

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Year: 2015-16

**Name of the Program: Campus Ein Chemed – Academic Technical College for the Advancement of Employment for the Chareidi Sector**

**Year of activity:** 2015 -16

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**The actual state of the program:**

The campus, now in its third year, currently hosts 106 Charedi students, the majority of who do not have sufficient background in formal and systematic studies and need special assistance to reach matriculation standard (provided, in part, by National Sherut Le'umi male volunteers.) We prepare the brighter students for *matriculation or academic and computer studies*, and other students for *vocational training*.

**The Curriculum**

**Religious Studies** (in which all students participate): Courses in Talmud (*Masechet Kedushin*); *Peleh Yo'etz*; *Mishnah Berurah*; *Hilchot Shemittah* and *Sefer Dinim*.

**Academic Studies:**

- *Completion of Bagrut Studies*, 21 units
- *Pre-academic Studies*: Includes English, Mathematics, Talmud, Language and Citizenship.

**Vocational training** – (a) Professional standard computer studies, moving on to a course in Website Creation and Design and (b) (*new*) Building Contraction (Kablanei Beniyah).

**Extra-curricular Activities and Events:**

3 tiyulim around the country. Parties for Chanukah, Tu B'shvat, Purim, and Lag Ba'omer. *Chugim*: First Aid; Music; special KKL course and field trips related to community and ecology. Roots trip to Poland for top students. Student band established formally (appeared before groups of youngsters in the Jerusalem area). Community volunteering – visiting patients in homes and local hospitals. Exercise room in use on a regular basis.



**The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.):**

- We finally achieved recognition and greater awareness within the ultra-Orthodox sector and the yeshiva world to the concept that young men who do not fit the classic yeshiva model, with its traditional timetable, are able to approach us (with their rabbis). As such, we offer programs that leverage potentially wasted time, through the curriculum and activities outlined above, to achieve for these young Chareidi men meaningful employment and integration into Israeli society, while maintaining the lifestyle to which they are accustomed.
- We put stronger emphasis on registering young men who are serious about their intentions and studies, by instituting more rigorous pre-screening and diagnostic ability tests – in order to create a group of top quality students.
- The Campus moved from Jerusalem to rural Lifta (northern entrance of Jerusalem), away from enticing and inappropriate city attractions. The overall facility is far more suitable, comfortable, and functional.
- This year saw our first graduates (ten students) who enlisted in the IDF – two in Intelligence and eight in the Givati Brigade.

**Evaluation**

The success of the project is indicated, as follows:

***Bagrut.*** 85% of students studying for the Bagrut were entered for the exams – and they all passed with excellent grades.

***Building Construction course.*** 8 students are currently in this newly established course for building contractors, which started in September 2016. [So, of course, there are no data of employment at this point.]

***Entry in to the Workforce.*** Of the first group of 24 students who completed the *vocational course in website design* in July 2016, 16 have found work so far.

**Provisional guidelines for the advancement of the program in the next year:**

1. Cooperation with the Maftach and Kivun organizations, as well as the Joint Distribution Committee, to open an advanced level cyber course.
2. Provision of training to the teaching staff, to improve teaching methods.
3. Allocation of significant addition of time devoted to Mathematics and English studies.
4. Setting up of enrichment and empowerment projects for students to be able to continue meeting the required standards expected of them in the outside world.

Attached to this Evaluation Report, please find the Financial Report and the list of the participants of the program (**as PDF documents**)

Additionally, please find photos – as **PDF docs** – and other relevant documents – as **PDF documents**.