MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program*:Matanel Perach Zahav Ametz Saba*
Year: 2019

Please present your activity report according to the following lines. The whole report will not exceed 2 or 3 pages (as word document).

Name of the Program: Matanel Perach Zahav Ametz Saba

Year of activity: 2

Name of the report's writer: Yaniv More

Function of the report's writer: Project Director

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Website / Facebook address of the organization:
https://he-il.facebook.com/AmetzSaba
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Number of active participants in the program:

67 active participants in the program:

- 36 elderly participants from Afula, Migdal Ha'emek, Tivon, Emek Yizrael (Tel Adashim and Nahalal), Haifa, Kiryat Ata, Kiryat Biyalik, Lod, Naharyia.
- 27 stipends for active students learning in Emek Yizrael's campus and living in different areas around the campus.
  (1 student receives double stipend for double volume of activity; 9 students are seeing two elderly participants.
- 2 additional volunteers
  (receiving stipends from different organizations – impact/katzir)
- 3 coordinators

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

As of today, the project has expanded its impact on the peripheral areas surrounding the campus – collaborating with 9 municipalities. Moreover, the program is operating in 'full capacity' – 27 students and 3 coordinators plus 2 additional volunteers that participates in narrowing the inter-generational gap with a scholarship from other funds. 3608.5 hours of accumulative "volunteer hours" has been made this year.

The project cooperates with professional social workers, both from the national 'Ametz Saba' project and from the municipalities.

The project is supported by the Dean of Max Stern Yezreel Valley College (hereinafter: Emek Yizrael college). The support and collaboration is administrative, professional and financial, enhancing the support we give the students and the elderly.

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

We are proud of our achievement to grow this year in almost every aspect – retaining 27 students throughout the year, cumulative volunteer hours, and periphery geographical municipalities and impact.

During this year, we held a couple of major events:

After a screening process to find the students who will be most appropriate to participate and enjoy a meaningful two-way relationship with the elderly citizens, we held **an opening event**. With professional and administrative guidance, we learnt how to get started with the weekly meetings, how to approach the third age population, what are the difficulties which they may encounter, and how to be that positive place in the elderly's day, and in some aspect – life.

In the middle of the year, we **held a guest lecture** in which we understood better different situations elderly people need to deal with, and how we can be an aid for them.

Throughout the year, we had countless **'local' initiatives** on behalf of the students, just a sample: a student who had the Leil Haseder with his 'adopted Saba', celebrating birthdays for the elderly, going out together for a coffee, along with joint activities all year round. Moreover, we held **different activities in Holidays and memorial days**, such as "Zikaron Basalon" – a gathering with a holocaust survival in holocaust remembrance day, candle lighting on Hanukah, and more.

Towards the end of the year the students learnt through an **interactive learning tutorial** we created about how to finish this years' activity with their "grandpas" in a respectful and meaningful way. To our delight, many of them wish, and will, continue to meet with their elderly also throughout the summer…

To sum up the year, we held **a 'graduation' event** for all the students and the elderly – it was lovely. We brought a sing-along operator and sang together songs from the past as well as new hits, and everyone enjoyed it exceptionally! The impressive event was held with the funding of the campus.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future…):

At the beginning of the year, we had a significant screening process, allowing us to maintain 27 students (and more than that – funded by other funds). We are glad we achieved that, and we'll try to continue and improve our methodology in that matter.

As a point of improvement, we would like to organize a mid-year event for the students in a way that all students will participate and strengthen the connection between them, allowing them to learn one from the other as regards to their weekly meeting with the elderly.

With the advantage of a year experience – we managed this year to deepen our impact in various aspects, as mentioned above. We delivered much more volunteer hours, more volunteer students, more year-round events, and we reached more peripheral municipalities. All that – while also emphasizing and improving the quality of each of the above aspects.

Throughout this year, we monitored our work through the colleges' volunteer management system. That enabled us to follow-up on the activity done, as well as read their remarks. In addition, the coordinators were in a weekly-monthly connection with the students, offering them guidance, and receiving relevant updates. The feedback we received from the elderly was also very positive.

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

Looking at the past year, we understand that the joint activities contribute to the students' sense of belonging and increases furthermore their motivation. Therefore, we wish to add more joint activities for the students.

We are also glad that the project became within two years a very meaningful volunteer and social activity in the peripheral North of Israel but we want to enhance its positive impact in the campus concerning the understanding of the importance of intergenerational connections. So, we wish to add more activities led by the project but open to all the students in the campus. That depends of course with the financial support of the campus.

We also wish next year to strengthen our ties with the social workers and the municipalities, to help us to create more meaningful connections and better social support for the students throughout the year.