

MATANEL FOUNDATION

ACTIVITY REPORT

Program: Gal's Farm

Year: 2025/26

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

Name of the Program: Gal's Farm

Year of activity: 2025/26

Name of the report's writer: Linor Bason

Function of the report's writer: CEO

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Number of active participants in the program: 70 youth annually

Estimated number of impacted participants: 70 direct participants with additional indirect impact on their families and communities.

Give the actually state of the program (where the program stands at the date of the activity report, no more than ten lines):

Gal's Farm is an educational and therapeutic program operated by Sikui Association in the Jordan Valley and active since 2021. The program provides at-risk youth with an integrated framework combining vocational training, agricultural work, construction, animal care, therapeutic activities, and preparation for meaningful military and civic service.

In 2025/26, 70 young people participated in the program throughout the year. The farm provided a stable, structured, and supportive environment in which participants could develop practical skills while receiving guidance and therapeutic support.

The generous support of the Matanel Foundation contributed directly to the continuation and strengthening of these activities, enabling us to purchase essential equipment and materials and support the day-to-day operation of the farm. This allowed participants to engage in meaningful hands-on work while developing responsibility, confidence, resilience, and a stronger sense of purpose and belonging.

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

In 2025/26, Gal's Farm achieved significant progress in providing participants with practical, educational, and therapeutic opportunities.

Vocational and practical skill development:

Participants received hands-on training in agriculture, construction, and animal care, acquiring skills through real-world experience rather than theoretical instruction alone.

- In construction, youth learned to safely use tools and materials, carry out maintenance and construction tasks, follow instructions, solve practical problems, and complete projects from beginning to end.
- In agriculture, participants worked with crops and cultivated areas, gaining an understanding of agricultural processes, seasonal work, and the importance of consistency and responsibility.
- Through animal care, including work with horses and other farm animals, participants assumed responsibility for feeding, cleaning, care, and maintaining appropriate environments for the animals.

The farm's practical setting enabled youth to see tangible results from their efforts, strengthening their sense of capability and accomplishment.

Development of life and employment skills:

The program also emphasized skills essential for successful integration into employment and independent adult life, including:

- Punctuality and maintaining a regular work routine
- Responsibility for assigned tasks
- Teamwork and communication
- Perseverance and completing tasks
- Problem-solving and coping with challenges
- Working safely and responsibly
- Accepting guidance and constructive feedback

For youth who have struggled in conventional educational frameworks, the farm offers an alternative environment in which learning takes place through meaningful activity, responsibility, and personal experience.

Emotional and personal development:

The combination of educational, vocational, and animal-assisted activities provided participants with opportunities to develop self-confidence, emotional resilience, communication skills, and positive relationships.

Working with animals was particularly meaningful for many participants. Caring for an animal creates a relationship based on trust, consistency, responsibility, and patience, while providing a non-judgmental environment in which young people can experience success.

Preparation for meaningful military and civic service:

As part of the broader Mechina framework, participants developed qualities essential for their transition to military service and adulthood, including discipline, reliability, teamwork, perseverance, responsibility, and the ability to function within a structured environment.

The farm therefore serves not only as a vocational setting, but also as a platform for preparing young people to take greater responsibility for themselves and contribute meaningfully to Israeli society.

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

The program was evaluated according to three principal indicators:

1. Youth engagement and skill development: Participants' progress was monitored through their attendance and participation, willingness to take responsibility, completion of assigned tasks, acquisition of practical skills, and ability to work independently and as part of a team.

The continued operation of the farm has enabled the organization to strengthen its vocational framework and provide youth with increasingly structured opportunities for hands-on learning.

2. Emotional and psychological growth: Staff observed participants' development in areas including confidence, motivation, communication, interpersonal relationships, responsibility, and ability to cope with challenges.

The integrated model—combining meaningful work, supportive relationships, and therapeutic interaction—allows young people to experience achievement in a practical environment and to gradually develop a stronger sense of self-worth and belonging.

3. Preparation for meaningful military service: The program develops personal and social competencies that support participants in preparing for military service and adult life. Progress is reflected in participants' ability to maintain routines, accept responsibility, cooperate with others, persevere through difficulties, and function within a structured framework.

A young person who cares for an animal, cultivates a crop, completes a construction task, or takes responsibility for a shared project is simultaneously developing practical skills, confidence, discipline, and emotional resilience. We are deeply grateful to the Matanel Foundation for its generous support and partnership. Your contribution has enabled us to provide these young people with meaningful opportunities to learn, grow, take responsibility, and discover their own potential. Together, we are helping them take important steps toward a more stable, independent, and purposeful future.

Provisional guide lines for the advancement of the program in the next year:

During the coming year, Gal's Farm will continue strengthening its educational and therapeutic framework, with particular emphasis on:

- Deepening vocational training in construction, agriculture and farm work through structured pathways that progress from basic skills and hands-on experience toward higher levels of professional competence.
- Expanding the farm and equine program, creating additional opportunities for youth to work with and care for horses as part of their vocational and educational development.
- Strengthening educational and therapeutic support by continuing to develop the professional team and adapting support to the individual needs of participants.
- Developing employment pathways through partnerships with local employers and professionals, helping participants transition into further vocational training and employment after completing the program.
- Improving outcome measurement, particularly in relation to the vocational development, emotional growth, completion of the program, military service, employment and continued social integration.

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

Please find attached the list of the participants.

The \$10,000 grant from the Matanel Foundation was used exclusively for workshops, tools, and materials for the Gal's Farm program.

The grant supported the purchase of essential tools and materials required for the educational and vocational workshops, including equipment and supplies used in agriculture, construction, crafts, and other hands-on activities. These resources enabled participants to take part in practical workshops, develop vocational and life skills, and engage in meaningful, structured activities throughout the year.

The Foundation's support contributed directly to the day-to-day educational and vocational activities of the farm and helped ensure that participants had access to the equipment and materials needed to learn, practice, create, and take responsibility.

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 find attached.

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.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?si=-9IXNYlgTenkSb68&v=sqN3ifAfUWc&feature=youtu.be>

We warmly invite you to visit our website where we are proud to acknowledge the Matanel Foundation's generous support by displaying the Foundation's logo:

<https://www.mechinaliel.com/>

We are very grateful to the Matanel Foundation for its generous support. Your contribution has helped us provide at-risk youth with something far more valuable than vocational training alone: a place where they can take responsibility, experience success, discover their abilities and begin to build a more positive future.

We sincerely appreciate your partnership in giving these young people the opportunity to grow, develop and find their place in society.

Warm regards,

Linor Bason