



Report to the Matanel Foundation - 2025 Citizens Build a Community – Masaak Program Update

Dear Matanel Foundation Team,

We are grateful for your continued support of the **Masaak** program, which is currently undergoing a meaningful expansion to the cities of Ramla and Jaffa following its successful implementation in Lod. We are pleased to share an update on our progress and initial results from the first phase of the program in 2024.

Program Overview: First Phase of Masaak

In 2024, **20 volunteers** (scholarship recipients) underwent a focused and intensive **training process**. This included structured workshops, professional conferences, and ongoing mentorship led by the program coordinator. The training covered both **facilitation and instructional skills**, as well as in-depth exposure to the **content they later delivered** to students in local high schools.

The first stage of the Masaak model – "**Prepare**" – focuses on high school students in 12th grade and is implemented in schools across **Lod, Ramla, and Jaffa**. It provides guidance and empowerment tools in financial literacy, academic planning, personal rights, and career exploration. Each group of students participated in a **minimum of 10–15 sessions**, allowing for sustained engagement and measurable personal growth.

It is important to emphasize that this facilitation and mentoring process marks **only the beginning** of the Masaak model. Upon completion of this stage, participants will take part in a **seminar** and move on to the second stage, which includes a "**transition year**" featuring individualized support toward national service, employment, or higher education.

Indicators of Success (So Far)

- **Volunteer Development:** All 20 scholarship recipients completed their facilitation training and are currently leading peer-mentorship groups across the three cities.
 - **Group Engagement:** Over 300 high school students from Lod, Ramla, and Jaffa are participating in the Masaak sessions.
 - **Ongoing Evaluation:** Participants are showing early signs of improved self-confidence, stronger group dynamics, and increased interest in higher education pathways.
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Attachments

To illustrate the program's impact, we are pleased to attach the following:

- **5 reports from student volunteers**, documenting their experience, challenges, and personal growth during the facilitation process.
- **5 success stories** from participating high school students, highlighting key moments of transformation and how the sessions influenced their aspirations and outlook.

Conclusion

Masaak continues to address a critical gap in the transition from adolescence to adulthood, particularly for Arab youth in Israel's social periphery. Your support allows us to implement a **holistic and scalable model** that fosters leadership, inclusion, and opportunity in the communities that need it most.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration and sharing additional updates as the program progresses into its next phase.

With sincere gratitude,

Amira Baba – CEO – Citizens Build a Community
