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Bnei Tsion Mechina-2010-2011

Name of program

Bnei Tsion Mechina

Year of activity

2010-2011

Name of the report's writer

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Status of program

The Pre-Military Academy Program B'nai Zion has stormed into its fifth year of activity. We are now nearing the end of the year and are already recruiting participants for the next academic year of 2012-2013.

The current class is an excellent class, and in many respects it is the best class we have had so far. This is apparent both in the moral, social and intellectual level of the participants.

Main achievements during the last year of activity

Last year's main achievements were the graduation of 38 participants from the program (out of a total of 39 who began the program), the high satisfaction of the students, parents and educational staff and most of all our strong feeling that the students underwent a deep personal, mental and moral process to which we aspire.

Second, all of last year's graduates joined the IDF (apart from one female graduate which is in the process of volunteering to the IDF due to medical reasons, and another male graduate

who will recruit at the end of March 2012).

It is difficult to name specific events during the year, as throughout the year we held dozens of special events, alongside our intensive routine which lasts seven days a week, 24 hours a day, and in this sense we differ from other organizations.

With reference to annual and weekly planning - both were executed fully as planned. We spent 11 weeks outside of Tel Aviv in various parts of Israel, and the rest of the weeks were devoted to routine studies, along with unique events, in the Academy.

Evaluation

The pre-military program has stabilized in its fourth year of activity, while in the first three years there were substantial changes from year to year. We can now say we have reached a satisfactory level of stable activity, which includes the following aspects:

A. An annual schedule was developed, which includes regular and special activities that emphasizes the values of work, preparation for the IDF and acquaintance with Eretz Yisrael.

B. A weekly schedule was developed, that includes academic classes, community service, social activity, physical activity and team work, all within the correct balance as we view it.

C. A group of permanent teachers has been formed, which of course has some changes every once in a while. In comparison to the first years of activity, there are now a significant number of teachers who view themselves, and are viewed by us, and most importantly, viewed by the students, as the "home teachers" and the educational, moral and spiritual backbone of the program.

D. The community service field was developed and includes working with youth at risk, lonely elderly citizens, refugees, mentally disabled and Tel Aviv pre-military youth.

All of these areas of activities continue in the current (fifth) year of our activity.

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