



## MATANEL FOUNDATION

### ACTIVITY REPORT

**Program:** "Aharai! In the Community" and "Gal" pre-military academy programs.

**Year:**2013-1014

**Name of the Program:** Scholarships for "Aharai!" volunteers.

For students in the "Aharai! In the Community" and "Gal" pre-military academy programs.

**Year of activity:** 2013-2014

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**Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):**

Both our programs, The Community Service and the Gal Academy, have started their activities this year, and are currently at the stage of forming a strong bond within the group and developing personal relations. There are 72 participants in the Community Service program and 97 participants in the Gal Academy. In the past year, more than 30% of the participants needed various scholarships in order to be able to finish their full year of studies. In light of this, Matanel contribution was much needed and felt. It gave an opportunity for "Aharai!" to help out in places where their home has failed to do so. This year, the needs are tremendous due to the growth of both programs.

**The Community Service program:**

In the recent year we had 70 participants in the program, of which 95% are graduates of other Aharai programs. More than 50% of the participants in each group are from target population. In the past year, we had 8 active communes in different cities in Israel- Beer- Sheva, Dimona, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Natanya, Hadera, Nesher and Karmiel.

**Gal Academy:**

This past year, we had 66 participants in the program, of which 31 received scholarships. In the past year, we had three groups, two in Akko and a new group in Haifa.

The financial aid that was given to the participants who were eligible, differed according the each participants need, starting at 1500 NIS and up to 4000 NIS.



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

**The community service program:**

In the last year of activity, one of our main achievements was the opening of a new commune in the city of Dimona, our 8<sup>th</sup> commune in total, which we believe is very necessary. We also had a high rate of participants who completed the year of community service, compared both to Aharai and to other frameworks. This is a major achievement considering most of our participants come from a rough background. Last year, 99% of the participants in the program enlisted to the IDF, most of which to a significant and meaningful service. We received full support from the municipalities and formed a good co-operation with them. This year we had a high number of applicants to the program; this indicates the great impact the previous year's participants created in the different cities.

**Gal Academy**

In this past year, there has been an extensive and significant increase in the number of youth from the periphery that has applied to the pre-military academy. More than 89% of the participants in the program noted that they feel a great deal of improvement regarding their sense of competence. This year, there has been a great deal of involvement of academy graduates with the educational development in the pre-military academy.

The pre-military academy program has the tools to take youth with rough circumstances and empower them to achieve a significant service.

100% serve in significant positions

85% of the males serve in combat units

50% became commanders\instructors

During the year, the participants stay in apartments that amongst the local population in the neighborhood. The participant's activities in the neighborhood create a model of youth leadership using positive values within the neighborhood. This year we grew in terms of recruiting youth from the neighborhoods in which the pre-military program operates.

**Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:**

**Community Service:**

1. To expose each of Aharai's participants to a meaningful year of community service, and to ensure the conditions for each participant to integrate in the program.



2. To increase and expand the program ( to open more communes)
3. To invest more resources in the classification and training of our team.
4. To keep our high rates of army enlistment and significant service amongst the program graduates.
5. To increase the percentage of participants from disadvantaged population, especially from the Ethiopian population.

**Gal academy:**

1. Significantly improving the ability to give basic financial support to each and every participant that will need it (transportation, need-base scholarships, etc).
2. To improve all aspects of the program and create a social research.
3. To enlarge the professional team of the program in order to create a broader knowledge base.
4. To create a strong base of the graduates discipline.
5. Improving the study environment.

Contrary to most community service and academy volunteers, who come from an affluent socio-economic background and reinforced areas, the "Aharei!" volunteers come from groups that work in social and geographic peripheries, boarding schools, shelters, minority towns, and more. Year after year we meet young men and women who, despite growing up in an environment of hardship and distress, choose to donate their time and effort to the welfare of Israeli society.

As the years go by we have found that the scholarship fund is enabling the continuation of the volunteers' tremendous social contribution to society. For many, this year would have never happened without financial support provided to them. Forty two participants underwent a tremendous change in their lives due to the support of the Matanel Foundation scholarship fund.

Please join the Evaluation Report, the Financial Report and the list of the participants to the program (as **PDF documents**)