## **ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL PROJECT**

EVOLVE, EMERGE, EMPOWER

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

## Letter from Roni Dessie Akale Director General

Dear Friends,

ENP is marking 10 years since we began to address a critical Israeli and Jewish social need: to work to make sure that every youngster from the Ethiopian-Israeli community ends his or her time in high school with a solid education with the support he or she needs to succeed and be safe. The World Jewish Community and the Government of Israel have come together to support programs that have pushed thousands of kids forward – to a level they otherwise would never have attained – including reaching the most selective army positions, graduating university, and moving on to successful jobs in all sectors of the Israeli economy.

This Aliya, which started as a struggle to simply survive the sands of Sudan some thirty years ago, continues today as not only more Ethiopian Jews arrive to Israel, but those who arrived in years past continue to struggle to fully integrate into Israeli society successfully. The task stands before us to make sure that the Aliya for what now stands at a population of 135,000 individuals, is a true success – for the sake of future generations and as a symbol of the Jewish commitment to our fellow through tikun-olam.

**ENP SPACE Scholastic Assis**tance and Empowerment Programs are cornerstones of our joint efforts and are dramatically improving outcomes for a whole generation of youngsters. Kids in our programs have a 31% advantage over their Ethiopian-Israeli peers who are not in ENP programs. But this success is bittersweet: it only points to a need to overcome the deficiency that is still overwhelming within the community. We must include more Ethiopian-Israeli youth in ENP results-focused programs.



ENP is at a crossroads: with a decade of experience working to provide critical services to Ethiopian-Israeli students and the community, we stand together today not only to continue to work for the good of Ethiopian-Israelis, but to share our wisdom and knowledge with others as an example of how a mission - to help those at the fringes of society to integrate and succeed more effectively – is a vision that is at the heart of what it means to love your neighbour as yourself.

Roni (Dessie) Akale Director General Ethiopian National Project



Shalom Friends and Supporters,

Beginning my third year as co-chairman of the board for the Ethiopian National Project, I am more excited than ever at the potential for cooperation between so many different bodies, both here in Israel and around the world, who support the critical cause of helping tens-of-thousands of Ethiopian-Israelis integrate into Israeli society. There is nothing like seeing citizens of Israel work hard across the country – as part of a global effort - to make sure that new citizens are able to succeed.

With a 10-year strategic plan made in cooperation with the Prime Minister's Chief Strategist, the Ministries of Education and Absorption, and Ethiopian Israeli community leaders, we have a plan that can be what propels the Ethiopian Jewish Aliya to an unprecedented level of integration: we can ensure that members of this and all future generations can live to their own greatest potential as empowered and educated citizens.

The small staff at ENP works tirelessly to ensure that results continue: shown in drastically improved matriculation rates for ENP participants, better grades, higher tracking, and safer kids who have greater pride in both their own cultural history and in their identity as new Israelis.

## Letter from Raviv Zoller Chairman of the Board

There is no doubt in my mind that ENP's expanded work will have an even greater positive impact on Ethiopian-Israelis – and Israeli society and the economy as a whole.

Together, with the Government of Israel, Jewish Federations across North America, caring supporters from Singapore to London - and those working here on the ground - we can further change the reality for the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

Raviv Zoller Co-Chairman Israel



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## Ethiopian National Project has a **MISSION**







## The Ethiopian National Project

(ENP) unites global Jewry, the Government of Israel and the Ethiopian-Israeli community in a mission to advance the integration of Ethiopian-Israelis into Israeli society. ENP provides social and educational support opportunities to Ethiopian-Israeli youth, working in **27** cities across Israel. ENP programs take a "big picture" view of the cultural, social and emotional challenges faced by Ethiopian-Israeli teens that constrain their development and the community's subsequent advancement. Today, the Ethiopian National Project serves 4,122 youth in its SPACE Scholastic Assistance Program and almost 1,900 youth in 17 safe-haven outreach centers.

## **ENP's Story**

2001	The Government of Israel mandates the start of a national project for Ethiopian-Israelis	2004	The Ethiopian National Project develops a city-wide holistic response called SPACE, School Performance and Community Empow- erment, targeting youth, parents, and leaders	2008	The number of students in holistic SPACE Scholastic Assistance tops 6,700 students at 108 schools with 28 youth centers in 27 cities across Israel
	2002	UJC launches a special campaign for ENP in an effort to raise \$330 million for this new initiative	2005	The Government of Israel matches North American Jewry's initial grant of \$2.5 million	

	2010	Five year conference attended by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on ENP's momentum to improve Ethiopian- Israeli standing nationally	2014	ENP launches emer- gency programs for residents in the line of fire for 1,686 partic- ipants with Stop the Sirens JFNA funding	
2009	Special <i>Back to School</i> <i>Summer Fundraising</i> <i>Campaign</i> spearhead- ed by JFNA National Women's Philanthro- py raises \$1 million for ENP in under one month	2012	Ministry of Finance demands State Comp- troller report, follow- ing ENP conference presenting a mapping of the state of the community	TODAY	ENP begins pilot expansions into earlier grades, 3rd-6th, at the recommendation of the Government of Israel with 4,122 total children in grades 3-12 in 22 cities ben- efitting from ENP SPACE Scholastic

Assistance



## When they arrived in Israel,

most Ethiopian immigrants had no formal education and could not even read or write their native language, Amharic. The severity of this transnational culture shock cannot be underestimated. In many instances, Ethiopian immigrants have been forced to acclimate to technological and informational differences that have separated them from the rest of the Jewish community - and western society – for thousands of years. In addition to adjusting to life in a developed and technologically advanced society, Ethiopian immigrants must acculturate to a new language, different religious rituals, new social norms and cultural conventions, and a new livelihood far from the agrarian life-style back in Ethiopia. The greatest challenge has been

## Ethiopian National Project has **COMMUNITY**

determining how this group can integrate itself into Israeli society, and correspondingly, determining what specific tools are effective in helping this community of Jews to adapt to the major cultural and social changes that have emerged during their process of integration.

Today, 135,000 Ethiopian-Israelis still have the highest poverty rate of any Jewish segment of the population: 49 percent of families live in poverty and households earn only 63 cents on the dollar versus the rest of the population. 45% of Ethiopian-Israeli women have no education or certificate

in contrast to just 2 percent of all Jewish women in Israel. The majority of Ethiopian-Israelis live in densely populated neighborhoods in which risk situations are often overwhelming. While 46% of Israelis pay for supplementary tutoring for their children during their high school career, most Ethiopian-Israelis are unable to afford this additional investment in their children's critical education. ENP Programs encourage children to aim high while providing them with the skills, tools and experiences so that they themselves can reverse these negative trends in their community.



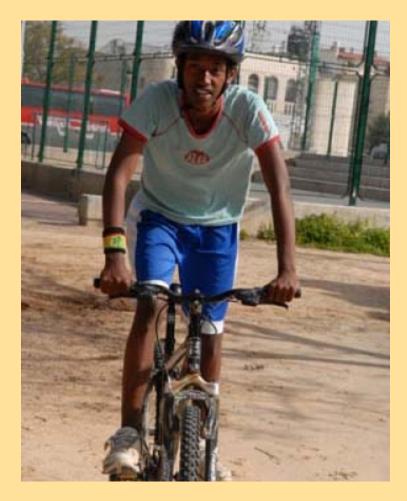
## Yifat Kasai

**"I came to Israel in 1984 with my family,** studied in a boarding school and went on to finish a full academic matriculation and serve in the army as the bureau chief for a division commander. After the army I earned a BA in behavioral sciences and management.

I now work as a city coordinator for ENP programs in Petach Tikva - six years as a local community coordinator - and now for three years at the city level. I'm married with four wonderful sons and live right here in Petah Tikva.

Working with students is naturally very challenging, but at the same time gives me a lot of satisfaction as ENP not only helps students academically, but also exposes them at the cultural level: to plays, movies, museums, universities and through the many other outings we organize for them in addition to activities at our city's ENP Youth Outreach Center.

Of course we help them to connect to their roots too – something that not only helps them proudly integrate into Israeli society, but also works to make sure they remember their rich history as a Jewish community with an important tradition."







## Ethiopian National Project REALIZES POTENTIAL



**Working in 27 communities across Israel,** ENP's focus is on two core programs, SPACE Scholastic Assistance and Youth Outreach Centers explored in-depth on pages 12-15. A host of other programs supplement these key activities in sync with ENP's overall mission. In 2014, these programs included:

**ENP Pre-Atidim** Scholastic Assistance for high-achieving students - 112 high-potential students received special enrichment through the ENP Pre-Atidim Program.

**ENP Vocational School Program** 267 at-risk, lower-achieving teenagers participated in a special, remedial holistic scholastic program, sculpted for their needs.

**ENP's Leadership Development Program** provided tools to 72 members of the community so that they can be empowered catalysts for positive improvement.

**ENP's IDF Preparation Program** helped youngsters with the transition into military service after high school at youth outreach centers across Israel.

**ENP Parent Workshops** boasted a 92% participation rate and were geared towards enabling parents. These parents often speak little Hebrew and have little or no education themselves. The workshops help parents to incorporate positive educational values and study habits into homes that are on average considerably larger than the rest of the population in high-risk socioeconomic areas.

**ENP Scholarships** for 16 university medical students from the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

**ENP Volunteers** Hundreds of local - and more than 30 international volunteers - contributed to ENP's important work across Israel.







## SPACE SCHOLASTIC ASSISTANCE

**ENP's SPACE Scholastic Assistance Program** works to significantly increase the number of Ethiopian-Israeli students who successfully pass matriculation exams and improve their level of achievement in these exams, while minimizing the extent of hidden dropouts (i.e. students that are in school but not really participants in the learning process). The after-school program provides supplementary scholastic assistance in small groups, consisting of preparatory lessons for the bagrut tests to strengthen students' proficiency in subjects crucial to success in the tests. Students also participate in learning marathons that provide periods of intensive study during vacations and in the run-up to testing.

Alongside the academic achievement components, SPACE addresses social needs and personal development including self-esteem and leadership skills, while devoting attention to the social difficulties impinging on student progress in school. Ethiopian-Israeli professionals serve as counselors who help strengthen the connection between the students and their heritage and integrate their culture into their daily lives through dance, music, culture, and mentoring students in their schoolwide performances in ceremonies for Ethiopian Jewish holidays. Students participate in volunteering activities and extra-curricular workshops on team building,



empowerment, and environmental awareness. The program includes visits to museums and universities to meet with professionals and academics. The program also includes a lunchtime meal. For some, this is as critical as the scholastic assistance they are provided.

The final major component relates to parents who otherwise might not even be able to communicate in Hebrew with teachers and staff from their children's schools. Parents are guided by staff - ENP Community Coordinators - who provide parent workshops on learning, development, adolescence, and the Israeli education system, in their own language. The Community Coordinators constantly update parents about their children, while also listening and implementing solutions through a two-way strategy to address challenges and opportunities in their children's schooling.

## Or, SPACE Student

Or started SPACE Scholastic Assistance back in the 2009-10 school year when he was in seventh grade. One of four brothers, he is known by his ENP teachers for his strong positive outlook and his music skills.

Although his family had – and still has – extreme financial hardships, Or was a bright child with a lot of potential. The very first year he was in the program, it was clear that ENP had a positive influence on him. After testing and consultation with his school coordinator, Or was moved into a higher level English class. That move way back in seventh grade, along with the years of intensive support and learning assistance, enabled Or to finally earn a 98/100 on his English matriculation exam. "The program helps me academically and socially. Diagnosis helped me overcome learning difficulties I had and the direct support of the ENP school-coordinator helped me and motivated me to succeed. He kept asking me: 'What do you need to succeed?' - and gave me so many of the tools I've needed while involving my parents in my education: he's been a friend and mentor on this journey."

"We expect Or to get a full university entrance enabling matriculation – an incredible achievement," remark an ENP staff member who has worked with him for years.



Or's hopes for the future include continuing to develop his music skills along with writing and creating media. He has not decided exactly what the future holds for him, but we know he will succeed in whatever he commits himself to.

## ENPeople Spotligh

## YOUTH OUTREACH CENTERS

## **ENP** Youth Outreach

**Centers** are hubs across the country that provide respite from the dangers of difficult neighbourhoods and long evening hours. Through dedicated staff and support worldwide, these centers have become second-homes to Ethiopian-Israeli youth across Israel.

Located in 17 communities around Israel, ENP Youth Outreach Centers are clubhouse-like facilities that serve close to 1,900 youth, providing extracurricular enrichment activities, one-on-one emotional support, and leadership and mentoring opportunities from 4-10 in the evening, and longer during the summer.

**Safe, welcoming, supportive environment:** Youth participate in daily study sessions with individualized homework assistance being a hallmark of their time at the center. As many participants' parents are illiterate in Hebrew or work irregular hours, youth who come to the center often receive the majority of their scholastic and emotional guidance in the evenings from professional ENP staff.

### **Extra-curricular activities:**

Students play soccer, participate in hip-hop aerobics, have army preparation or theatre workshops, learn usable skills in cellphone-repair workshops, take day-trips during the summer to places like universities for meetings with students and academic professionals, and participate in individual sessions on topics that are personally interesting to each youngster like photography or art. These are the activities that make an ordinary day a special day for ENP youth while further developing their social and academic interests. "Thanks to the Youth Outreach Center, for the first time in my life I feel accepted and I finally have my circle of friends.The center helped me discover my innter talent, and what I am good at. " -YOC Participant

**Special events/improvements:** Students participate in Purim, Passover, and other holiday activities with a variety of interactive programs to involve center youth and the wider community. Local officials attend meetings with youth participants and professionals at the center and youngsters share their desires for their community, enabling them to act as leaders in local civics. Students plan programming for their local center and work together to maintain center environs while training to council younger peers.

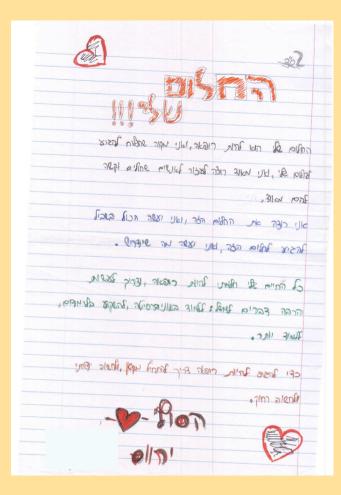


## Individual Students: Dreams for Success

## **Students in ENP SPACE Scholastic Assistance**

reflect a genuine gratitude not only for SPACE itself, but a growing optimism for the future. One workshop that unites learning, extra-curricular activities, and the ongoing mentoring relationships between students and ENP staff/teachers is "Dreams for Success." Students and staff work not only to help realize moving into a given career, but take the important step of actively integrating students into learning tracks that will enable a youngster to realize this potential career path through his or her school-work. Following are the future aspirations as described by three youngsters in their own words:

**Iris:** "I want to be a doctor because it interests me. I want to be a teacher because that would suit me too. I want to be a psychiatrist to help those with problems. I want to be famous because that would just be lots of fun! There are some dreams I can never fulfill - even though I wish I had wings. But there are so many things that I can achieve, and it comes down to one thing: WILLPOWER! This is what motivates us!"



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**Hannah:** "My dream is to be a doctor - and I really hope I can fulfill this dream – I really want to help sick people who have great difficulties in life. I want this dream, and I will do everything to fulfill this dream, and do whatever it takes. My entire life I've dreamed of becoming a doctor and it takes so much to get there: University, spending much time and energy on my studies, and always learning. To become a doctor, I'll start small and always think creatively about the next step and the long path ahead."

**Sarah:** "I dream of becoming an actor. I love taking on characters. It's pure enjoyment! I need to go to acting lessons and many auditions. I want to be on stage in English!"

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ENP stands by the thousands of kids across the country in ENP SPACE Scholastic Assistance, who dream to have fulfilling and promising careers.

# **Medical Student Scholarship**



**In 2013-2014,** ENP was able to provide scholarships for **16** Ethiopian-Israeli medical students across the country. Because of the assistance they were provided, these students can focus on their studies with the peace of mind that some of their expenses for school are covered. These future doctors are the leaders and role models that will help to bring the Ethiopian-Israeli population closer to full integration into Israeli society.

## Mattan Danovitch

Mattan Danovitch is a second-year medical student at Ben Gurion University in Be'er Sheva. Mattan's family name, Danovitch, seems exceptional for an Ethiopian-Israeli. In fact, it is as exceptional as Mattan and his story itself.

Mattan was born in 1988 in Israel. All he knows about his biological mother is that she was a young Ethiopian Jew, around the age of 16, who put her son up for adoption shortly after birth. At 18 days old, Mattan joined his new family, a couple of lab technicians from the Weitzman Institute, an elite academic institution in Rehovot.

Mattan had a lot of difficulty in school early-on, and when his mother was diagnosed with cancer, he became her primary caregiver as a young teen. Mattan held the responsibility for assisting his mother with many of her medical needs, and spent long hours at the hospital comforting and caring for her. He became adept at administering her medicines and began to volunteer as a paramedic during high school. Having dealt so much with hospitals and his mother's illness, after completing high school Mattan decided that he did not want to go into the army as a medic. But then, during his army service, his mother was taken by the cancer: "It was then I knew that my calling was to become a doctor. For my mother, I would become a doctor."

After completing the army as an officer in an elite unit, Mattan had to overcome the nearly impossible task of improving his entrance test-grades so he could be accepted to medical school. Working while taking night courses, after multiple attempts, Mattan completed his exams at a level that would enable him to enter Ben Gurion University in Medicine.

Today, Mattan is gradually getting used to the challenge of excelling in school. But he is well on his way: "The ENP scholarship takes a load off my shoulders, and helps me so I can focus on my studies."

But this program is about more than that. "By receiving the support of Jews from around the



world, I feel that wherever we are, we are just one big family supporting each other – and I think that's the most Jewish thing we could do for one another. ENP can make a great difference in helping kids achieve all of their goals."

Mattan is one of 16 ENP Yanoff Master Ethiopian-Israeli Healthcare Scholarship Students. He and his peers are supported by the Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley, Beth-Israel Federated Jewish Charities of Fayetteville, North Carolina and the Harry Yanoff and Jeanette Master Yanoff Charitable Trust of Cumberland Community Foundation, and CJA Montreal.

## **ENPeople Spotligh**

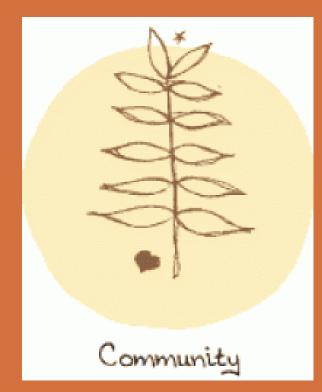








## Community Empowerment



A community is as strong as its leadership. The Ethiopian community can realize its immense potential if it is provided with the appropriate tools and support networks. As part of its commitment to honor community input in the design and implementation of its programs, and with the goal of helping community leaders to better represent the interests of the Ethiopian-Israeli community to Israeli society, ENP has established special municipal steering committees to offer oversight to its programs. In addition to elected community members, representatives of the municipal offices charged with education, immigration, and welfare for each city meet on a periodic basis to analyze and offer policy suggestions for ENP's activities. In addition, ENP conducts:

**A nationwide athletics program** that teaches teenagers the positive values of physical fitness, teamwork, self-discipline and the art of working together towards a common goal

**Parent support groups**, where parents take seminars in the Amharic language that stress the importance of education to their children's future. The goal is to cultivate support for the children's scholastic efforts at home. Furthermore, classes are given in the basics of home computer use

**Leadership training programs** that provide ways for community adults to serve as bridges between the Ethiopian-Israeli community and the existing school system and administration

## Ethiopian National Project REACHES OUT

**ENP shares its dynamic story with a wide range of people every year** through global conferences, special events, and on social media. Hosting visiting missions to ENP Programs in Israel, groups of teenagers come to meet ENP youngsters at Youth Outreach Centers, hearing the story of Ethiopian Jewry and ENP, while dancing, playing, learning, and singing with new friends; Bar and Bat Mitzvah kids in ENP Programs are matched with students from around the world for mitzvah projects and pen-pal friendships; Supporters from North American Federations visit ENP Programs across the country and are welcomed into family homes of ENP kids in solidarity in Sderot when missiles from Gaza fall relentlessly on that town; College-aged volunteers at ENP summer camps blog about their experiences with a new culture and kids that at once share much that's familiar but that also offers so much that's mutually new to learn about one another. The story of ENP is the story of the Ethiopian Israeli experience and the story of the Jewish experience - of a part of our people who have returned to the land of their ancestors and who today are as important a component of Israel's success as any other element. The full and successful integration of all Israelis is a mission that represents a global Jewish desire.



## ENP hosted visitors at programs across

**Israel in 2014,** to show the programs and centers in action and to meet the students, staff, families, and communities in ENP cities. From hands-on cooking experiences, traditional dance workshops, music creation, sports activities, bar and bat mitzvah celebrations, sharing language, and a whole host of other enlightening activities, visitors to ENP programs always leave with new knowledge, friends, and a new understanding of a unique and vibrant Jewish community separated from the rest of world Jewry for over 2000 years.

In 2014, the yearly spring ENP Shabbat at the Isa-



bella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center in the Connecticut Berkshires brought people together for a weekend focused on Ethiopian-Jewish history and the state of the community today. Joining Ethiopian-Israeli spiritual and community leaders, some 50 individuals were involved in the retreat. Professionals joined from Jewish Federations across North America along with those who support ENP's efforts at both strengthening personal pride in Ethiopian culture and history while helping Ethiopian-Israelis to integrate into Israeli society successfully.

ENP invites you to be in contact today at info@enp.org.il to plan the highlight of your next trip to Israel or inquire about how ENP can reach you in your hometown.



Website: www.enp.org.il

**Connect with ENP online!** ENP's full-service multimedia website is designed to help those who do not know about ENP and its efforts to quickly grasp who we are and what we do. It contains text, images, video-clips and even links to an Amharic-language radio broadcast. Further, ENP's Facebook page and Twitter account reach a broad audience. ENP is constantly utilizing the skills of young volunteers that dedicate their time and efforts to further expand the reach of ENP in all areas of social media. ENP invites you to access ENP's media for a wide variety of stories, photos, videos, articles, resources and more.



Facebook: facebook.com/ENPIsrael

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The Ethiopian National Project (ENP) is a unique endeavor that unites organizations assisting the Ethiopian- Israeli community in true cooperation & partnership. Q Jerusalem, Israel	ENP GENPIarael 7h Did you knowthat 12.7% of Ethiopian-Israeli families are dual-breadwinner poor? That's nearly 5 times that of fb.me/2fHSWPO1G
<ul> <li>enp.org.il</li> <li>Joined October 2009</li> </ul>	
23 Photos and videos	<ul> <li>ENP @ENPIrrael · Dec 11</li> <li>The ENP SPACE Scholastic Assistance is MUCH more than just scholastic assistance! It's about preparing for a fb.me/6nn1LnmkQ</li> <li>t3 * ***</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>ENP GENPIsrael - Dec 11</li> <li>This past Tuesday, long-time member of the Maryland House of Delegates, and Vice Chair of the Judiciary fb.me/2119gzllo</li> <li>23 * ***</li> </ul>

## Twitter: @ENPIsrael



## Ethiopian National Project EFFECTS CHANGE



**ENP programs are designed** with an emphasis on creating conditions for Ethiopian-Israelis to excel scholastically and socially as empowered future leaders of their community. For 10 years, ENP programs have been changing the tide for thousands of program participants: dramatically improved matriculation results, grades, school tracking, and improved study skills are some of the specific indicators that ENP programs are dramatically effecting change not only for the good of the community itself but for greater Israeli society.









## **Accomplishments**

**Increasing** the number of Ethiopian-Israelis eligible for matriculation exams, taking matriculation exams, and earning academic matriculation

Reducing the drop-out rate of school-aged children

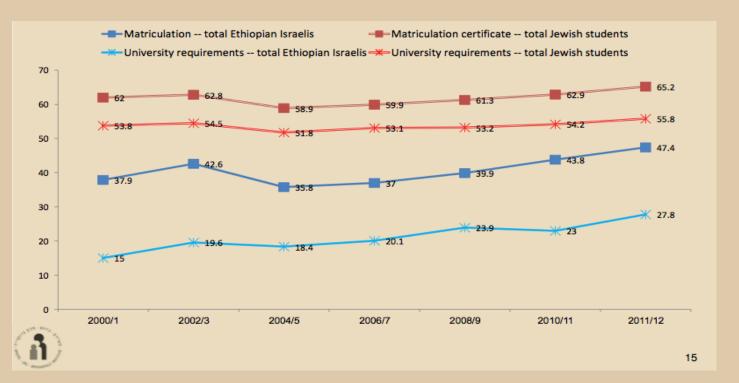
Developing students' strong study skills

Cultivating students' positive self-image and confidence in their abilities

Lessening the academic performance par between Ethiopian-Israelis and others

Expanding the number of students in high level classes and quality schools

Helping students who did not complete exams to achieve matriculation



Over the years 2001-2012 reflected in the above graph from the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute, there has been an increase in the eligibility for matriculation certificates and certificates meeting university requirements among all Ethiopian Israelis. Since ENP began, despite the overall percentage being reached by ENP- many more are in need of this critical support - the nationwide Ethiopian-Israeli population is being pulled upward: and the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute attributes this upward trend to ENP's critical holistic scholastic programs.

15% of the Ethiopian-Israeli 12th grade population is being reached by ENP's programs. With thanks to ENP, these participants are closing the gap with their other Israeli peers, and well-surpassing the performance of comparison groups with similar demographics that do not benefit from ENP's programs. As more students are reached, and beginning at an earlier age, these dramatic educational improvements become even more pronounced.



## Summary of Outcomes

ENP adheres to the critical importance of external evaluations that are executed by the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute. ENP Space Scholastic Assistance has been independently demonstrated to be highly effective. The matriculation rate among ENP participants has nearly reached the national Jewish average of 65%. At ENP's launch in 2005, matriculation eligibility for Ethiopian-Israelis was 36% and reached 47% in 2012, including ENP participants. Thus ENP participant performance has significantly conribued to the overall matriculation rate of all Ethiopian-Israelis. For ENP participants the matriculation rate reached 63%.







## More than 12,000 Ethiopian-Israelis from 3rd through 12th grade

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have been identifed in 46 cities as being in need of ENP's proven-successful programs. With your support, one by one, they can be reached. In the 2015-16 school year, ENP plans to further expand the SPACE Program. In conjunction with the Prime Minister's Chief Strategist and Government Ministries, parameters have been set to determine which youngsters are in the greatest need of SPACE: the Program is anticipated to be offered to every child in a school with 10% or more Ethiopian-Israeli student body population.

## Looking to GROW

The earlier students can be included in ENP programs, the more effective the long-term impact on the improvement of educational and psychosocial outcomes for participant students. In a series of round-table discussions with the Government of Israel including the Ministries of Education and Immigration, a strategy has been formulated to include more students in ENP programs while concurrently starting the SPACE Scholastic Assistance program in 3rd instead of the current 7th grade. In 2013-14 ENP conducted pilot programs for this new expansion to earlier grades in Beit Shemesh and Pardes Chana with astounding success. In the 2014-15 school year ENP has added Ashdod, Petach Tikva, and Be'er Sheva to this critical expansion pilot program. In the coming academic year, ENP plans to continue expanding the provision of the proven SPACE Program - to 12,000 students achieving results for an even greater number of kids across the country as a part of its strategic plan and mission.



## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**In the summer of 2014,** Operation Protective Edge fundamentally altered life for millions of Israelis as the home front took hits from thousands of deadly rockets over the course of 50 days. Often unable or too afraid to leave home, citizens of Israel relied on professionals for much needed physical and psychological support. ENP provided a safe haven for 1,686 participants and their families.

**Northern Israel** - As the summer conflict raged into its third week, 292 Ethiopian-Israeli children from 8 cities (Sderot, Ashkelon, Beersheva, Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Malachi, Gedera, Lod, and Ramla) enjoyed a retreat to the north of Israel from July 21-23.

**Eilat** - Two weeks later, from August 6-9, the hostilities showed no real signs of letting up. Cease-fires were broken as they began and the rockets and mortars were falling more than ever. At this time, 824 Ethiopian-Israeli youth from 10 cities (Sderot, Beersheva, Kiryat Gat, Beit Shemesh, Gedera, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Lod, Ramla, and Petach Tikva) enjoyed respite from the violence.

**Back to School Program-** After a very difficult summer, the program helped students transition back into school again. It provided the opportunity for young-esters to leave their homes to participate in activities and workshops reflecting coping as a community with the summer hostilities. 570 students participated from 6 cities (Ashkelon, Beersheva, Kiryat Gat, Ramle, Lod, and Petach Tikva).

These ENP programs, funded by JFNA's Stop the Sirens Campaign, were filled with fun activities and deep discussions about the new reality of violence on an already struggling population. One participant said, "This is a gift from people so far away who clearly care about us so much – that's what this extended family really is. We need to work together to help to remedy problems of poverty and underdevelopment within our community. If ENP and the Federations can bring so much joy and comfort to hundreds of people in such a short period of time, we too can achieve great things for our community."







## **GET INVOLVED**



**ENP invites you** to get involved and play a part. Headquartered in the Jewish Agency building on King George Street in Jerusalem, ENP is taking action to help the Ethiopian community in Israel become fully-contributing members of Israeli society.

## Among the opportunities in Israel:

**Story-gatherer (Human Interest Stories)**: Visit projects and collect stories of the impact being made in the field through these programs. Then get the word out to the North American Jewish community about this important work, as you experience it first hand. Stories to be published in various media and utilized in Federation reports. Best for talented writers. Double bonus: can be the "right hand person" of an ENP field coordinator, and use opportunity to learn Amharic/ help young professionals practice English.

**Grant and Report Writer:** Learn the important skill of resource development while assisting ENP in its fundraising efforts.

**Tutors/Teachers**: Teach English or other subjects to youth. Or help to improve spoken English skills of young Ethiopian-Israeli professionals.

**Youth Work**: Volunteer in Youth Outreach Centers and teach special skills (computers, photography, art, drama, etc—any skills welcome!) to Ethiopian-Israeli teenagers.

Non-Profit Assistance: Be match-made with a small Ethiopian-Israeli non-profit and assist with their grassroots work.

Want to help outside of Israel? Here are some of the many ways to make a difference:

**Become an ENP expert**: Set up a Skype call with ENP Director of International Relations, Grace Rodnitzki, to learn about Ethiopian-Israelis and the work that ENP does. Then, you will be able to share ENP's mission with members of your community! Search for us on Skype-- ENP Skype address: ENP-Israel

**Organize a Project in Your Community**: The women of Palm Beach Hadassah knit scarves for the kids at the Ramle Youth Center who are going into the army; similarly, you can pre-order beautiful, hand-made bracelets made by Ethiopian-Israeli artisans and sell them in your community, a fun and simple way to raise money right in your own area! Or, you can come up with your own creative project to support the Ethiopian-Israeli community no matter where you are!



**Host a Donation Drive**: ENP welcomes donations to pass on to the Ethiopian-Israeli community. New material donations such as: school supplies, art supplies, board games, children's costumes (for Purim celebrations), educational software, swim toys and equipment (such as goggles or floaties). Used cameras, laptops, Playstations, and Wiis in excelent condition are also welcome.

\*Important: In order to donate material goods to ENP, you must send them with someone who is coming to Israel with accompnying letters for cusoms purposes.; unfortunately, sending them via mail is not possible.

**Sponsor a Runner**: The runners of the ENP Marathon can always use more support; you can be involved in the marathon from outside of Israel by sponsoring a runner!

**Honor Someone Special**: Looking for a great way to support the Ethiopian-Israeli community and honor a loved one at the same time? Give a tile from Solomon's Mosaic (http://www.solomonsmosaic.org/mosaic.php) or send an E- Card for a unique and special gift.

**Sponsor a Youth Outreach Center**: Learn about our different Youth Outreach Centers across Israel and choose one that you (and your community) would like to sponsor!

**Workplace Giving**: Is your workplace looking for an organization to support? Now you can designate ENP as your office's donation recipient!

**Raviv Zoller** ENP Co-Chair, Israel

**Robert Goldberg** ENP Co-Chair, North America

**Danny Labin** Jewish Federations of North America

Michael Bar Or Ministry of Finance

**Oded Forer** General Director, Ministry of Absorption

Maya Sharir Ministry of Education **Rany Trainin** Deputy Chairman of the Jewish Agency

**Shlomo Fox** Jewish Agency for Israel

Lea Weiss Jewish Agency for Israe

**Richard Wexler** Jewish Agency for Israel

Haim Factor Joint Distribution Committee

**Eli Bentata** Joint Distribution Committee

**Greg Maisel** United Israel Appeal

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**Yefet Alamo** Rep of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations in Israel

**Dejan Mula** Rep of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations in Israel

**Shlomo Akale** Rep of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations in Israel

## Staff

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**Sharon Tarkin** Director of Field Operations

**Grace Rodnitzki** Director of International Relations **David Cohen** International Relations Associate

**Anat Azulai** Financial Comptroller

Keren Bezaleli Finance **Chani Zabriko** Office Manager

**Tegest Desta** Office Manager

## Field Coordinators

Adisu Zhayi

Bat-Yam, Lod, Ramla, Netenyia, Petach Tikva - Rosh Ha-ayin, Yahud

**Daniel Nadawo** Arad, Beer Sheva, Kiryat Gat, Kiryat Malachi, Sderot

**Elimeleh Mamo** Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gadera, Jerusalem guidance to all of ENP's programs, ensuring that every ENP dollar is being used effectively and efficiently.

**ENP's Field Coordinators** live and work all over Israel and are deeply connected to the community. They provide oversight and

Noah Mentesnot Pardes Chana

Racheli Ben Shetrit Beit Shemesh

**Shimon Yasu** Kiryat Bialik, Kiryat Motzkin, Kiryat Yam, Tirat Hacarmel **Rachamim Melaku** Afula, Beit Shean, Karmiel, Kfar Hassidim, Migdal Haemek, Natzeret Alit

## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS, AND DONORS

**It is with great pride and optimism** that ENP presents a summary of the work done for the Ethiopian-Israeli community in Israel in 2014. Without the unwavering support of friends around the world, the critical mission to which ENP has committed itself would be impossible to accomplish. With your help we are truly changing the future prospects for not only this generation of Ethiopian-Israelis but for vibrant future generations. On behalf of the entire Ethiopian-Israeli community, ENP thanks you for your support!

## ENP IS POWERED BY

- The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)
- The Government of Israel
- The Jewish Agency for Israel
- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Israel
- United Israel Appeal
- Representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Community Organizations
- Generous donors through their home communities and foundations

## MUNICIPAL PARTNERS

- Afula
- Arad
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- Ashkelon
- Beer Sheva
- Beit Shean
- Beit Shemesh
- Bnei Brak
- Carmiel
- Gedera
- Hadera
- Jerusalem
- Kiryat Bialik
- Kiryat Gat

- Kiryat Malachi
- Kiryat
- Motzkin
- Kiryat Yam
- Lod
- Migdal Haemek
- Netanya
- Pardes Hanna
- Petach Tikva
- Ramla
- Rosh Haayin
- Sderot
- Tirat Hacarmel
- Yehud





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This annual report was designed by people just like you. Volunteers fuel the Ethiopian National Project. Find us online at www.ENP.org.il or email us at info@enp. org.il to find out how you can support and power ENP!

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