



ENP

The Ethiopian National Project

Scholastic Assistance for Ethiopian-Israeli Youth
The ENP Effect: Realizing the full potential of Ethiopian-Israeli teenagers

November 2008

United Jewish Communities

Live generously.™



Some of today's problems cannot wait for tomorrow's solutions

Ethiopian-Israelis face singular and remarkable difficulties, starting with the extraordinary adjustment from life in a predominantly agrarian society to the modern, technology-based society that is today's Israel. After that, the problems just mount.

THE REALITY OF ISRAEL'S ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY

Today, the Ethiopian-Israeli community numbers 110,700—34,600 of whom are native born. Most Ethiopians immigrated with little or no understanding of or experience with formal education. They have, on average, bigger families than the general Israeli population, and there is a higher incidence of single-parent households. Despite government assistance, most Ethiopian-Israelis live in low-income and/or peripheral communities with few job opportunities. The 2007 statistics speak volumes

- *57.4% of working-age Ethiopian-Israelis have an elementary school education or less*
- *Employment is at 52% compared to 71% among general Jewish population*
- *52% of Ethiopian-Israeli households (and 70% of the community) are defined as poor compared to 16% of general Jewish population*

These factors have additionally led to increased drug and alcohol abuse, delinquency and to a significant rise in family violence. If circumstances don't change significantly, 12.3% of Ethiopian-Israel youngsters in school today will not graduate from high school—perpetuating the cycle of despair and poverty.

ENP was formed in 2004 to break this cycle by involving the Ethiopian community itself in developing the path to successful integration.

Together, with municipal partners, each city was mapped to determine what was being addressed, and what wasn't. The result: an obvious, urgent need to work with teenagers – quicker-to-learn, Hebrew-speaking children who were the 'eyes and ears' into the community. But the ENP programs for these teens are not just about educational or social intervention—that is the means to the end. **ENP programs are dedicated to preventing the development of a permanent black underclass in Israel** through ensuring that another whole generation is not lost.

ENP has programs in place to help prevent a permanent black underclass in Israel. The challenge now is ensuring that no youngster is left behind.



Securing the future of this community through investing in its next generation one life at a time.

The Ethiopian National Project provides a range of opportunities to help Ethiopian-Israeli teenagers realize their full potential. Its programs were developed to fill in gaps among existing government and NGO services, as well as to ensure more, and deeper community engagement.

THE ENP EFFECT

The centerpiece ENP program is the Scholastic Assistance program for 13- to 18-year-old Ethiopian-Israeli students. It is a holistic approach to help these vulnerable teens improve their performance in school, as a means to help them get into college, and at the other end of the continuum, to prevent them from dropping out and/or participating in other dangerous behaviors.

The six-year enhancement program for students from 7th through 12th grades meets after school for an average of four hours every week. In small groups of six or fewer, students receive a range of educational and social intervention. Everyone who stays after school gets a good meal every day they are in the program.

By 2008, these efforts have already made an enormous contribution and have clearly demonstrated the effectiveness of the ENP approach:

- In 2004, only 19% of Ethiopian-Israeli seniors passed their high school completion exams, compared to 56% of the total Jewish population.
- Enter ENP scholastic assistance – a six-year enhancement program supporting Ethiopian-Israeli students from 7th through 12th grades. The first full academic year with ENP programming was 2005/06.
- Even at 1/6 its full strength – only one year of programming rather than the six years that 7th graders now get – ENP had immediate and significant impact: In 2006, 32% of Ethiopian-Israeli seniors who attended high schools with ENP programs tested well enough to get into college, compared to 23% who attended high schools without ENP programs. **That's the ENP Effect.**

Given the opportunity, 80% of all Ethiopian-Israeli students who have access to ENP after school assistance take advantage of it.



With your generous support, a child entering the program in 7th grade will have six years of help to lift themselves out of poverty.

TARGET AUDIENCE

16,000 Ethiopian-Israeli junior and high school children currently need this critical intervention. In 2004-05, 1,620 teens participated in ENP Scholastic Assistance programs; 4,400 students in 2005-06 and 6,535 in 2006-07. In 2007-08, 7,470 students benefited from the program. While this annual growth has been impressive, unfortunately an increase will not be possible for the 2008-09 school year due to economic conditions beyond control; ENP is struggling to ensure that at least 7,500 children can once again benefit from the program this year.

THE GOAL

Part of a constellation of community-based programs, the ENP Scholastic Assistance Program is designed to get youth off the streets and on the path to becoming engaged, productive citizens. A critical step in catalyzing change in the Ethiopian-Israeli community. Even with all its success, ENP is struggling to meet its mission ... serving only 8,000 out of 16,000 students who could benefit from its programs. And going into the new 2008-09 school year, programs for 3,000 of the currently funded kids are in jeopardy.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

ENP is powered by UJC/Jewish Federations of North America, the Government of Israel, Jewish Agency for Israel, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Keren Hayesod, representatives of Ethiopian Jewish community organizations—and the generous support of private philanthropies.

THE COST

The cost of the ENP Scholastic Assistance program is \$1,360 per child. A generous gift of \$136,000 would transform the lives 100 youth, \$680,000 would benefit 500 youth, or \$1.36 million would provide vital assistance to 1,000 at-risk Ethiopian youth. Do something now to make sure these kids are not left behind. Become part of the ENP Effect.

We are asking you to consider partnering to change the future of this community through life-changing intervention for its most precious resource—its next generation.

For more information please contact:

Yitzchak Shavit, Senior VP
212.284.6621

Yitzchak.Shavit@ujc.org

Grace Rodnitzki
ENP Director of International Relations
011 972.2.620.2843

Grace_enpcontact@ujc.org.il

The Jewish federation community has time and again shown how we as a people rise to so many occasions. We live generously, we groom future leaders, we invest in our children, we demand justice for people who cannot advocate for themselves, we fund programs and services and emergency responses, and by our example we create a spirit of giving and hope that other communities only pray they can emulate. You are part of this generous, pluralistic, and big-hearted community that does so much good.