

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program: Workforce Development for People with ASD

Year: 2020

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

1. **Name of the Program:** Workforce Development for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
2. **Year of activity:** 2020
3. **Name of the report's writer:** Anat Ganor
4. **Function of the report's writer:** Resource Development Director
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6. **Website / Facebook address of the organization:** <https://www.facebook.com/amutachildrenatrisk/>
7. **Number of active participants in the program:** 9
8. **Estimated number of impacted participants:** 9
9. **Give the actual state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):**

The program's second cohort has concluded its second year. This year focused on sustainable placement, with our coordinator visiting participants at their workplace on a weekly basis and facilitating weekly peer-group meetings. Since COVID-19 and its ensuing restrictions have become a matter of routine, the possibility of online study was presented at the earliest stages of the application process. After the conclusion of the initial screening, which included an hour-long interview and professional testing, 9 candidates (6 males, 3 females) were accepted to the program

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

The program's main achievement over the second year of its three pilot years was the completion of all requirements by its 9 original participants. Not only did the program see an increase in the number of members (9 this year, as opposed to last year's 6) it can also be declared a success by all of its alumni who have graduated and are now either employed or in the process of being hired.

The program's achievements are especially noteworthy when considering the changes necessitated by the ongoing pandemic. These entailed, first and foremost, the accommodation of a fully operative on-line study format. Out of the program's scheduled 5 months study period, four and a half were conducted online. During this time the participants were introduced to all the relevant material and given the skills necessary for full integration within the workforce. Ultimately, the online format did not interfere with program's original schedule, consisting of 4 days a week between 9:00-13:00. This was achieved through extensive preparations, including staff training and the application of existing teaching methods to a new digital platform; supplying each student with the tools required for online-study; educating the participants in

regards to the rules and regulations consistent with online-study; and making sure each student has been sent all books and relevant study material.

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

The program is subjected to internal evaluation. As noted earlier, the program saw an increase in the number of the participants, with all 9 members (as opposed to last year's 6) graduating successfully. not only that, but 100% were found eligible for a vocational certificate, and are now either employed or in the process of getting hired.

Please find participants' success stories attached. Participants' photos and names cannot be shared.