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Matanel Scholarships for young students from Ethiopian backgrounds-2012-2013

Name of program

Matanel Scholarships for young students from Ethiopian backgrounds

Year of activity

2012-2013

Name of the report's writer

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Function of the report's writer

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Status of program

- Between September 2011 and August 2013, Matanel Scholarships were awarded to 52 Ethiopian-Israeli students, in 5th through 12th grades, from families living in harsh social and economic conditions. (Over the past three years, the total number of Matanel scholarship grantees has increased from 19 students in 2011, to 30 in 2012, and now to 52 in 2013.)
- These subsidies have enabled the children to afford the high tuition costs of good quality schools.
- All children are motivated to learn and succeed at school, and are well integrated into the student body.
- As was the case in the previous year, the Steering Center has succeeded in leveraging support from the Matanel Foundation by arranging a tuition subsidy to each student from participating schools, and by securing co-payments from each child's parents. This is an important way of ensuring that students, parents and schools are committed to success.

Main achievements during the last year of activity

1. The program met its goal by selecting 52 Ethiopian-Israeli children and subsidized their tuition at prestigious schools by awarding them a Matanel Scholarship.
2. All 52 children have successfully completed the school year without dropping-out, and by either maintaining good grades, or improving their grades.

Evaluation

The project methodology, of selecting talented Ethiopian-Israeli children and enabling them to study in high caliber schools, has proven effective. This is evidenced in the fact that students reached the end of the school year without dropping-out, and have maintained good grades.

The students have integrated well into the schools, and are an important and active part of the student body. This is evidenced by the fact that students have expressed desire to continue studying in these schools.

Project staff members have begun collecting photographs and final examination results from each participant in the program so that their academic performance can be monitored centrally.

Others

Advancing Matanel Scholarships in 2014

- As agreed with Matanel Foundation representatives, the project is expected to continue for into 2014 according using same methodology as previous years.
- The detailed financial report shows the names of each student that was awarded a Matanel scholarship over the past year, their grade and home city. Many of the existing award winners from 2013 will be eligible for scholarships in 2014.
- The generous grant of 100,000 shekels from the Matanel Foundation was distributed in full.