

Ethiopian National Project
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הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה האתיופית בישראל

Annual Report

2022–2023



Ethiopian National Project

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INTRODUCTION

The Ethiopian National Project (ENP) works to ensure the full and successful integration of Ethiopian Jews into Israeli society. ENP is a unique endeavor: created through a governmental decision in 2001, ENP is a partnership between the Government of Israel and Diaspora Jewry, with the Ethiopian-Israeli community itself taking a leading role in every aspect of ENP, from its highest leadership to the most grassroots level. ENP's unique methodology of holistic interventions on a national scale that fully include the Ethiopian-Israeli community, while strictly adhering to the critical importance of external evaluations to measure the impact and effect of ENP's work, have demonstrated ENP's programs to be unequivocally successful. ENP's flagship program is currently providing holistic after-school scholastic, emotional, social and nutritional support to 3,302 7th-12th grade Ethiopian-Israeli students in 14 cities in Israel. ENP seeks to broaden the scope of its work to ensure the greatest number of individuals benefit from ENP's proven-successful programs, thereby causing a nationwide impact that will create the momentum towards the achievement of full integration with just a generation.





Opening Remarks

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Ethiopian National Project works tirelessly to ensure the full and successful integration of the Ethiopian community into Israeli society, with the active inclusion and leadership of the Ethiopian-Israeli community. A partnership with the Government of Israel, Jewish Federations of North America and major Jewish global organizations, with supporters from Israel and across the globe, ENP is an iteration of bringing together those who care about the community with the community itself.

Now more than ever ENP's work is indispensable. Today, the great majority of Israelis with means are investing in private lessons for their children while more Ethiopian Israelis can not afford this opportunity. ENP is the remedy as it works to enrich and empower Ethiopian-Israeli youth to ensure they reach their full potential.

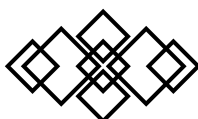
ENP effectively and in the most targeted way, addresses the core issues that will result in the success of the community: investment in education and empowerment of school-age children will result in greater numbers of students obtaining a matriculation certificate, reaching elite post-high-school placements, university acceptance, and ensuring quality employment. Development of skills among community members, parents, and activists alike will craft an involved community that better secures a greater future for themselves and their community. Investment in ENP will result in a lasting impact.



Roni Akale
Director-General



Dr. Itzick Sharir
Israel Chair



ABOUT ENP

OUR ORGANIZATION

Envisaged in 2001, ENP was created by a Government of Israel decision as a shared initiative with global supporters and Ethiopian-Israelis to address the greatest barriers to the full and successful integration of Ethiopian Jewish immigrants (“olim”) and their children into Israeli society. ENP works tirelessly to prevent the creation of a black underclass in Israel by launching targeted, evaluated initiatives that enable community members to grasp their full potential.

ADDRESSING CRITICAL NEEDS

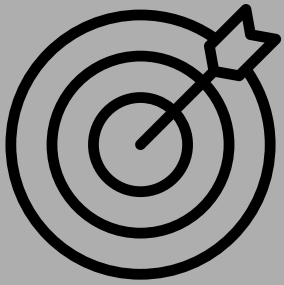
After an extensive review of the needs and programs available for the Ethiopian-Israeli community and a broad process of consultation, ENP decided to focus its efforts on youth ages 13 – 18 and the parents and leaders who impact their lives. In 2004, ENP launched a major effort to provide quality opportunities for Ethiopian-Israelis. ENP's programs include after-school holistic support and workshops designed to empower parents and community leadership.

A UNIQUE ENDEAVOR

ENP organizational partners include the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), representatives of Ethiopian Jewish community organizations, the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Israel (JDC-Israel) and Keren Hayesod-UIA. ENP works in true partnership with the Government of Israel and the Ethiopian-Israeli community, involving them at local and national levels at every stage of the creation, implementation and evaluation of ENP programs. During the 2022-23 academic year, ENP operated in 14 cities across Israel, serving 3,302 schoolchildren in its scholastic assistance programs and hundreds of parents and leaders.



A Holistic Approach



Targeted

Targeted, holistic interventions are key to ENP's success

Inclusive

Ethiopian-Israelis play a leading role in ENP, bottom up and top down

Evaluates

ENP measures, learns, adapts and grows



ENP Programs





Ti'ud

Students document the heroic journey of Ethiopian Jews through Sudan to fulfill their 2,000 year dream of returning to Jerusalem.

Bridges

Supplemental English immersion through experiential games, special activities and Diaspora connections.

SPACE

Holistic intervention that provides scholastic, social, emotional and nutritional support to 7th-12th grade Ethiopian-Israeli and other in-need schoolchildren.

Parental Involvement

ENP recognizes that parental involvement is an integral part of the academic success of program participants.

Medical and Dental Healthcare Scholarships

ENP provides scholarships for Ethiopian-Israelis who pursue an academic degree in medicine or dental healthcare, who then serve as role models.

Excellence

A pilot program that encourages SPACE participants to pursue the highest track levels of English, math and the sciences.

Safe Together

A pilot initiative that forges connections, cooperation and increased understanding between Ethiopian-Israeli youth, their parents and community and the Israel Police.

Leadership

Programs instruct students on the importance of leadership and challenge students to plan and implement a community project.





School Performance And Community Empowerment

SPACE works to increase the number of Ethiopian-Israeli high school students who pass the matriculation exams, improve the level of achievement in these tests and reduce overt and covert dropout rates. SPACE provides supplementary teaching hours in small groups of up to nine children per group executed by professional teachers in order to strengthen students' academic achievements, including preparatory classes for matriculation exams on subjects critical to success in the tests.

The program addresses social needs and personal development, including self-confidence and leadership skills, while paying close attention to social difficulties that may impair a child's progress in school. Ethiopian-Israeli professionals often act as advisors and role models who encourage students' aspirations, as they work with parents to promote awareness and commitment to the success of their children. SPACE also includes lunch, a critical component for many, inspirational speakers, activities and field trips, including visits to higher education institutions, in order to expose students to an array of activities and opportunities that promote future success and teach critical life lessons. Intensive collaborative work with school administrations, local municipalities and ministries alter the path of negative trends towards positive, nationwide social impact and societal change.

In the school year 2022-23, ENP SPACE successfully provided holistic, supplementary educational, social, emotional and nutritional support to 3,302 7th-12th graders in 14 cities throughout Israel. ENP SPACE worked to prepare the students for scholastic success while heightening aspirations and increasing motivation. SPACE participants received assistance in a wide range of school subjects such as: English, math, Hebrew composition, literature, physics, Bible studies, civics, history, biology and economics.





YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ENP Youth Leadership Program: for youth to understand the significance of taking on leadership roles in their schools and in their communities. ENP encourages participants to become active in student councils, youth delegations and other elite opportunities. In the 2022-23 school year, 191 eighth graders took part in ENP's Youth Leadership program.





Bridges

ENP's Bridges Spoken English program is an intensive immersive English program for 9th graders who are participating in SPACE. Bridges is an empowering and educational after-school supplemental experience that aims to improve English performance in school and achieve higher tracking in high school through a focus on spoken-English instruction and motivational activities that have a transformative effect on participants. Bridges is comprised of four key elements:

- For the duration of the entire school year, including holidays and summer vacation. The participants receive two weekly hours of supplementary after-school English instruction. Bridges provides small-group instruction of up to nine students who meet locally on the premises of their school.
- ENP provides participants with opportunities to speak English while developing connections with peers overseas and visiting English-speaking Masa/Onward interns. Through such connections, Bridges students practice their spoken-English, thereby forging connections that are mutually beneficial.
- Bridges encourages execution of a group project and entry into a nationwide competition, thereby encouraging the students to acquire community-building skills and increase self-confidence while utilizing their English skills. For those who choose to submit their project as an entry, a prize is given to the winner at a nationwide conference.
- Bridges offers an extraordinary experience to those who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the program by providing an opportunity for them to attend a Jewish Overnight Summer Camp abroad through partnerships forged by ENP with camps across North America, which sponsor pairs (or more) of Bridges participants.

In the 2022-23 school year, 151 ninth graders took part in the ENP Bridges program!

Ti'ud



Documentation of Ethiopian Jewry and Their Journey to the Land of Israel

The Ti'ud project has been transforming lives since it was launched in 2018. In 2022-23, ENP executed the Ti'ud program in 10 cities with 207 participants, 10% of whom are non-Ethiopian-Israeli, and all of whom are eager, after two years of corona restrictions, to go out and share the heroic stories of members of the Ethiopian-Israeli community. The fourth book will be published in English and in Hebrew and will include never-before heard interviews of members of the Ethiopian-Israeli community and their message to future generations. Some participants chose to interview their parents while others chose to interview prominent active members of the community. Some participants chose to conduct their work in small groups while others decided to go through this process as individuals. Regardless of how the participants chose to execute the stories, each 10th grade participant had the once in a lifetime opportunity to experience special workshops, acquire new writing skills, cultural enrichment and hear from prominent leaders from the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

Project Ti'ud aims to:

- Record, publish and share the many stories of Ethiopian Jews' journeys from Ethiopia to Jerusalem, to be relayed in Israel and abroad
- Prepare and instruct Israeli junior high/senior high school students in the skill of story-collecting and multi-media recording and documenting, while exposing them to the inspiring story of Ethiopian Jewry
- Forge intergenerational understanding between Ethiopian-Israeli schoolchildren and their parents
- Create deeper understanding and appreciation of Ethiopian Jewry on the part of immigrants' children, other Israelis and the Diaspora



Excellence



ENP's Excellence program advances Ethiopian-Israeli students that are in the highest track levels in math and English and who take on additional majors in the sciences. This will increase the number of opportunities for higher education, post-high school placements and aspirations for their future. ENP saw tremendous results from the first couple of years, in 2022-23, the Excellence program included 116 participants.

Safe Together

A program for Ethiopian-Israeli 9th-10th graders in collaboration with the Israel Police, funded by Ifa-Zivik and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany

ENP seeks to address the prejudices between the police and the Ethiopian-Israeli community. The program encourages deeper understanding, empathy and communication between the police and the Ethiopian community as part of the civil conflict resolution funding concept. This will serve to promote greater understanding between the parties and prevent future civil unrest.

The goal of Safe Together is to prevent conflict and increase understanding between the Israel Police and the Ethiopian community. If necessary, ENP seeks to change policy and influence the current activities of the Israel Police.



Medical and Dental Healthcare Scholarships

ENP takes great pride in its medical scholars who dream of becoming physicians and dentists in order to help others. These scholarships allow them to focus on their studies without the financial burden of tuition fees. Moreover, medical scholars serve as role models to SPACE participants and can motivate the children to have dreams and aspirations of their own. At the end of each academic year, ENP is thrilled to host a ceremony to present the hardworking students with their scholarships. Currently there are 25 medical scholars, five of whom spoke on a panel at the Fourth Annual ENP-JFPG-SB National Youth Summit and joined the activities along with the SPACE participants. To conclude the ceremony of the fourth National Youth Summit, ENP's Director General distributed the scholarships to the well-deserving recipients.



Parental Involvement



ENP works to improve the public image of the Ethiopian-Israeli community by sharing the story of Ethiopian Jewry and their achievements through numerous media platforms. You can receive updates from ENP on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn, or you can sign up for ENP's monthly newsletter.

ENP aims to create a net work of Ethiopian-Israeli parents and community leaders in cities where ENP operates its programs. Throughout the year ENP Director-General Roni Akale visited the program sites to meet with community leaders, run regional meetings and ultimately help leaders represent the interests of the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

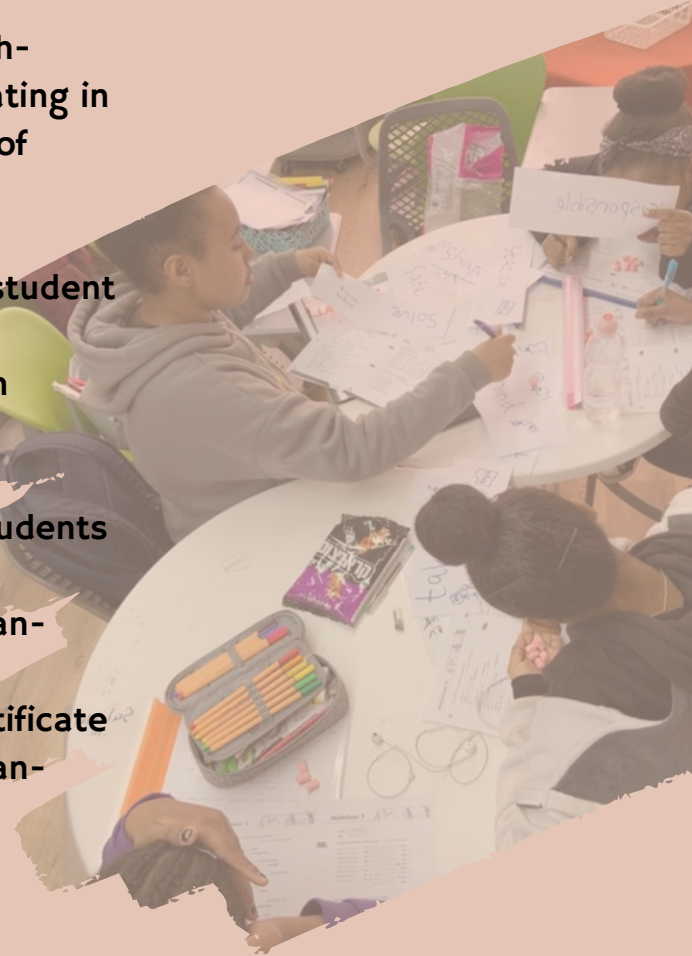


What did ENP Achieve?

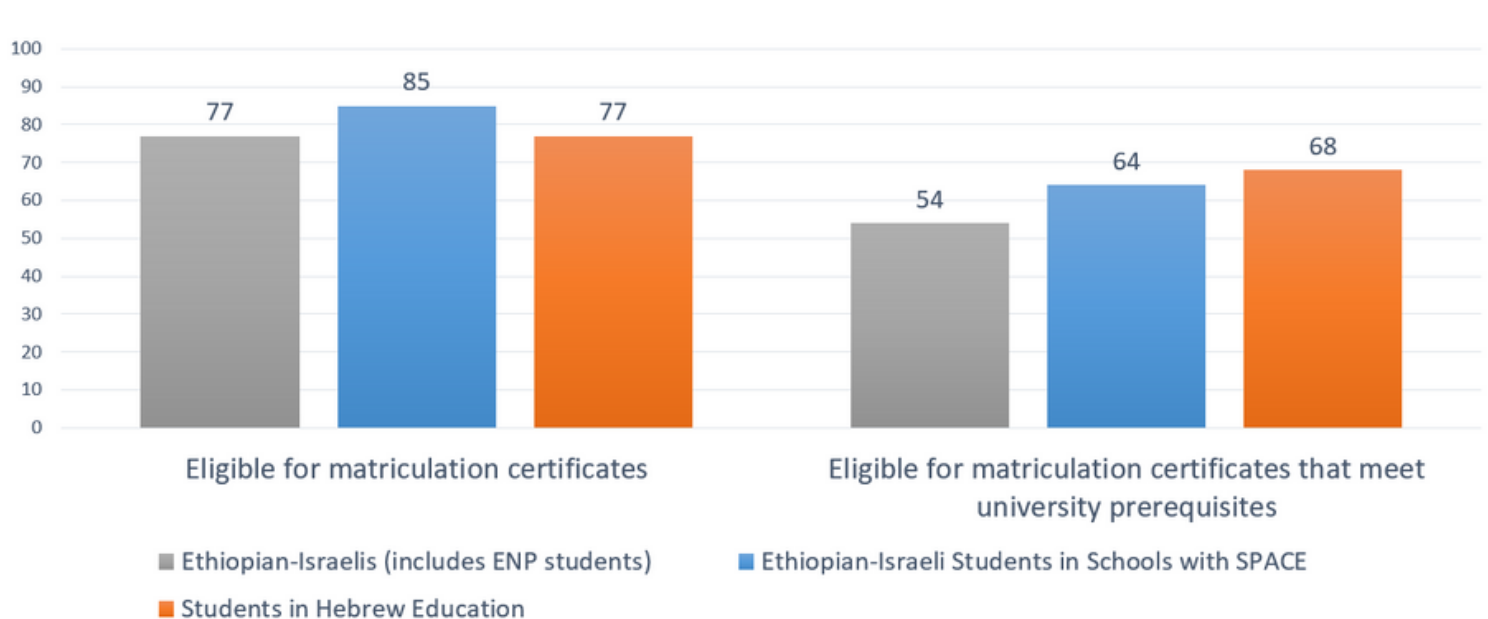
ENP monitors the matriculation achievements of 12th-grade Ethiopian-Israeli students in schools participating in ENP SPACE. The following pages present a summary of some of these findings.

The following were the indicators used to examine student achievements:

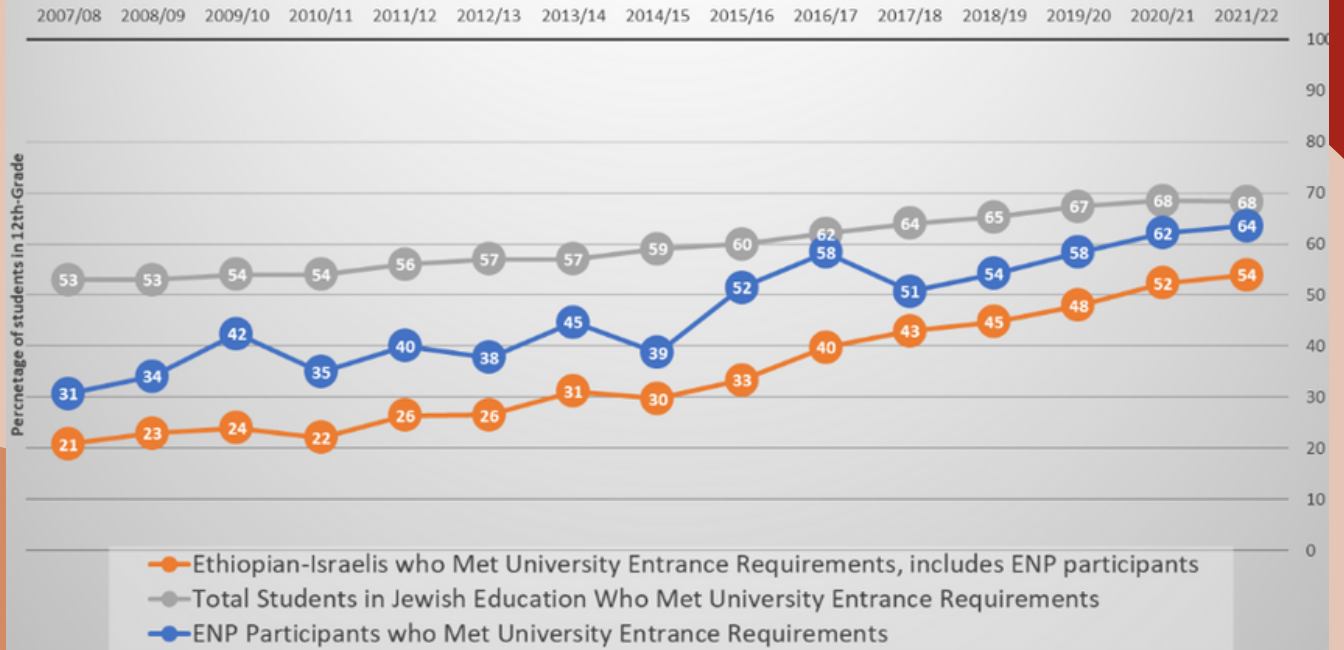
- Ethiopian-Israeli 12th-Grade Students in Israel in schools with the ENP SPACE Program ("ENP Participants")
- Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and ENP Participants
- 2007-2022 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants Entitled to a Base Matriculation Certificate
- 2007-2022 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and ENP Participants who met University Entrance Requirements



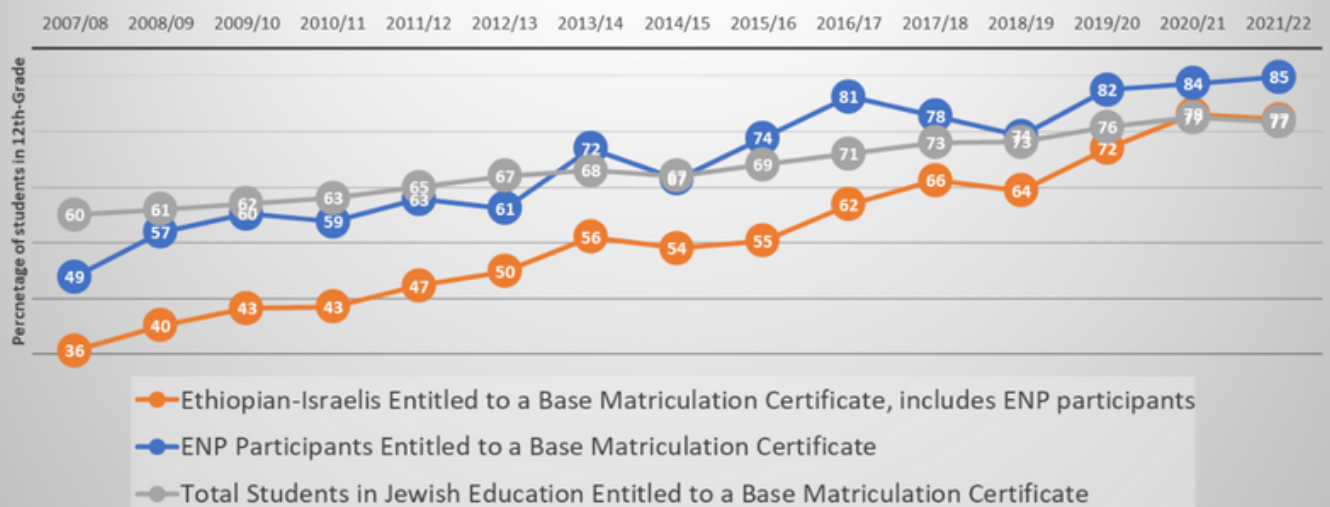
Matriculation Achievements in 2022



2007-2022 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants Entitled to a University Level Matriculation Certificate



2007-2022 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants Entitled to a Base Matriculation Certificate





International Relations

ENP's International Relations department works to share the story of ENP's impact and recruit the support required to provide holistic programs to the Ethiopian-Israeli community. This includes hosting missions, presenting to Federations abroad, representing ENP at conferences, and creating unique partnerships with local companies. Supporters include North American Jewish Federations and funds, foundations, and individual donors from Israel and overseas, many of whom have supported ENP since its inception. In addition, the Government of Israel helped to ensure that ENP's programs not only continue but grow to reach a larger percentage of the Ethiopian-Israeli community and have an impact nationwide.





Volunteers and Interns

Every year ENP is thrilled to host interns from around the world through Masa, Onwards, Destination Israel and the Israel Experience to have a hands-on experience! These dedicated people come from all over the world and speak many different languages, each bringing their own stories to share with others and their own gifts and talents. In 2022-23, ENP hosted 16 interns from Venezuela, Ethiopia, China and from all over the United States.



Organizational Partners

Representatives of Ethiopian
Jewish Community
Organizations



נציגי הארגונים של
קהילת יוצאי
אתיופיה



The Jewish Federations[®]
OF NORTH AMERICA



Keren Hayesod - United Israel Appeal
קרן היסוד - המגבית המאוחדת לישראל



הסוכנות היהודית
JEWISH AGENCY
FOR ISRAEL
ישראל
Securing the Jewish Future for Generations

משרד העלייה והקליטה
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration



ראש ממשלת ישראל
THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

מדינת ישראל
משרד החינוך
STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



ENP Board Members

Dr. Itzick Sharir	ENP Chair, Israel
Avi Mesfin	Chair of Beta Israel Council and Representative of Ethiopian Jewish Organizations in Israel
Yossi Rosner-Wachs	Jewish Federations of North America
Dr. David Breakstone	Jewish Agency for Israel
Avi Fleishon	JDC-Israel
Shmulik Fried	Keren Hayesod-UIA
Hana Heckster	Ministry of Education
David Yasu	Ministry of Aliyah and Integration
Takale Mekonen	Representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Organizations in Israel

Donors

ENP would like to extend its deepest gratitude to the partners and friends that supported the transformative work that was executed throughout 2022-23. Gifts to and through the following Federations, Foundations, and Corporate Philanthropy enable ENP to carry out its critical work. The Government of Israel matches these generous gifts.

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

Diane & Guilford Glazer Philanthropies

Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation

Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County

Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation

Center for Entrepreneurial Jewish Philanthropy (CEJP)

Greater Miami Jewish Federation

Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles

Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit

JDC-Israel

Jewish Federation of Cincinnati

Embassy of Germany

Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley

Jewish Federation of Greater Houston

The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island

Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester

Embassy of the United States of America

Jewish Federation of Delaware

Birmingham Jewish Foundation

Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Phoenix

The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore

Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

Milwaukee Jewish Federation

Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis

Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Ithaca Area United Jewish Community

David and Inez Myers Foundation

The Birmingham Jewish Federation

Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County

The Jewish Federation of the Berkshires

Jewish Federation of Greater Buffalo

Greensboro Jewish Federation

Jewish Federation of Greater Naples

Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut

The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey

Jewish Federation of Kalamazoo and Southwest Michigan

Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County

Jewish Federation of Florida's Gulf Coast

The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore

Youngstown Area Jewish Federation

Tallahassee Teen Philanthropy Initiative

JFC-UIA Canada

ICL Group

Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta

Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation

Jewish Federation of Greater New Bedford

Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City

Jewish Federation of St Louis

Tampa Jewish Community Center and Federation

and additional Foundations and Individual Donors

*Thank
you!*



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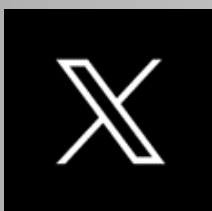
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