MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program*:beit midrash shana bet*
Year: *2019*

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

Name of the Program: Meitarim Lachish Mechina

Year of activity: 2018/2019

Name of the report's writer: Amitai Hirshman

Function of the report's writer: CEO

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Website / Facebook address of the organization: www.mlachish.org

Number of active participants in the program: 14

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):
The program of 2018/2019 has ended in mid-2019. 11 graduates have finished the full second year program and continued to their military service. Today there are 10 participants in this years program, now coming to its mid time. The group is starting to write an article from the individual materials they are researching, and learning how to pin point a research question to help them with that. They are also traveling in their mid years hike near the kinneret and making decisions about things they want to change for the second semester.

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

The group has concentrated on studying in a small intimate group in the atmosphere of a Beit Midrash. They have learned how to pick a subject and a question that the want to investigate and brought it from idea into an article in a book they have published (in small numbers).

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future…):
The main evaluation methodology is by quality and ongoing personal conversations with the participants. This year we had more drop outs than expected, some due to personal reasons and some as the program wasn't fit for them, and the Beit Midrash was not what they were looking for.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:
We have recruited a new head for the program, Reem, who has just retired from the military after serving 23 years and a Air Force Pilot. We believe he will bring with him a new spirit and upgrade the program significantly.

Alumni testimonials:

Nitzan

The second year was for me a direct continuation of first year and on the other hand a completely different program. The second year exposed me to many other diverse areas that I probably would not have come alone and made me interested and wanting to find out and hear more. The amazing lecturers have always come with patience and genuine learning - something inspiring and not at all obvious to me. The program gave me the tools and especially the feeling that there is no text that I will not be able to deal with if I invest in it, no matter if it is philosophical thought or physical theory - which helps me even today in my university studies.
The biggest highlight I remember is writing the article at the end of the year. Being able to take a topic that interests me and analyze it in every direction, when I finally write something new, is a wonderful ability that I remember so much today.

Gal

The second year program helped me to gain more practical tools to help people around me and to help the society.
And also game me the motivation do so, motivation that guides me until today and will keep guiding me for many years to come.
A lot of that is thanks to my mentors and my friends from the program

Adi

Hard to describe but a few points about the year:
A program that accompanies you to find the areas of your interest, learn about them and yourself and explore them in learning. A small group, discussions with various lecturers around a family table.

Tal

For me, the second year is to be part of a small group of friends who have continued like me for another six months in preparations in order to expand knowledge and focus on learning.
I think the biggest gift I've received this year is the courage to open a book. With the help of knowledgeable staff and lecturers in various fields, I felt I could pick any topic that interested me to dive into it.
One of the greatest experiences that I remember is the opportunity to sit on the couch in the beit midrash with no worries and focus solely on learning.

Adi

My experience of the year
A small group that strengthens and teaches.
An intimate and enriching learning experience, with lots of personal responsibility and room for initiative.
An in-depth and interesting study suitable for everyone.

High-level self-management that encourages independence and autonomy.
The best choice I have made so far is worth another six months of rejecting service, learning and growing up