Friends .............................................................................................................................................................................. 5
Nairobi Hebrew Synagogue ................................................................................................................................................................. 6
About the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation ........................................................................................................................................ 7
2004 World AIDS Marathon Mbita, Kenya ........................................................................................................................................... 8
2005 World AIDS Marathon in America and why we returned to Kenya in 2006 ................................................................. 9
Zeus, King of the Greek Gods visits Kisumu, Kenya for 2006 World AIDS Marathon ............................................................... 10
Sponsoring a FREE Concert in Kisumu, Kenya ................................................................................................................................. 11
5K AIDS/Cancer Run/Walk in America and a power point presentation by NIKE ................................................................. 12
4th Annual 5K FREE Run/Walk for HIV’ers Cancer Survivors & Friends, October 28, 2012 ....................................................... 13
Donating $100,000 in cash and toiletry/gift items to people living with HIV/AIDS or cancer ............................................................... 14
Daily Nation, Kenya’s leading newspaper reports on World AIDS Marathon ............................................................................. 15
President Obama’s grandmother, Mama Sarah, starter at World AIDS Marathon 2008 & 2009 ......................................................... 16
Hundreds of children greet the runners at the marathon finish every year .................................................................................... 17
2010 World AIDS Marathon, 29 wheelchair participants in a field of 404 finishers ......................................................................... 18
Dr. Richard L. Sartori has examined & treated 286 Kenyan orphans since 2011 + provided medicine .............................................. 19
For 2012 there were 3 orphan dinner dances for 1,100+ children + medical care ............................................................................. 20
Here’s why we keep returning to Africa, orphans dancing at Hope Initiative ..................................................................................... 21
There is no greater joy than feeding 380 orphans and how a $10 investment allowed this to happen .................................................. 22
Great Neck North High School and retrofestivals.org raised thousands to benefit Brodsky Foundation .................................................... 23
Uncle Richard logo by Keely Payne, World AIDS Marathon logo by Rupert Reyneke, HERO OF THE YEAR posters by Lokhin Cheng .. 24
AMERICA'S HERO OF THE YEAR for 2011, 2012 and 2013: Dr. Bonyo, Dr. Sartori & Jodi Brodsky ............................................................... 25
Mama Sarah presents $1,000 in awards raised by the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation ................................................................. 26
Dr. Bonyo and his mission to provide free medical care for Kenyan children .................................................................................... 27
Who really is having more fun: Richard and Jodi or the orphans? ................................................................................................. 28
Oron Isaac receives $1,000+ donation from Brodsky Foundation to organize orphan dinner dance ....................................................... 29
Dr. Julian Howard of Australia is AMERICA'S HERO OF THE YEAR for 2014 .................................................................................. 30
Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray & Nassau County Legislator Carrie Solages presenting awards at 2014 5K AIDS Cancer Run Walk ................................................................. 31
8 year old Matthew Hartmann is AMERICA’S YOUNGEST HERO OF THE YEAR for 2015 ............................................................. 32
Turning back the clock with the one you love ................................................................................................................................. 33
G-d answers Richard Brodsky ............................................................................................................................................................... 34
Long Island Business News reports about the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation .................................................................................. 35
DONATE NOW! ...................................................................................................................................................................................... 36
Richard’s Story

My name is Richard Brodsky. I’ve been married to Jodi for 35 years and we have three daughters. In 1997, I had to tell Jodi I was both bisexual and HIV-positive. She reacted in the most surprisingly supportive and loving way I could have ever hoped for. Jodi and I had always been marathon runners and 15 months after being diagnosed HIV-positive I ran my fastest marathon, 03:23 at age 46. In 2002 I wrote a book: *Jodi, The Greatest Love Story Ever Told*. The book was a gift to my wife for keeping our family loving and whole. It was also a plea to governments and corporations to make AIDS medicine and follow-up medical care available to HIV-positive people all over the world. Since 2002, when the book and I ‘came out’ I have willingly stayed faithful to my devoted wife.

It was a little rough on Jodi’s and my family when they first learned of my story. Everyone wanted me to focus on my architectural practice, and each time our story was told on national TV, I could always expect some tough phone calls. I recall leaving home the day after my 50th birthday and going on a cross-country book tour for two months. It was difficult for both Jodi and me because we had never been apart for more than a day. My return to New York on October 31st was expected to be the most exciting week of my life. I would be seeing Jodi, doing book signings at Barnes & Noble in Greenwich Village and three blocks from the White House, and speaking at American University and NYU; even NEWSDAY was planning to write a story about Jodi and me running the 2002 NYC Marathon, and the Pfizer Corp. was considering having Jodi and me as spokespeople for Viracept, an AIDS medication I take. However, on November 1, 2002 my world crashed; I had a seizure at my own book signing at the Barnes & Noble Greenwich Village Store.

November 26, 2002, I was scheduled for brain cancer surgery and the diagnosis was grim going into the surgery. I was told they could get about 80 – 90% of the tumor out without affecting my mental and physical functions. There was always the slight possibility that I would not survive the surgery. During our goodbyes as they wheeled me into the operating room, Jodi and I must have shed a bucket of tears. But this will be the last sentence of despair you will hear from me. After all, this is my ‘Journey of Hope’ and I’ve invited you to share my journey. Two years to the day of my brain cancer surgery, Jodi and I were flying to Mbita, Kenya to sponsor the first ever ‘World AIDS Marathon.’

Upon arriving in Africa, I was totally unprepared for the poverty that existed. I was very naíve in thinking that all you had to do was get the AIDS medicine and follow-up medical care to people living with HIV. I was totally unprepared to see firsthand the effects of malaria, tuberculosis, hunger, poverty, and the lack of clean drinking water. This really was a ‘Dark Continent.’ Yet there were signs of hope which I embraced. From Nature’s perspective, Kenya has an alluring natural beauty with its wildlife and flowers. From a human point of view, we couldn’t help but feel how rewarding it was to be able to help the Kenyan orphans by sponsoring orphan dinner dances. The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation has sponsored 18 orphan dinner dances for 6,200 Kenyan orphans. Although there are more than 15,200,000 orphans living in Sub-Saharan Africa who have lost one or both parents to AIDS, at least as one volunteer said, we were bringing a ‘window of hope’ to some of those orphans. The orphans really did seem to appreciate Jodi and me coming to Africa, as they see us as people who really do care about them, as opposed to some corporate donor, whom they will never meet.

You will be the judge as you continue to read through this book: Are we a worthy charity? How many 63-year-young HIV+ brain cancer survivors, Presidents of Foundations are running their fastest marathons since cancer to raise awareness and money for people living with HIV and cancer both in America and Africa?
American Medical Student Association supports the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation

Jodi and I are fully aware that had we been born in Africa our children would likely be three of more than 15,200,000 orphans living in sub-Saharan Africa. Would someone be there for my girls? Would someone be there for your friend’s or relative’s child?
Donating $72,000 in cash & toys to Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York, Five Towns Community Center and other local organizations helping kids

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation is equally committed to helping Americans living with HIV and cancer, especially children. For example, every year we collect toys for children living with pediatric cancer at the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York, formerly known as Schneider Children’s Hospital.

Since 2008, the Brodsky Foundation has donated over $21,000 in cash and toys to Cohen Children’s Medical Center. The event banner in the photo above is typically donated by PIP Printing and Marketing Services of Inwood. In 2014 and 2015 the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation donated $9,000+ in cash and toys to Five Towns Community Center. For the complete list of 28 local organizations receiving donations from the Brodsky Foundation visit http://5kaidscancer.org/?page_id=15 and scroll down 60%.
Richard M. Brodsky Foundation Board Members


DR. CASILDA BALMACEDA – Neurologist and my brain cancer oncologist whom I credit with saving my life. Her research in the field of brain tumors is widely published.

GERI BARISH – Executive Director of Hewlett House and President of 1 in 9: The Long Island Breast Cancer Action Coalition. Geri has been at the forefront in the battle against the high incidence of cancer on Long Island since 1988, while spearheading major changes to local, state and federal legislation, resulting in new policies that positively impact cancer survivors.

LOKHIN CHENG – Incoming freshman to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering & Computer Science as well as Business. Lokhin serves as senior graphic designer for the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation.

LUISA DUTRA – Cancer survivor and owner of local Dunkin’ Donuts stores in Long Beach, Lawrence and Valley Stream, NY; Luisa and her husband John were recently honored by St. Joachim’s Church of Cedarhurst, NY for their service to the community.

ALIE ELEVLED – Project Manager of Safe Water AIDS Project; Alie’s organization has provided clean drinking water for large areas of western Kenya. Alie is the chief organizer/fundraiser for the World AIDS Marathon and Alie provides safe drinking water for the event. Alie was decorated in April 2013 as a Knight in the Order of Orange Nassau.

ASHER MATATHIAS – Adjunct Professor Political Science at St. John’s University, Queens, NY; President of Five Towns, Long Island Chapter of B’nai B’rith; and Chair of the Annual Greek-Jewish Holocaust Commemoration.

PETER NGUYEN – Founder & CEO of Ad Exchange Group. Peter is one of the foremost authorities in e-commerce and internet advertising. Peter’s first venture, Advertiser360, a comprehensive educational course to help people build their own product or service online was adopted by Baylor University’s entrepreneurship program.

JOSEPH OCHIENG – IAAF Walk Lecturer & Judge, Chairman Race walking Africa and Kenya, Chairman Athletics Kenya Nyanza North Region and Siaya County. First African Olympic and World Cup Race walking Judge. Joseph’s expertise and international contacts makes him the ideal race director for the World AIDS Marathon.

DR. RICHARD L. SARTORI – 2011, 1st American to travel with Richard & Jodi Brodsky to Kisumu, Kenya. Since 2011, Dr. Sartori has returned to Kenya every year and has examined & treated 286 orphans + provided medicine for 691 orphans. Dr. Sartori is a pediatrician and a full partner at Garden City Pediatrics. Dr. Sartori has completed 4 World AIDS half marathons.

JASON VERITY – Vice President of Dawson Taxi. Under Jason’s guidance, Dawson was voted Best Taxi Company on Long Island for 2013 and 2014 by Bethpage Banks Best of Long Island. In 2008, Jason introduced Long Island to the 1st pink taxi dedicated to help raising awareness and funds for breast cancer on Long Island. Now 13 pink taxis are serving Nassau County.

For more info about the Board Members visit www.richardmbrodsky.org and click on governance.
To my Jewish Friends

The above is a letter from Dr. Silverstein.

When Jodi and I travel to Kenya we stay at the home of Dr. David Silverstein and his wife Channa Commanday. Dr. Silverstein is Honorary Life Rosh Kehilla of the Nairobi Hebrew Congregation, and a renowned cardiologist in East Africa. As personal physician to Arap Daniel Moi, the former President of Kenya, they have traveled together to Israel and strengthened the close ties between these two countries.

Israel is at the forefront providing the newest technology in irrigation, farming, medicine and thwarting terrorists by sharing this knowledge with Kenyans both in Kenya and in Israel, where Kenyans are invited to attend seminars. This is a telling example of the bond that Israel and Kenya share.

46 men were circumcised, as reported by Dr. Walter Obiero, Director of Nyanza Reproductive Health Society, as part of the 2011 World AIDS Day events at Jomo Kenyatta Sports Stadium, the start and finish of the World AIDS Marathon. “Voluntary medical male circumcision is one of the most effective HIV prevention tools available today,” said Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention (AVAC) Executive Director Mitchell Warren.
Nairobi Hebrew Synagogue

Interior of the Nairobi Hebrew Synagogue. During my annual visit to Kenya, I make it a point to visit the Synagogue. In 2010, I was the 10th and final Jew to enter the Synagogue, after which the Torah was removed from the ark and read.

“I’m very inspired by the way you have chosen to spend your time on earth. What you are doing are undoubtedly deeds of righteousness, loving kindness and holiness.”  

–Rabbi Gershom Sizomu of Uganda
The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation has donated money or in-kind donations to the following projects:

- Sponsored or co-sponsored (and participated in) eleven World AIDS Marathons, ten in Kenya and one in Florida, to raise awareness that people living with so-called terminal illnesses can live healthy, productive lives if they have access to the AIDS medicine and follow-up healthcare. The Foundation also seeks to raise further awareness of the problems in Africa such as insufficient clean drinking water, hunger, poverty, malaria and tuberculosis.

- Sponsored 18 festive orphan dinner dances for 6,200+ orphans in Kenya.

- Provided 15 orange and mango seedling plants so orphans can grow their own fruit; we hope to expand this program in conjunction with future World AIDS Marathons.

- Sponsored or co-sponsored children’s walks for 2,500+ children in Kenya, the day of the World AIDS Marathon.

- Sponsored a FREE Concert and provided lodging, meals and transportation for 50 Kenyan runners for the 2006 Kisumu, Kenya World AIDS Marathon.

- Provided medical care and medicine for 691 orphans since 2011.

- Provided $72,000 in cash & toys to children living with pediatric cancer at Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York and 27 other organization, http://5kaidscancer.org/?page_id=15.

- Provided over $9,000 in cash and toys to children living with pediatric cancer at the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York, formerly known as Schneider Children's Hospital.

- Provided over $17,000 in cash & toys to children living with pediatric cancer at the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York, formerly known as Schneider Children’s Hospital, and South Nassau Communities Hospital.

- Provided $8,000 to Center of AIDS Research and Treatment at North Shore University Hospital, University of Florida at Gainesville, as well as various other research projects for AIDS and cancer, and AIDS projects both in America and Africa listed on the Foundation’s website, www.richardmbrodsky.org.

- Provided $2,000, which was enough money to commence groundbreaking for a 50 – 60 bed orphanage in Nakuru, Kenya after an 18-month construction delay.

- Provided $93,000 in cash & toiletry/gift items to people living with HIV or cancer. Recipients of these items were breast cancer survivors at Nassau University Medical Center; Don Monti Cancer Center; Hewlett House; HIV-positive people associated with Long Island Minority AIDS Coalition; Planned Parenthood of Nassau County; Center of AIDS Research & Treatment at North Shore University Hospital; Long Island Association for AIDS Care; Thursday’s Child; JCC of the Five Towns Greater Food Pantry; Five Towns Community AIDS Service Programs; Circulo de la Hispanidad; Living Hope Fellowship of Massapequa; Congregation Sons of Israel; Wyandanch High School; and participants of all of the FREE 5K Run/Walks for HIVers, Cancer Survivors & Friends in Oceanside Park.

- Sponsored twelve 5K AIDS Cancer Run/Walks in America since 2008; four of these events were FREE.

I know I’m very fortunate to have such a loving wife while surviving HIV and brain cancer, too. Jodi and I really do appreciate the opportunity that we get to travel to Kenya every year and raise awareness that HIV-positive people can live a productive life. Considering that AIDS is rampant in Africa, you would think that Africans would be more tolerant and forgiving of family members living with HIV. The harsh reality is that HIV-positive people are much more discriminated against in Africa than in America. Many Africans who are living with HIV are thrown out of their homes. When Jodi and I visit Kenya, oftentimes I’Il hold her hand or give her a kiss. People look at us and wonder why Jodi would subject herself to becoming HIV-positive. Finally, some Africans are becoming more aware and accepting of those living with HIV, and those with HIV are becoming more self-aware and even becoming advocates for others.
2004 World AIDS Marathon Mbita, Kenya

Welcome to the first-ever World AIDS Marathon, Mbita, Kenya, World AIDS Day 2004. We only raised $3,000 but it was enough money for the Little Lambs, a home for 50 – 60 orphans in Nakuru, Kenya to begin groundbreaking after an 18 month construction delay. Some of the money raised also went to AIDS research at the University of Florida and other AIDS and cancer projects. Jodi and I traveled in three planes for 17 hours, drove four hours and took a ferry ride with donkeys, goats, chickens, and Kenyans to finally arrive in Mbita.
2005 World AIDS Marathon in America and why we returned to Kenya in 2006

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation held its first annual World AIDS Marathon in 2004. The full impact of the marathons was realized on March 28, 2006 when the World Health Organization issued a report stating Kenya was only one of two African countries that had a declining rate for new HIV cases from December 2003 through December 2005.

My board members and I thought we would raise more funds by sponsoring a World AIDS Marathon in America rather than Mbita, Kenya. Sadly, we were wrong, as the 2005 World AIDS Marathon and Surviving & Thriving Conference cost the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation money. But we did meet some very caring people whom we stay in touch with to this day. We were at a loss as to how to proceed, but after reading the slide above prepared by AMSA, American Medical Student Association, it became clear we had no choice but to return to Kenya.
Zeus, King of the Greek Gods visits Kisumu, Kenya for 2006 World AIDS Marathon

Welcome to the 2006 World AIDS Marathon in Kisumu, Kenya. See the guy in the blue t-shirt on the left side? It was almost as if Zeus, King of the Greek Gods, traveled from atop Mt. Olympus to see how his modern-day marathon was faring, or could this have been a sign that a cure or vaccine for AIDS was in the distant future?

Dr. Timothy Thomas had invited the Brodsky Foundation in early 2006 to choose Kisumu, Kenya for the 2006 World AIDS Marathon. Given that Dr. Thomas was chief of HIV AIDS research at CDC KEMRI, it sounded like a great idea. That and the fact that he was a strong advocate for AIDS testing, especially for pregnant women, it became a no-brainer. If pregnant, HIV-positive women and their offspring took Neviripine at the time of birth, it would be 98% certain the baby would be HIV-negative. Local AIDS organizations provided AIDS testing for 86 Kenyans.

The marathon started and ended at Jomo Kenyatta Sports Ground, the same park where then Senator Barack Obama and his wife Michelle were tested for HIV in August, 2006. Mr. Obama wrote me four letters from 2004 – 2007, and I also received letters from President Clinton, Senator Ted Kennedy, Congresswomen Carolyn McCarthy, and United Nations Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, Stephen H. Lewis, and others that can be viewed online by visiting our website, www.worldaidsmarathon.com, click on letters of support.
Sponsoring a FREE Concert in Kisumu, Kenya

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation also sponsored a free concert in Kisumu and provided lodging, meals and transportation for 50 runners, along with a modest $1,000 prize package which we provide every year. These 50 runners were brought from Eldoret, Kenya by Philip Maiyo, Secretary of the Chepkero Athletics Club. Eldoret is where Kenya’s elite runners hail from, so naturally Philip’s runners ran off with the bulk of the prize money. Philip has arranged for over 200 athletic scholarships for Kenyans to attend college in America. The concert, lodging and meals were becoming expensive and the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation could no longer fund these events, but I realized this would help raise AIDS awareness and everyone would have a great time. Kisumu’s Mayor Prisca invited Jodi and me for lunch at her home, later at her office I was presented with the ‘Key’ to the City.

In 2006, the Kisumu World AIDS Marathon Group was established and headed up by Alie Eleveld, a Board Member of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. Alie is the Project Manager of the Safe Water AIDS Project, which provides safe drinking water for much of Western Kenya. Her presence has been vital for these marathons to succeed. She is an excellent fundraiser! Thanks to her efforts for bringing 300 - 500 volunteers to the events, and for providing safe drinking water and sponges at every kilometer, as well as hefty donations from her main donor Harber Charitable Foundation and others, we have managed to organize these events every year since 2006. Alie was also the keynote speaker for a safe water conference in Atlanta a few years ago.

In 2006, the Kisumu World AIDS Marathon Group was established and headed up by Alie Eleveld, a Board Member of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. Alie is the Project Manager of the Safe Water AIDS Project, which provides safe drinking water for much of Western Kenya. Her presence has been vital for these marathons to succeed. She is an excellent fundraiser! Thanks to her efforts for bringing 300 - 500 volunteers to the events, and for providing safe drinking water and sponges at every kilometer, as well as hefty donations from her main donor Harber Charitable Foundation and others, we have managed to organize these events every year since 2006. Alie was also the keynote speaker for a safe water conference in Atlanta a few years ago.

Pictured above is His Imperial Majesty, The Mighty King Kong. The man had a heart of gold and was widely loved throughout Kenya. I recall him serenading Jodi when we returned to America with his hit song, ‘Ladies Choice.’ Sadly, a few months later he was poisoned while running for Parliament. Limpopo International in the white outfits, (right photo) also performed at the concert.
It was becoming increasingly difficult to raise money for the World AIDS Marathon and related events. Too many people in America were asking me what we were doing for people living with HIV/AIDS and cancer in America. I realized if the Foundation were to succeed we needed to organize events in America. Since 2008, the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation has sponsored eight 5K AIDS / Cancer Run / Walks on Long Island and four FREE 5K Run / Walks for HIVers, Cancer Survivors & Friends. Besides the FREE events, we also do not charge people living with HIV/AIDS or cancer if they cannot afford the $22 - $25 registration fee; a low registration fee by local standards.

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation sponsored its 4th annual 5K FREE Run / Walk for HIVers, Cancer Survivors & Friends on October 28, 2012. The reason for these FREE events is that I believe running is largely responsible for why I am still alive today and I’d like to share that gift with as many people living with HIV/AIDS and cancer as possible. Even if you could not run 3 miles you could have walked the 3-mile water-view course. Each loop of the course was 1 mile so even if you ran or walked a portion of the course, it was a great opportunity to have made new friends, enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast, received a personalized event t-shirt, be entertained by comedian Lawrence Shaw, music therapist MC Richard Morton, Ronald McDonald and been eligible for a few thousand dollars of FREE raffles. At the last two 5K events, we gave all the participants $45 in toiletry / gift items. We asked all the participants to accept these items so no one will know who is healthy and who is not. During the first week of November 2012, if you were healthy, we asked that you donate the toiletry / gift items to someone who is living with HIV or cancer.
Events are a great opportunity not only to raise cash for AIDS and cancer projects, but also to donate toiletry / gift items for people living with HIV and cancer. Far right, Richard and Jodi Brodsky donating toys & clothing to breast cancer survivors at Hewlett House—Geri Barish, Executive Director of Hewlett House, pictured far left. Far left photo, Jodi delivering toiletry gift/items to Long Island Association for AIDS Care. The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation has also made donations to fund AIDS and cancer research, and improve the lives of people living with HIV and cancer in Long Island, New York, California, Florida, and Kenya. This has been made possible only by your generous support, and we hope you will continue to support the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation.

“Your work is easy; mine is a lot tougher on my joints but with your support and prayers, I will continue running marathons.”

Thank you!

Jodi Brodsky for pushing me to the limits when we run, all my doctors for keeping me alive especially Dr. Casilda Balmaceda and Dr. Joseph McGowan, and Dr. Emil J. Haldey for providing me with some miracle compound medicine cream that has helped me to run my three fastest marathons since cancer.
Daily Nation, Kenya’s leading newspaper reports on World AIDS Marathon

The local media in Kenya really seems to appreciate that the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation & Kisumu World AIDS Marathon Group come together to co-sponsor the World AIDS Marathon in Kisumu, Kenya every year. The Daily Nation is the equivalent of the New York Times and its reporter, Walter Menya, interviewed Jodi and me after the marathon and wrote an article about the event and Jodi’s and my participating in the marathon. In the article that appeared on December 2, 2008, Mama Sarah, President Obama’s grandmother, told Walter Menya, “I feel greatly privileged to be invited because my grandson is very concerned about the ravages of HIV.”

Richard Brodsky and his wife Jodi during the Kisumu World Aids Marathon which they sponsor and take part in. Their work has been praised by world leaders, including US president-elect Barack Obama.
President Obama’s grandmother, Mama Sarah, starter at World AIDS Marathon 2008 & 2009

From 2008 thru 2012, and 2014 President Obama’s grandmother, Mama Sarah, was invited to the World AIDS Marathon. She waved the Kenyan flag, signifying the start of both the 2008 and 2009 marathons. She is pictured below having dinner in the yellow dress and in the blue dress holding the flag. The evening before the 2008 and 2009 marathons, Jodi and I had the privilege of dining with Mama Sarah and her daughter Marsat Onyango. All Mama Sarah’s clothes are designed by Marsat.

Pictured in the photo standing left to right are Alie Eleveld; Betty Okero, CEO of Civil Society Organization Network; my wife Jodi; Joseph Ochieng; and Douglas Wakihihuri, winner of the 1989 London Marathon and 1990 New York City Marathon. Seated left to right are Richard Brodsky, Mama Sarah, and her daughter Marsat Onynago.
Hundreds of children greet the runners at the marathon finish every year.

Since 2006, over 2,500 children have participated in the children's walk and they are served snacks at the finish. First rate entertainment is provided at the finish, too.

The 2008 World AIDS Marathon and related events were attended by over 1,700 people. The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation kept its promise by making the World AIDS Marathon a memorable event for orphans, runners, individuals whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS, and the people of Kisumu, Kenya. Your contribution also helps support our local and global communities! By contributing to the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation, you enable us to continue our mission of educating, caring and supporting orphans, the most vulnerable members of our society. We view our donors as partners and believe it is our responsibility to ensure all gifts entrusted to us are put to the best use. Donations are tax-deductible and support our work year-round. To get involved, please visit www.richardmbrodsky.org and click on DONATE.

Some of the highlights of support from donations were:

- 288 runners participated in the Marathon and Half Marathon and relay races.
- 250 children participated in the 5K Children's Walk.
- 275 children were served dinner at Reach-Out Orphan Support Centre.
- 86 children were served dinner at St. Catherine's Orphanage.
- 300 volunteers participated in the various events.
- 500+ people were tested for HIV/AIDS!
2010 World AIDS Marathon, 29 wheelchair participants in a field of 404 finishers

Record turnout for 2011 World AIDS Marathon

- 735+ runners and walkers registered for the World AIDS Marathon, half marathon and relay races.
- 154 children participated in the children’s walk.
- 500 volunteers served water, provided medical assistance, organized and served food, directed traffic, registered participants and assisted with timing.
- 314 people were tested for HIV.
- 46 men were circumcised.
- 56 orphans were examined by Dr. Richard Sartori, a pediatrician from Garden City, Long Island, New York, USA on November 29 and 30 at two orphan dinner dances.
- 650 orphans were served dinner at two orphan dinner dances.
Dr. Richard L. Sartori has examined & treated 286 Kenyan orphans since 2011 + provided medicine.

691 orphans have been examined at these festive orphan dinner dances. Almost all the medicine was donated by Dr. Sartori, but more recently Winam Chemists has offered to help out for 2015. According to Dr. Sartori:

- 75% of the kids had intestinal parasites. The cure is one chewable tablet & another tablet in two weeks
- 75% had malaria and the cure is a 3 day treatment; one or two pills a day depending on the age and weight of the child.
- 80% had skin lesions, tinea, which is a fungal rash. The rash is treated with a cream and the child is sent home with the cream and is instructed to apply the cream twice a day until the rash is gone.
- Less than 5% had asthma.

Dr. Sartori said, 25% of the children having malaria would die without the lifesaving medicine we provided, while 20% of the children having parasites would die without the medicine they needed. Sadly, most of these children do not receive medical help during the year which is probably why, according to the World Bank, one child in 19 will die before their 5th birthday.

My board members and I would like to think of our Foundation as a mini-Doctors Without Borders. The advantage we have is not only do the doctors get to provide medical care for the orphans; they get to party and dine with them as well. And after the orphan dinner dances, doctors can run with the Kenyans in the World AIDS Marathon, half marathon or 5K relays. Thank you David & Surinder Fowler for co-sponsoring the 2011 orphan dinner dance at Hope Initiative. Surinder Fowler completed the marathon and ran with the 2012 Olympic torch through her hometown of Grimsby, England. Anna Martin of the United States Peace Corps also finished the 2011 World AIDS Half Marathon. Americans, we really do care!
For 2012 there were 3 orphan dinner dances for 1,100+ children + medical care

We had never sponsored 3 orphan dinner dances before plus provided so much medical care. It’s like the movie, ‘Field of Dreams’ where the voice keeps saying ‘if you build it they will come.’ All we needed were the voices of the orphans to be heard and your support.

Dr. Sartori returned to Kenya again and had already donated $500 for medicine. We had hoped we could get some medicine donated; we needed $5,000 to provide limited medical care and medicine for the 1,100 orphans on an annual basis. We were partnering with Dr. Bonyo of Bonyo’s Kenya Mission, www.bonyoskenyamission.org, to help make these orphan dinner dances with medical care even more successful events.

The dinner dances were held at Beldina Opiyo Omolo’s Amilo Primary School in Amilo Village (Alice Visionary Foundation Project) www.alicevisionary.org; Dr. Bonyo’s Mama Pilista Bonyo Memorial Health Centre, Masara, irrigation sub-location; and Rispah Ochola’s Hope Initiative in Kendu Bay.

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation would like to thank Bonyo’s Kenya Mission; the Dutra Family of Atlantic Beach, NY; Mazzitelli Construction Corporation; and Maidenbaum Property Tax Reduction Group, LLC, for co-sponsoring the 2012 orphan dinner dances.

Original Paintings for Sale

The two paintings on the left are both for sale and 100% of the proceeds go toward funding the Foundation’s work. Breast cancer survivor Mary Filingeri painted the beach scene on the near left and I painted the picture on the far left. UPDATE: Sadly we have not yet sold the paintings, nor did we raise the money for a 3rd orphan dinner dance in 2012.

To donate or register for the World AIDS Marathon, visit: www.worldaidsmarathon.com and click DONATE or REGISTER
Here’s why we keep returning to Africa, orphans dancing at Hope Initiative

Here are the orphans dancing at Hope Initiative. Rispah cares for the children as if they are her own. The land for the orphanage was donated by Rispah’s dad, and much still needs to be done so the orphans can have a clean, safe environment. In spite of a harsh and difficult life, here the orphans are dancing and appear very happy to see Jodi and me returning to Africa where the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation had co-sponsored its second annual orphan dinner dance. Thanks to Maidenbaum Property Tax Reduction Group, LLC and Key Food of Long Beach / Omar Rodriguez, both donating $500, and some funds from the Brodsky Foundation, we were able to sponsor this orphan dinner dance at Hope Initiative.
There is no greater joy than feeding 380 orphans and how a $10 investment allowed this to happen

ONCE UPON A TIME in 2004, Beldina Opiyo Omolo of Kenya was attending college in Pennsylvania. That same year, the first ever World AIDS Marathon was being held in Mbita, Kenya. Sponsors, participants and volunteers were needed. We only raised $110 from Kenyans. Abdul Yakub, better known as Chifu in Kenya, donated $100 and Beldina donated $10. I was very touched knowing that Beldina was a student and probably did not have much spare spending money. PAYBACK time, even if it took 9 years! There is no place I would rather be than in Kenya dining and dancing with 380 orphans cared for by Beldina Opiyo Omolo.
Great Neck North High School and retrofestivals.org raised thousands to benefit Brodsky Foundation

It all started back in 2009 when the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation sponsored its inaugural 5K FREE Run Walk for HIVers, Cancer Survivors & Friends in Oceanside, NY. More students participated from Great Neck North High School (GNNHS) than any other school. I suggested to Anton Berzins, (GNNHS) faculty advisor to the largest AIDS Awareness Club on Long Island that the next free run/walk would be in the Great Neck area. On March 21, 2010, the inaugural run / walk was held in Kings Point Park. Florence Hogan participated in the run and had the best time. Shortly after Florence established the first chapter of Black Girls Run in Queens, NY. To this day, I always kid Florence and tell how I am the grandfather of Black Girls Run in Queens. Back to Great Neck, in 2011, the AIDS Awareness Club organized the 1st of 4 annual co-ed faculty basketball games. Without the support of the 20 teachers and coaches + the principals who serve as refs, I would be hard-pressed to have sponsored 18 festive orphan dinner dances in Kisumu, Kenya and provided medical care for 691 orphans. Special thanks to all GNNHS AIDS Awareness Club members including Tyler Fritzhand for designing an assorted box of greeting cards; Troy Fritzhand, Josh Moinian, Jake Lustbader, and faculty advisors for producing the movie, Magic Johnson, will you coach our AIDS Awareness faculty ... basketball game—type in the movie title, do a search, watch the movie and see why these movie actors / writers / producers are at the top of their game.

Similarly, without the support of Allan Spielman and retrofestivals.org and their group of bands consisting of 35 musicians, the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation would not have had the funds to save the lives of 255 Kenyan orphans and raise awareness that one child in 19 will die before their 5th birthday in Kenya, according to the World Bank.
Uncle Richard logo by Keely Payne, World AIDS Marathon logo by Rupert Reyneke, HERO OF THE YEAR posters by Lokhin Cheng

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation has a team of very talented volunteers. We are always seeking volunteers to make phone calls, and people skilled at website design, graphics, computer skills, fundraising, recruiting runners, writing, requesting toys/toiletry gift items, and organizing fundraising events. Consider inviting Richard Brodsky as a motivational speaker for your school, business or club.

To get involved, please contact Richard at: richard@richardmbrodsky.org
Party like there’s no tomorrow. Having Dr. Bonyo and his team of doctors, pharmacists, nurses and medical students travel to Kenya is nothing short of a lifesaving, medical pilgrimage. Since 2011, Dr. Bonyo and his team of doctors and Dr. Richard L. Sartori have examined and treated 691 orphans at 10 festive orphan dances for 3,200 Kenyan orphans. That amount also includes 2014 when Dr. Julian Howard of Australia joined us, too. Dr. Sartori will always be remembered as the first American who has made the humanitarian trip to Kenya with the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. Check out the bond between Dr. Sartori and Dr. Bonyo in the photo below. Thanks, Jodi Brodsky, for making sure we all have the best time and dancing with Dr. Bonyo like there’s no tomorrow.
Mama Sarah presents $1,000 in awards raised by the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation

How did we get Mama Sarah to come to the event? One of the Foundation’s Kenyan board members, Joseph Ochieng, the first and only African IAAF Walk Judge Level III and the first African Olympic Walk Judge for the 2012 Olympics happens to live in Kogelo, the same village as Mama Sarah, and they have been friends for years. When Joseph invited her to the event, Mama Sarah who adores children responded eagerly in the affirmative to be part of the children’s event.

Pictured above (left to right) is a wheelchair athlete claiming his prize; Jodi and Richard Brodsky; Mama Sarah; and Alie Eleveld, board member of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. The World AIDS Marathon is a grueling course: unpaved roads with large rocks the size of your fist, temperatures reaching 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and running at an altitude of 3,500 feet above sea level are a few of the contributing factors. Kenyans in these conditions daily; this may partially explain why Kenyans are often regarded as the world’s fastest runner.
Dr. Bonyo and his mission to provide free medical care for Kenyan children

The Mama Pilista Bonyo Memorial Health Center was founded in 1996 by Dr. Bonyo, and the founding partners of Bonyo’s Kenya Mission (BKM). The clinic provides quality, full service medical care to the people of Masara and the surrounding areas. BKM pays for health insurance for many families, and charges only a minimal fee if the patient can afford it. The work done at the clinic has been recognized by the National Health Insurance Fund and the Kenyan Minister of Medicine, as a quality care center and a benefit to the community.

Since 2012, Dr. Bonyo has either sponsored or co-sponsored three festive orphan dinner dances at BKM on the days leading up to the World AIDS Marathon.
Who really is having more fun: Richard and Jodi or the orphans?

On the three days leading up to the 2013 World AIDS Marathon, 1,000 orphans dined and danced at 3 festive orphan dinner dances:

Tom Mboya Adera masterfully organized (chefs were attired in white chef’s jackets) an orphan dinner dance for 320 orphans at Kisumu Impala Sanctuary with only 4 days’ notice (see below). 380 orphans dined and danced at Amilo Village; Beldina Opiyo Omolo organized that dinner. 300 well behaved kids were treated to dinner at Bonyo’s Kenya Mission. The day before the orphan dinner dances—Jodi, Dr. Sartori and I visited Kisumu Impala Sanctuary.

Pictured left to right: Tom Mboya Adera (organized orphan dinner dance), Jodi and Richard Brodsky, Dr. Richard Sartori, Dr. Bonyo, and Mercy Abaya (medical volunteer)
Oron Isaac receives $1,000+ donation from Brodsky Foundation to organize orphan dinner dance

2014 orphan dinner dance at Kisumu Impala Sanctuary (bottom left) for 270 orphans. The Sanctuary is only 10 minutes from the heart of Kisumu and we visit the Sanctuary every year. There were two other orphan dinner dances for 200 kids at Bonyo’s Kenya Mission, (bottom right) and 380 kids at Amilo Village (Alice Visionary Foundation Project, top photos), organized by Beldina Opiyo Omolo.
Dr. Julian Howard of Australia is AMERICA’S HERO OF THE YEAR for 2014

Dr. Howard was not examining the orphans for malaria and parasites. He was treating them for skeletal / neurological disorders. Upon leaving Kisumu Impala Sanctuary, and I saw this firsthand: two women approached Dr. Howard at about 5:30 PM looking for medical care for each of their children. They went on to say that they were promised their kids would be cured. We had packed up and were leaving the park. Dr. Howard listened to their story and really wanted to help them. It was almost as if he would not be able to sleep knowing that if he had more time, he could really help these two children. Upon returning to Australia, Dr. Howard organized an International fundraiser and raised over $1,100. The children had severe neurological problems and are currently being treated. Dr. Howard’s family accompanied him to Africa and was very helpful at all the events. UPDATE: We are told that the children are doing well and are seeing improvements, due to the care provided by Dr. Howard’s fundraising efforts.

Dr. Julian Howard, BSc Ost Med, MSc Paed Ost.

For being AMERICA’S HERO OF THE YEAR FOR 2014.

For donating his medical skills by examining & treating orphans, Dr. Howard organized an International fundraiser and raised $1,100, which covered the lives of 2 children suffering from neurological disorders.
Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray and Nassau County Legislator Carrie Solages presenting awards at 2014 5K AIDS Cancer Run Walk

2013 CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS WERE PRESENTED FOR THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

HEROES
- Dr. Richard L. Sartori for donating medicine for doctors to examine 300 Kenyan orphans and personally examining 86 orphans on November 28, 29 and 30.
- My wife Jodi Brodsky whose patience, energy and love knows no bounds.

BEST FOUNDATION IN AMERICA
Retrofestivals.org and its founder Allan Spielman who has organized 37 concerts for local charities and has raised $55,000 since 2005.

BEST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
Bonyo’s Kenya Mission and its founder, Dr. Bonyo for providing free or substantially discounted medical care at the Mama Pilista Bonyo Memorial Health Center.

BEST BUSINESS
Nick Paxinos and John Ryan of Backstage Nite Club for hosting the 3rd annual retrofestivals.org benefit concert for the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation and providing the technical skills and equipment to project photos on multiple screens of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation’s work in Africa and America.

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation sponsored its 7th annual 5K AIDS Cancer Run Walk in Baldwin Harbor Park on June 29, 2014. Pictured right to left, Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray; America’s Hero of the Year, Dr. Richard L. Sartori; Mwangi Gitahi, 5K winner; Nassau County Legislator Carrie Solages; Jodi (America’s Hero of the Year) and Richard Brodsky. Gitahi and Dr. Sartori are accepting certificates acknowledging Bonyo’s Kenya Mission / Dr. Bonyo as the Best International Foundation for 2013 from the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation and a similar certificate from the Nassau County Legislature.
8 year old Matthew Hartmann is AMERICA’S YOUNGEST HERO OF THE YEAR for 2015

The Richard M. Brodsky Foundation would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to MATTHEW HARTMANN for being AMERICA’S YOUNGEST HERO OF THE YEAR for 2015 for donating his 8th birthday to the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation and raising $1,220. Matthew’s dedication and support towards helping Kenyan orphans he may never meet, nor will he receive any acknowledgement for saving their lives is unmatched. What a wonderful world it would be if the youth of America followed Matthew’s lead. Pictured above is Matthew Hartmann, his mom holding the poster honoring his service to the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation, Jodi Brodsky, Dr. Richard Sartori and Richard Brodsky.
Turning back the clock with the one you love

Jodi and I were scheduled to run the Quebec City Marathon on August 28, 2011. However Hurricane Irene had other plans, forcing the race director to cancel the full marathon. Salvaging our months of training, we laced up our shoes and completed the half marathon in 02:01:41. Double that time for the full marathon and I would have finished well under the 04:28 time I needed to reach my goal of running my fastest marathon time since being diagnosed with terminal brain cancer back in 2002. Photo, courtesy of marathon-photos.com.

My goals are threefold:

1. Raise awareness for people living with HIV or cancer ensuring that they lead healthy, productive lives.
2. Help convince society, government and business that healthcare is a universal right and that providing AIDS medicine and follow-up medical care to HIV-positive individuals will surely reduce the current number of 1,500,000 people dying from AIDS every year.
3. Slow down or reverse the clock of our aging process. It’s all about having a positive outlook and goals.

FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION!

Neither is remaining silent if you are HIV-positive

It took another 3 years for me to finally run a sub-4 hour marathon; a feat I had not done since pre-cancer. On October 11, 2014, at age 62, I completed the Hartford Marathon in 03:59:56. On December 1, 2014, I ran my fastest World AIDS Marathon in Kisumu, Kenya and on January 28, 2015, I ran my fastest Miami Marathon.
G-d answers Richard Brodsky

G-D answers HIV-positive, brain cancer survivor, marathon-running author of: *Jodi, The Greatest Love Story Ever Told*
(by Richard M. Brodsky)

Stopping at a drugstore to pick up some meds, I learned from the pharmacist that one prescription could not be filled for twenty-five years. I told the pharmacist that having the prescription filled was very important to me and I suggested that he put it through the system as an override. He looked at the prescription and was shocked to find my request for a conversation with G-d. A look of dismay crossed the pharmacist’s face as he resubmitted the prescription. A computer snafu occurred and a second or two later the pharmacist handed me a small vial with a piece of paper inside. I thanked the pharmacist and proceeded to open the vial as I headed to the exit. The message inside read, “Okay, Richard, you have just one question.” I exited the store and looked upward and implored, “WHY ME?”

“WHY NOT?” G-d countered as He explained He’s getting old and tired and even He is not perfect. He realizes He’s made mistakes and the really big ones He’s managed to correct. “Dinosaurs…” He claimed, “…those were my biggest mistakes. I did manage to expel them from the planet. Flowers, there I have succeeded admirably. You could not find a human being designing such a variety of colors, textures, fragrances and general layout of a flower from its petals to how the flower opens itself up to the world. I screwed up on roses. They were never supposed to have thorns. But if everything were perfect down there nobody would look forward to keeping me company in the Afterward. Richard, as far as giving you HIV and brain cancer, we did have a computer glitch up here. All this business of pray to G-d, ask G-d’s repentance, may G-d keep me in his good graces and on and on. I told you I’m getting old and I could not function without a computer. I’m actually surprised you people down there took so long to develop a computer. I gave you Galileo, DaVinci, Edison...you guys are centuries late. Richard, you were not supposed to get these two fatal illnesses. I was undecided between a few of my favorite earthly religious leaders who were much respected on Earth. People would take them more seriously than you. Next thing I know, the computer freezes and in a flash your name is the one selected to receive HIV and brain cancer. I could not exactly change what had already happened. We do rest up here and whoever talked about resting a day, a week, that doesn’t cut it up here. A day or week may be fine but every fifty or so years we need a month, a year or years of rest. I slept through the Hitler years and I rested too long during the early years of AIDS. Besides, giving this illness to you as opposed to a religious leader might prove to be more interesting.”

It was then that the vial vanished and I looked up to the sky as the sun poked through from behind the clouds. What a glorious sunrise...

For more information visit: www.richardmbrodsky.org and click on LINKS.
Long Island Business News reports about the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation

Turning tragedy into triumph

By KENNETH R. CERINI

In 1997, at the age of 45, Richard Brodsky received an HIV-positive diagnosis. For standing by his side during this difficult period, Brodsky wrote his first book for his wife and family: “Jodi, The Greatest Love Story Ever Told.” At a book signing in 2002, Brodsky suffered a seizure and was diagnosed with brain cancer. After months of treatment, he ran the 2003 Marathon, and upon completion realized that even after being diagnosed with HIV and living with brain cancer, he could still lead a productive and happy life. To help inspire these undergoing similar challenges, Brodsky started his foundation to help others prevail against HIV and cancer.

“We are committed to supporting research and global AIDS projects, as well as helping to reduce the stigma associated with cancer and AIDS,” said Brodsky, president of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. “We aspire to help bring individuals and cultures together to create hope for a better tomorrow.”

What is the foundation’s mission? Our global mission is to provide food, shelter and shoes for orphans living in Kenya, raise money for research for the cure or vaccine for AIDS, to help those afflicted with AIDS and to help those with cancer. Locally, we organize 5K AIDS/Cancer Run/Walk to improve the lives of people living with HIV and cancer.

How does the foundation advocate for those living with AIDS? We give to many organizations that support HIV-positive people; we help fund research at the University of Florida as well as other leading AIDS research facilities. We also strive to put on the best 5K running/walking event on Long Island. At this year’s 5K event we gave away $15 in gift certificates, everyone received a personalized t-shirt and we gave away $5,000 in raffle tickets. We do not charge people living with HIV or cancer.

How do you go about raising awareness that HIV and brain cancer can be overcome by living a healthy and upbeat lifestyle? We hosted and completed seven World AIDS Marathons in Kenya on World AIDS Day and seven 5K AIDS/Cancer Run/Walks in America. We also have sponsored dinner dances for 2,000 orphans. It’s not just donating money for these dinners; it is about letting the orphan see there are faces behind these donations and Americans do care about the plight of orphans in Africa. The World AIDS Marathon is held in Kenya, and the full impact of it was never realized until 2006, when the World Health Organization issued a report stating that Kenya was only one of two African countries that had a declining rate for new HIV cases from December 2003 to December 2005. The organization’s various running events in America since 2008 have raised $41,000 in cash, toiletry/gift items and toys.

How did the foundation get involved in Kenya? I realized that, with the correct medicines and treatment, I am still able to live a long and healthy life. Unfortunately, those in Kenya do not have the access or education that we have here, and I set out to help build up the AIDS infrastructure by funding local projects and orphanages.

How do you go about achieving such a broad mission that includes HIV, brain cancer and providing assistance to those in Kenya? I’ve been a newspaper deliver boy, waiter, architect, author, publisher and can say with 100 percent certainty, I’ve found the best position I could ever hope for: being president of a foundation where I can help people living with HIV or cancer. When you get supportive letters from presidents and senators, and get to have dinner with President Barack Obama’s grandmother, sometimes in life there are no choices.

Thank you to the Long Island Business News for profiling the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation and for giving permission for the article to be reprinted here. Visit the Long Island Business News online at: www.libn.com

Numerous individuals, businesses, schools, and volunteers have been extremely supportive of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation’s work: Shalom Maidenbaum of Maidenbaum Property Tax Reduction Group, Allan Spielman & retrofestivals.org, Matthew Hartmann, Great Neck North High School’s AIDS Awareness Club, KIDS/FASHION DELIVERS, Dr. Richard Sartori, Dr. Bonyo, Dr. Julian Howard, Dean Backer & Family, Mazzitelli Construction Corp, South Shore Honda, CNS Management, Keyfood of Long Beach, Backstage Nite Club/Woodmere Lanes, Charna Radbell Foundation, Reverend Wanda F. Myers, and Living Hope Fellowship; the student groups who invited me to speak at Georgetown University, NYU, Hofstra, and Stony Brook; Richard M. Brodsky Foundation board members; volunteers Heidi Weisel, Lokhin Cheng, Rupert Reyneke, Keely Payne, Sahil Batta, Carl Bradford, Alexandra Russell, and Maryanne; The Miami Herald, Anton Publications, The New York Times, The Nassau Herald, POZ Magazine, NEWSDAY, The Jewish Star, Great Neck News, Great Neck Record, and thebody.com; Blue Light Horizon, Janet Russell and John Walsh, Sally Jesse Raphael, Dick Clark, Montel Williams, Howard Stern, CNN, CBS; and Barnes & Noble for taking a chance on a first time author. AND most of all, my loving wife Jodi who inspired me to write the book: Jodi, The Greatest Love Story Ever Told.
DONATE NOW!

I hope you enjoyed reading about the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation’s work both in Africa and America. We can only continue these projects with your continued support as volunteers, participants and/or sponsors. Thank you for your donation, your donation is gratefully acknowledged and will be put to good use by funding our charitable work here and abroad. You can make your donation online by visiting: www.richardmbrodsky.org, www.worldaidsmarathon.com or www.5kaidscancer.com and click on the DONATE links or mailing your donation to the address on the back cover.

On the back cover you can read what Leaders and Educators are saying about the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation, but for me it is what everyday people are saying. This is why I need to continue the Foundation’s work.

“I ran in the 5K today with my son at Cedar Creek Park. It was tremendous! From Richard Brodsky, HIV-positive and a brain cancer survivor, with his wife at his side — who could be a better inspiration for us. The response to the 5K was great, the support and encouragement unmatched. We finished the 5K and left flying high on encouragement and hope. I know my battle with cancer will be won knowing the love and support that is out there. Thank you to the Brodskys!”

-Nancy Werner

Prize-Winning Letter Published in “The Standard;” Nairobi, Kenya

LET’S SUPPORT AIDS MARATHONER

“When life hands you a lemon,” so the dictum goes,” make lemonade out of it.” This line of wisdom clicked in my mind immediately as I started reading the article NYC Marathoner Runs for Kenya, by Betty Kemunto in New York. It is a case of juggling with one’s pride, altruism and a display of exceptional character which is hard to come by today. Yet, the couple has decided to take the bull by the horns and try to make some good out of a bad situation. However, one question begs an answer: will their efforts of creating awareness bear any fruits?

Awareness of the disease has been drummed into mankind’s head but still there is minimal behavior change. It’s like AIDS has already lost its scare value. Thus, our red light streets are still as vibrant as ever, irresponsible sex—even with minors, continue to dominate; incest, fornication...the list is long. But a prophet is coming. It is said that a prophet is not recognized in his homeland. Richard Brodsky (read AIDS prophet) is flying from his homeland for a purpose—to continue with the awareness that is slowly sliding to oblivion. Are we going to heed his call or despise his noble efforts?

-Michael Nyagah Mainge, Nakuru, Kenya

“I pray God’s richest blessings upon you as you continue to make a difference in the lives of others. You have certainly made a difference in mine.”

-Reverend Wanda Meyers, Living Hope Fellowship of Massapequa

AMSA chapters or similar organizations that are interested in initiating events or similar projects with the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation can visit: www.richardmbrodsky.org and click on LINKS.
LEADERS & EDUCATORS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THE RICHARD M. BRODSKY FOUNDATION

**President Barack Obama:** “AIDS is the worst public health crisis in human history, and finding a cure is a priority of mine. But government cannot fight AIDS alone. People like you are invaluable working at the grassroots to show the human face and spirit that I believe will ultimately defeat AIDS. I wish you all the best for a successful race.”

**President Bill Clinton:** “The HIV/AIDS epidemic is one of the most urgent problems of our time and it needs the voices, energy, and involvement of people like you.”

**Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray:** “Our township salutes you and we offer our hearts, minds and hands to assist in all of your noble endeavors.”

**Former United Nations Special Envoy to HIV/AIDS in Africa, Stephen H. Lewis:** “I wish you every triumphant success. There can be no objective on this planet more worthy than to overcome the pandemic of HIV/AIDS.”

**Archbishop Desmond Tutu / Lavonia Brown, Personal Assistant:** “Archbishop Desmond Tutu is delighted to hear of the 2004 AIDS Africa Marathon. He sends his warm wishes for the success of this exciting and challenging event.”

**United States Senator Ted Kennedy:** “I wish you all the best in your continuing battle against HIV/AIDS and I commend you for all you’re doing to raise money for a cure.”

**Nassau County Legislator Denise Ford:** “I am in awe of your dedication and hard work and I stand with the many who pledge to continue their support of the Richard M. Brodsky Foundation. Continue to let your light shine!”

**Dr. Anton Berzins, Great Neck North High School, school psychologist:** “It’s easy to bring out the best in our students when we focus our energies on a worthy cause, and a wonderful human. The kids see your generosity, kindness, and perseverance, and respect that.”

**Mayor Jean Celender, Village of Great Neck Plaza:** “I wish to commend Richard on his remarkable journey to encourage people living with HIV and cancer to live healthy productive lives. You are inspiring many and making a difference in the fight for a cure.”

**Mike Polansky (President of the Greater Long Island Running Club):** “There is no harder working team of race directors on Long Island than Richard and Jodi Brodsky.”

**Professor Asher J. Matathias, President Long Island Lodge #1353, B’nai B’rith:** “May the Almighty grant you good health, much love, and the will to continue your work. You are a beacon for people living with HIV and cancer.”