Scholarships for Medical Students-2011-2012

Name of program
Scholarships for Medical Students

Year of activity
2011-2012

Status of program
At this stage, the program has distributed all scholarships and accomplished all the programmed activities for the first group of 3rd year students studying in Medical Schools in Israel. At present we are busy advertising for the 2nd group of 3rd year students with a maghrebian background studying at Medical Schools in Israel. We advertise in the universities and our association's conferences in Israel, calling students to apply for the scholarship and we set our deadline at the end of September 2012. However, by now we have already received a lot of student's applications. After the limit date, our organization will meet and sort the applications according to the criteria's set beforehand: 3rd year students born in Maghrebian countries or to parents who immigrate from these countries, studying at Medical Schools in Israel, from low socio-economic background, and living in peripheral areas or zones.

Main achievements during the last year of activity
The distribution of the scholarships for the first group of ten 3rd year students studying at Medical Schools, several of them residing in the periphery and others in the metropolitan area took place at the University of Tel-Aviv. On the 19.12.2011 at a well-attended ceremony, in the presence of Mrs. Joel Aflalo, Dr. Ami Bouganim, MK's and other dignitaries we distributed the scholarships. Each elected student received the first part of the scholarship of the amount of 8000 NIS. On the 2.4.2012, we held a seminar for the recipients of the scholarships studying at Medical Schools and for young students active in other institutions' operating in our organization. At
this event we distributed the left over of the scholarships of an amount of 2000 NIS for each student in Medical School. The seminar was attended by numerous Israeli university lecturers. The Students studying at Medical School participated also in Seminars organized by our organization in January 2012 at the Dead Sea and at Bar-Ilan University, in March and April 2012. The Subjects of our seminars were: Aliya and Settlement in Israel, and Portraits of Jewish Women Leaders in Morocco.

**Evaluation**

After concluding all seminars, the scholarship Committee held a summarizing meeting. The Committee Members manifested their satisfaction as to the scholarship distribution, half of the recipients coming from the periphery, and therefore the Committee decided to encourage this course in order to strengthen eligible students from development towns and from the periphery. Bringing together Students studying medicine and other students active in our organization opened a positive dialog between them and enforce the consciousness of their heritage and background as North African Jews, and enrich discussion about their integration and their respective contribution to the Israeli Society. Due to the success of the seminars, the Committee recommended to expand this framework in the future.

In Summary:

Brith Yotzei Morocco in Israel with the help of the Matanel Foundation is encouraging students from Maghrebian background to study in Medical Schools.
We set as a goal to encourage students to contribute to better the medical services in Israel by enhancing communication with the populations in the Israeli society residing in the developmental areas. The events performed till now included the main event at Tel-Aviv University during which 10 scholarships were distributed to students – in the presence of 1300 participants. The seminars at Kfar Hamaccabia, Academic College Ashkelon and Bar-Ilan University were attended by 20-30 participating students, including some students studying at Medical Schools and some activists in our organization.

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