

# *MATANEL FOUNDATION*

## *ACTIVITY REPORT*

**Program:** Derech Avot Mechina Scholarship

**Year:** 2023

Name of the Program: Derech Avot Mechina Scholarship

Year of activity: 2023

Name of the report's writer: Lior Shtul

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Number of active participants in the program: 60

Estimated number of impacted participants: 40 students complete the program and have enlisted for a significant service in the IDF. All students completed the program with a strengthened sense of commitment to Am Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael, the State of Israel and their Beita Israel heritage. All alumni will be accompanied during the army by the rabbinical team of the mechina which is critical for soldiers from Ethiopian origin in particular in order to serve in a full and meaningful service.

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines): 20 students have chosen to continue for a second year of study. This is a significant layer that helps in the acclimatization of the members of the new cohort, which is about 40 students

The main achievements during the last year of activity (main achievements, number of events, number of participants, etc.): A comparison with the preceding year revealed positive growth in these areas. The results showed a substantial increase in student engagement and dedication to the program's values. The conclusions highlight the importance of continued community engagement, support for military preparedness, and the need for sustained efforts in fostering cultural identity and personal growth. These achievements reflect the program's unwavering dedication to nurturing socially responsible, culturally aware, and academically proficient individuals, poised to make meaningful contributions to Israeli society and beyond.

The evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with the precedent year, conclusions for the future...): Throughout the year, we held meetings with all sectors of Israeli society and visited various communities. Additionally, we emphasized the preparation for military service, which included navigation expeditions, physical fitness, and visits to military bases. Developing a strong foundation of values and a connection to the unique heritage of the Jewish people is of paramount importance to us. During the year, we also organized events with parents to foster a strong partnership between home and school.

**Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:** In **Strengthening Community Engagement:** Continue conducting meetings with representatives from all sectors of Israeli society, visiting diverse communities, and organizing events with parents to foster a strong partnership between home and school. This will promote inclusivity and a sense of belonging among students, fostering a deeper connection to their heritage.

**Enhancing Military Preparedness:** Maintain a strong emphasis on preparing students for military service through various activities.

**Strengthening Cultural identity:** Supporting Personal Growth, providing opportunities for individual growth and self-discovery.

**Encouraging Leadership and Initiative:** Create platforms for students to take on leadership roles and initiate projects that contribute positively to the mechina, community and beyond. Encourage a culture of leadership and responsibility.

By following these provisional guidelines, the program will be better equipped to provide a holistic and enriching educational experience, nurturing students who are not only academically competent but also socially responsible and culturally aware individuals, ready to positively contribute to Israeli society and the world at large.

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

Please join photos – as **JPG files** – and any link or any other document connected to the program which will seem to you relevant – as **PDF document**.

Please join a 5 minutes movie which presents your institution and the particular project supported by the Matanel Foundation. The movie should be accessible to the philanthropic world and to other potential donors.