

## MATANEL FOUNDATION ACTIVITY REPORT

*(Please present your activity report as a WORD document, not to exceed 2-3 pages.)*

**Name of the program:** Matanel-Kaima Educational Investment Fund (388)  
**Year of activity:** 2024/25  
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### Introduction

***There is no better feeling than the satisfaction that comes from having 1 oneself***

The Matanel Foundation has been instrumental in advancing Kaima's efforts to provide alternative learning resources for young people challenged to relate to conventional educational/social settings. Through this particular grant--which seeded the establishment of The Matanel-Kaima Educational Investment Fund--the Foundation significantly improved the chances for success for Kaima's current participants (ages 15-21) and alumni (ages 21-26) by providing access to certificate-granting vocational/professional training courses and/or academic pursuits.

Younger participants selected courses on subjects such as accounting, computer science, cyber security, animation, sustainable beekeeping, tractor driving, welding, carpentry, jewelry design, yoga, aerobic instruction, and more. Academic studies focused on diverse fields such as psychology, sociology, alternative medicine, animation, and the fine arts.

The original grant was intended to run for three years. Owing to massive interruptions brought upon by the pandemic and the ever-cascading post-October 7 tragedies, the grant was extended into a fourth year. In agreement with Foundation staff, the surplus was utilized to benefit as many young people as possible. This track now forms the centerpiece of our complementary educational programming being implemented across our Israel network. Those farms are located in Beit Zayit, Hukuk, and Nahalal.

***The report below outlines the impact of the grant over its four-year usage with particular emphasis on the final reporting period from May 2024 to July 2025. The grant has now been spent in entirety.***

### Year Four: May 2024 to July 2025

#### A. Select participant feedback

- *"The course I did in music production has changed my life...Because of all that I learned, two of my tracks will soon be added to another more established artist's platform. Thank you."*
- *"I got so excited by the jewelry-making course I did that I am seriously thinking of continuing as a professional when I leave the farm. Thank you."*

- *"Getting my tractor-driving license was a great thing. This will help me not only at Kaima, but in my future work in agriculture, since tractor driving is not a skill everyone has. I am now taking the practical exams to operate even heavier machinery. Thank you."*
- *"Honestly, I don't think I would have done this on my own. I needed this program and encouragement to push me to prepare for my psychometric exams. It is amazing that these courses are available to us. Thank you."*
- *The course [jewelry making] helped me explore my creative side and learn something new that I might want to follow as a future profession. Thank you."*

## B. Number of active participants

COURSES	Total Participants	Current Participant	Alumni Participant	NIS Actual Course Cost	Average Course Cost
Beit Zayit	23	11	12	₪87,739	₪3,815
Hukuk	28	23	5	₪97,162	₪3,470
Nahalal	8	7	1	₪25,965	₪2,885
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>₪210,866</b>	<b>₪3,390</b>
Coordination				₪34,400	
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>₪245,266</b>	

## Update (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, less than ten lines):

The grant empowered Kaima participants as they researched and pursued learning experiences of their choosing. Now, four years into the initiative, we find that this approach validates our assertion that self-chosen educational pursuits are extremely important in a person's development. This type of learning not only improves motivation but enhances a sense of responsibility and accountability, all of which are encouraged by our group work on the farm, but need to be reinforced in other settings. In addition, the grant has been surprisingly effective in allowing us to maintain a meaningful connection with our alumni and add value to their lives even after officially leaving the farm, and to build on the past investments made by the Matanel Foundation.

## Evaluation (methodology, results, comparisons with previous year, conclusions):

**A. Project oversight and evaluation:** Conducted by network's social worker, Guy Bar Navon.

### B. Select outcomes:

- Expanding the individual's skill set and sense of personal agency
- Encouraging overall motivation and curiosity, which is linked to post-traumatic growth and increased productivity, happiness, and success
- Promoting a passion for learning
- Facilitating new programming at a time of tremendous upheaval in the lives of the young people in our orbit

### C. Notable observations and changes from previous years.

- This year, 99% of those who started courses either completed or are still enrolled in the program. This high retention aligns with our assertion that young people who have a say in what they learn remain committed and motivated.
- A significant percentage of the beneficiaries are Kaima alumni, reflecting the rich, ongoing impact that we are able to have on the lives of those who officially graduated from the program but remain part of the Kaima community.
- The number of those participating in the 2024/25 grant period was higher than the number of participants in 2023/24. We had previously observed a drop in participation on our sister farms, Kaima Hukuk and Kaima Nahalal, two regions where self-motivation is particularly low. As both farms are now approved to provide educational services through the Ministry of Welfare, enrollment is on the rise, as anticipated.

### Closing statement, thoughts on advancing the program in the future, and provisional guidelines for the advancement of the program

The grant (₪756,000) has now been spent in full. A total of 166 young people (92 current participants and 74 alumni) have or will receive certification in enrichment, vocational training, or academic institutions. This represents tens of thousands of hours of learning and enrichment in programs that have lasted between 6 weeks and four years (in the case of academic studies). These young people are more curious, proud of themselves, and, in most cases, better prepared to meet their futures.

### Pending payments

Pending the Foundation's approval of our report, we confirm that final payment of ₪157,500 is to be paid to cover costs already allocated. For this and for EVERYTHING else, thank you.

	Amount of Payment	Date of payment	Receipt Number
<b>Grant Amount</b>	₪756,000		
<b>Payments Made *</b>	₪598,500		
	₪126,000	November 2021	382
	₪252,000	February 2023	537
	₪126,000	June 2023	617
	₪94,500	June 2024	874
<b>Amount Owed</b>	₪157,500		

\* As of July 2025

### Supporting material

- **List of participants** - Attached
- **Photos** - Attached
- **5-minute movie** - Link to testimonial video: <https://youtu.be/KaySSf1v93o>
- **Facebook posting**: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=776270791579622&set=a.190764926796881>

On behalf of all beneficiaries we thank the Matanel Foundation  
for believing in and sustaining this initiative.