

## Linoy Eazu, 21 years old, SPACE Alumna, Beersheva

***“Being in SPACE helped me get the grades I need so I can apply to university and fulfill my ambition of being in the medical profession.”***

Linoy was born in Israel to parents who made the treacherous journey in 1982 from Ethiopia by foot to Sudan, where they waited in refugee camps to be brought to Israel by the Mossad in secret operations. Of the 12,000 who left their villages during this period with the dream of returning to Jerusalem, only 8,000 survived the journey. Linoy’s parents were among those lucky ones to fulfill this two-millennia-old dream in their lifetime.

Once in Israel, Linoy’s parents met and married. Linoy, the oldest of four and the only daughter, was born in the city of Beersheva and has three younger brothers, aged 18, 15 and 3. Today, she is 21.

Linoy went to a religious elementary school, and later, in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, commenced at an Ulpana, or a religious girls high school. Most of her classmates started the school in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, so for Linoy, it was a great challenge to find her place and to thrive.

The Ethiopian National Project’s School Performance and Community Empowerment (ENP SPACE) program helped her do precisely that: “SPACE gave me lessons and helped support me. It was so important for me. I had an especially difficult time with English. Thanks to SPACE, not only did I improve my grades, but I could study at a level that enables me to apply to university.”

It is Linoy’s dream to make a difference in peoples’ lives. For this reason, she carried out two years of national service at Soroka Medical Center in Beersheva as a medical secretary in a pre-surgery clinic. “I would arrange surgeries and work with the medical staff and with patients. I loved the experience of working at a hospital. It has steered me to want to work in the medical profession.”

Today, Linoy is taking steps to fulfill that dream. “After my experience at the hospital, I understood what I want to do in life. I get such satisfaction in seeing patients leave the hospital after receiving treatment that helps them. This is something I definitely want to take part in.”

No one will stop Linoy from fulfilling her dreams: “I finished high school with high grades thanks to SPACE. Now, I have my whole future ahead of me!”

