

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Ethiopian National Project
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הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה האתיופית בישראל



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OPENING REMARKS

Dear Friends and Supporters

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

Like most countries around the world, Israel was greatly effected by COVID-19, countless businesses and organizations ceased all operations during the first lockdown and some for the entire year of 2020. ENP is extremely devoted to its students, who continued working remotely throughout the year as ENP dedicated resources to helping the students connect via Zoom to their classes. It is impossible to deny that now, more than ever, Ethiopian-Israeli students are in dire need of these programs; it is imperative that the students and their families are not left behind.

Together, we will make sure the Ethiopian-Israeli community reaches its fullest potential.



Roni Akale
Director-General



Dr Itzick Sharir
Israel Chair

ABOUT ENP

The Ethiopian National Project (ENP) is a unique endeavour. Created through a governmental decision in 2001, the concept of ENP is that of a partnership between the Government of Israel and Diaspora Jewry, with the **aim of ensuring the full and successful integration of Ethiopian Jews into Israeli society**. In 2004, ENP identified the greatest unmet needs whose provision would ensure the community long-term advancement and integration into Israeli society- education and empowerment.

ENP works tirelessly to prevent the creation of 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, ENP decided to focus its efforts on youth aged 13-18 and the parents and leaders who impact their lives. Through ENP's flagship program SPACE: Scholastic Assistance and Empowerment programs, ENP is able to provide workshops designed to empower students, parents and leadership within the community,

ENP has created a holistic approach to the barriers preventing the community's success.



16 Cities



77% ENP Matriculation success



3,553 SPACE Participants

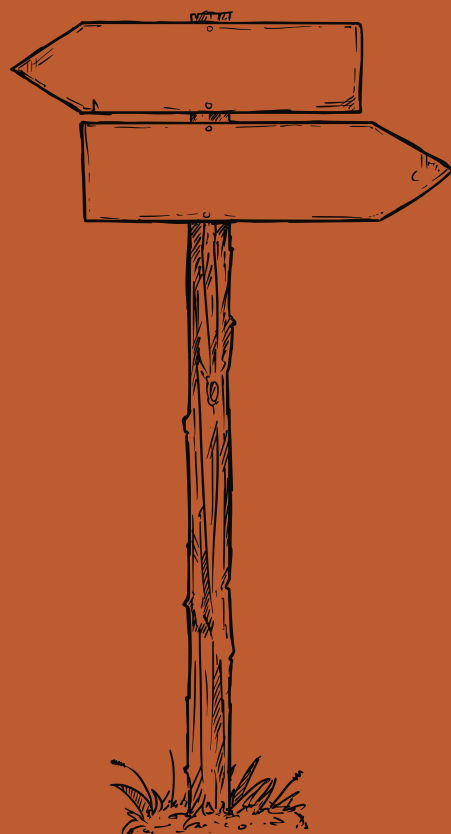


159,580 Ethiopian-Israelis

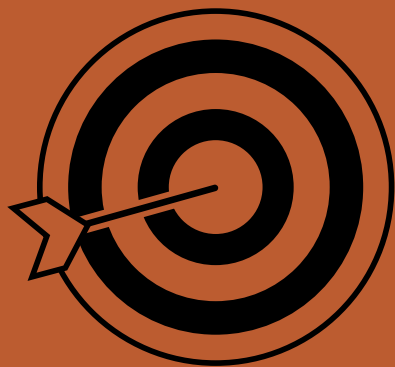
In 2021 ENP operated in 63 schools in 16 cities

Afula
Ashdod
Ashkelon
Be'er Sheva
Beit Shean
Carmiel
Hadera
Kiryat Motzkin

Kiryat Yam
Migdal HaEmek
Netanya
Pardes Hanna
Petach Tikva
Ramla
Rehovot
Tirat Carmel



Targeted



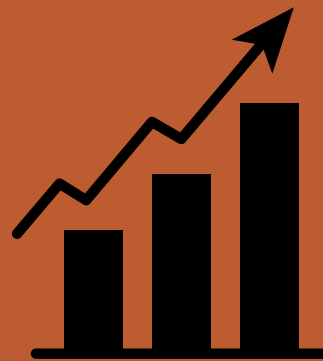
Targeted, holistic
interventions are key
to ENP's success

Inclusive

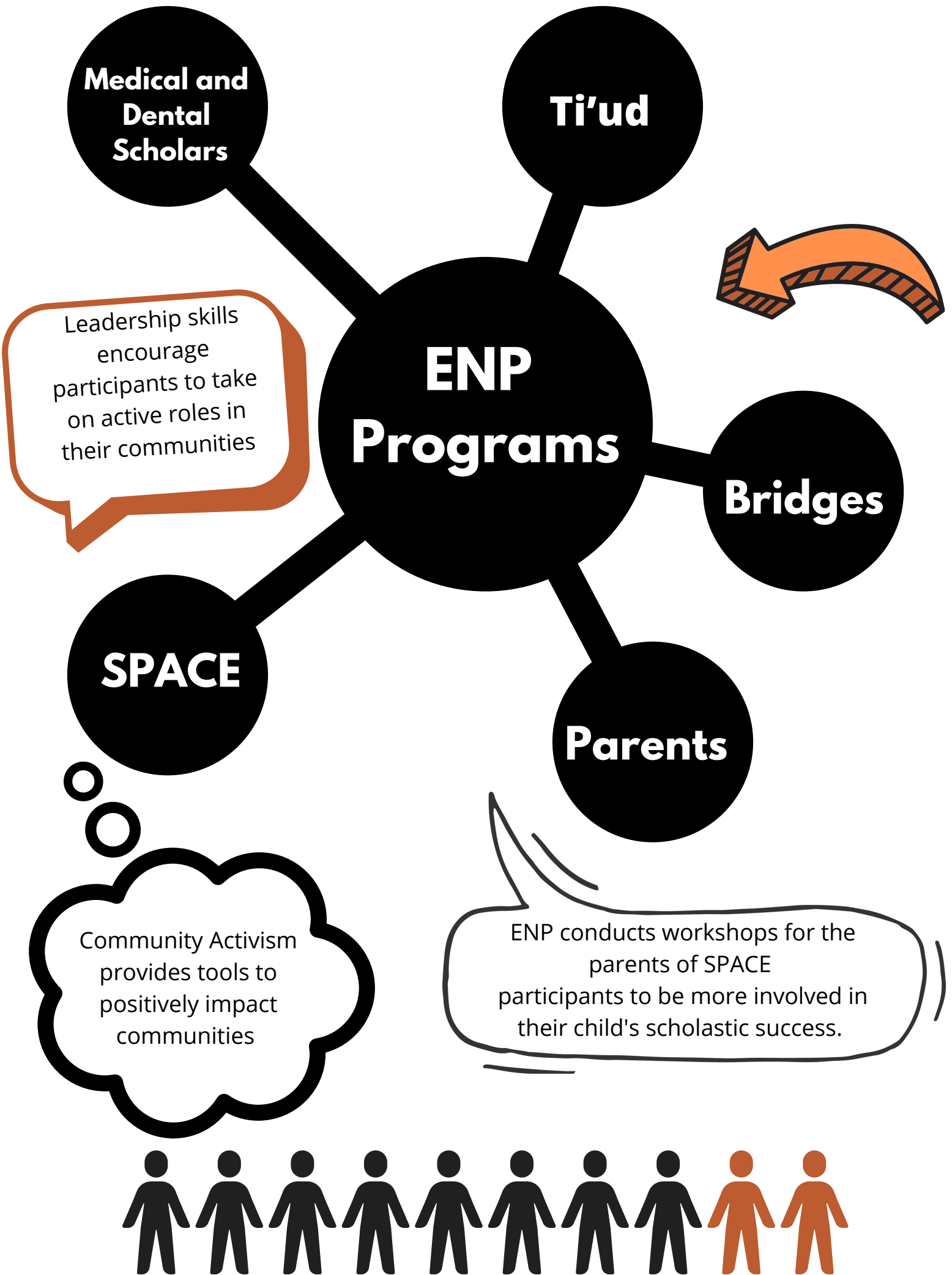


Ethiopian-Israelis play
a leading role in ENP,
bottom up and top down

Evaluates



ENP
measures,
learns, adapts
and grows



SPACE

SPACE: School Performance and Community Empowerment

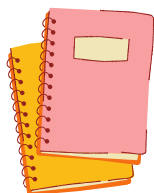


ENP SPACE delivers supplementary after-school hours of academic assistance to students in small groups, a maximum of nine students per group. SPACE addresses students' social and personal challenges they face when it comes to academic achievement and is designed to adapt to the needs of each child within the program. ENP works to increase the percentage of Ethiopian-Israeli students who graduate from high school, reduce dropout rates and ease the transition from junior high to senior high.

In addition, the program focuses on social needs, personal development, building self-confidence and leadership skills.

Ethiopian-Israelis professionals take the lead as advisors to be role models and encourage the students to pursue their dreams and aspirations.

Moreover, the SPACE program includes a hot lunch for all participants which is significant for many.



SPACE directly contributes to the academic achievement of Ethiopian-Israeli participants with four key components:

- **Intensive Support:** Educational support is provided in small groups.
- **Preparations for Matriculation:** the program consists of preparatory lessons to improve students proficiency.
- **Personal Development:** Emphasis is placed on building self-esteem, personal motivation and a healthy approach to studying.
- **Extra-Curricular Activities:** The program offers a range of cultural, social activities and outings, which allows participants to broaden their horizons, build a sense of community among the students and increase motivation.



SPACE

Space: School Performance and Community Empowerment



Objectives of the Program:

- Improve overall **scholastic performance** of participants.
- **Increase number** of students **matriculation** and improve their level of achievement in the years leading up to matriculation.
- **Prevent students from exiting prematurely** from the school framework.
- Improve in the **social/personal/emotional** domain by strengthening students motivation to study and generating self-confidence in their own abilities.
- Providing **Emotional Support**- SPACE also aims to increase **intellectual curiosity** and **social skills** necessary to succeed, while empowering the students through an array of activities that promote: **conceptualizing the future, strengthening self-efficiency, strengthening community identity and enrichment.**

Feedback from SPACE Participants

"The part about SPACE that I find the most helpful is all of the personalized attention." - **Kalkidan**

"Leadership and speaking skills are crucial to my future, and the SPACE program has helped me to improve these abilities."- **Shlomit**

"ENP's SPACE program has helped me on my continuing journey towards independence and self-sufficiency."- **Almanesh**

"In SPACE, I have a sense of belonging that helps me learn more and advance in my studies."- **Sareye**

"Because of SPACE, I am in the top English level in my class, and I will finish with improved grades."- **Mesfen**

"SPACE has changed how I perceive myself for the better."- **Eliran**

ENGLISH BRIDGES

Empowerment through Spoken English

ENP Bridges provides students the opportunity to participate in an exciting English immersion and exchange program. Bridges serves as a platform for participants to focus and develop their English language skills and experience an intensive English study instruction program. English is used as a tool to empower and motivate the pupils, and help them understand the potential they have if they demonstrate drive and passion. Each participant is encouraged to challenge his or herself as an individual and as part of a group. Each group is asked to do a project together in English, and each participant has the opportunity to forge connections with Diaspora peers.

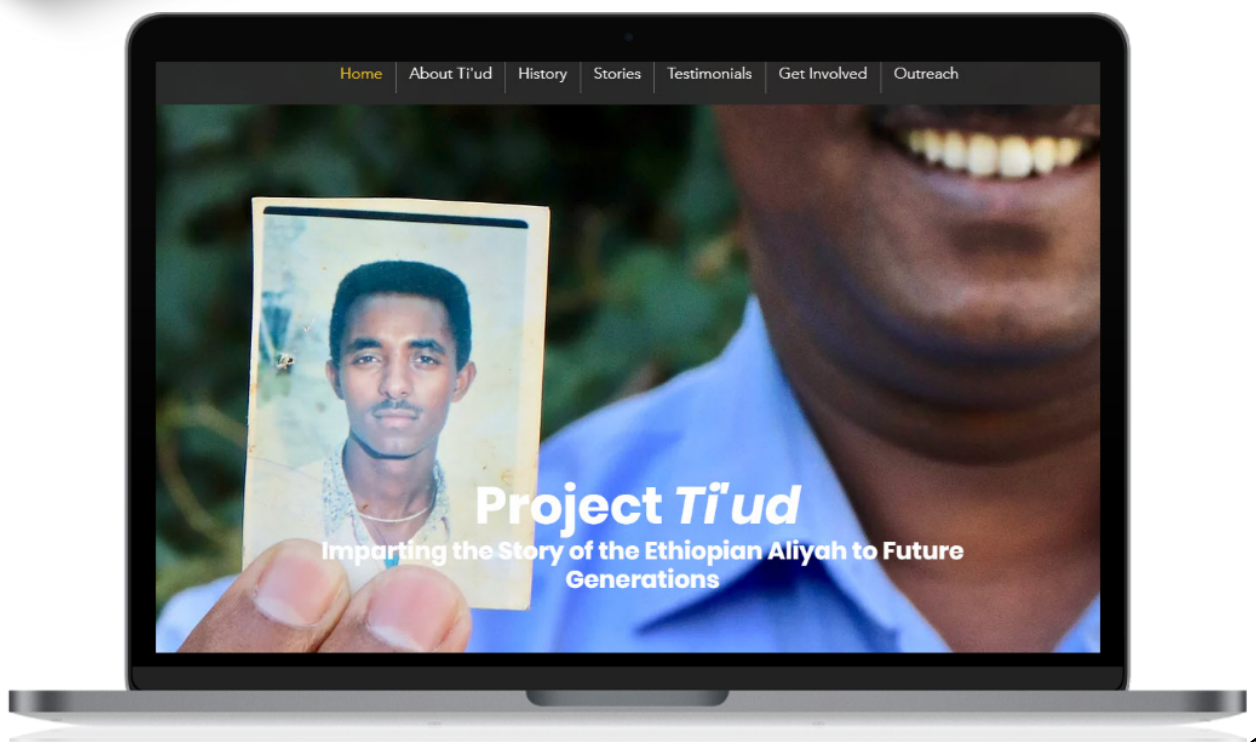


TI'UD

Project Ti'ud: Imparting the Story of the Ethiopian Aliyah to Future Generations.

For many young Ethiopian-Israelis today, the stories of the miraculous Aliyah of Ethiopian Jewry and their preservation of Jewish identity is barely known or understood, yet could be a source of tremendous pride. As Israeli teenagers, their yearning for independence often comes at the expense of alienating their relationship with proud grandparents who fear their sacrifices, culture and religious practices will soon be forgotten and replaced. In between lies a generation of parents trying to build new lives for their families, while balancing the many needs of the two generations they bridge. Project Ti'ud is a nationwide effort to preserve these inspirational stories and reinforce the Ethiopian-Jewish identities for generations to come.

ENP ensures that these stories do not merely stay internal, but will reverberate and inspire many individuals beyond those who took part. ENP's vision is for every Israeli to be aware of, understand and be inspired by the journeys to Israel so many in this community made and the incredible stories of sacrifice, bravery and determination that characterize this modern-day Exodus.



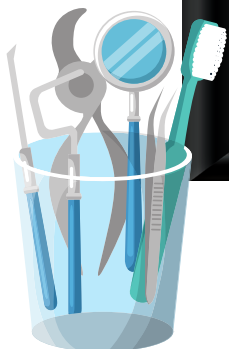
MEDICAL AND DENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS



“

ENP provides medical and dental healthcare scholarships for Ethiopian-Israelis who pursue an academic degree in medicine or dentistry. The medical and dental university tracks are highly intense and demanding programs. ENP's scholarships allow the students to focus on their studies and be less distracted by fiscal concerns that, in the past, was cause to drop out. Within a matter of years, these students will become medical practitioners, and as they do, it will create change within Israeli society from the bottom up. In February 2021, ENP held a Zoom Scholarship ceremony, recognizing the exceptional scholars and honoring those who play a part in making the provision of scholarships possible.

”



EMPOWERMENT

Community Empowerment

In the 2020-2021 school year, ENP aimed to create a network of Ethiopian-Israeli parents and community leaders in cities where ENP operates its programs.

Throughout the year ENP Director-General Roni Akale visited these cities to meet with community leaders, run regional meetings and ultimately help leaders represent the interests of the Ethiopian-Israeli community. In total, over 400 Ethiopian-Israeli community leaders participated in these meetings and events throughout the year.

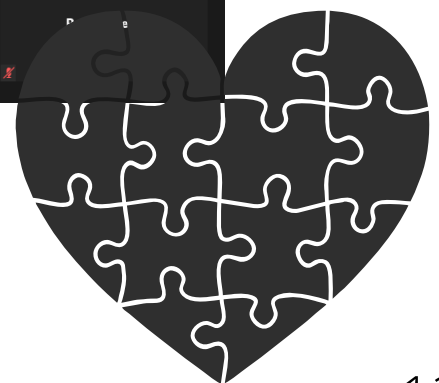
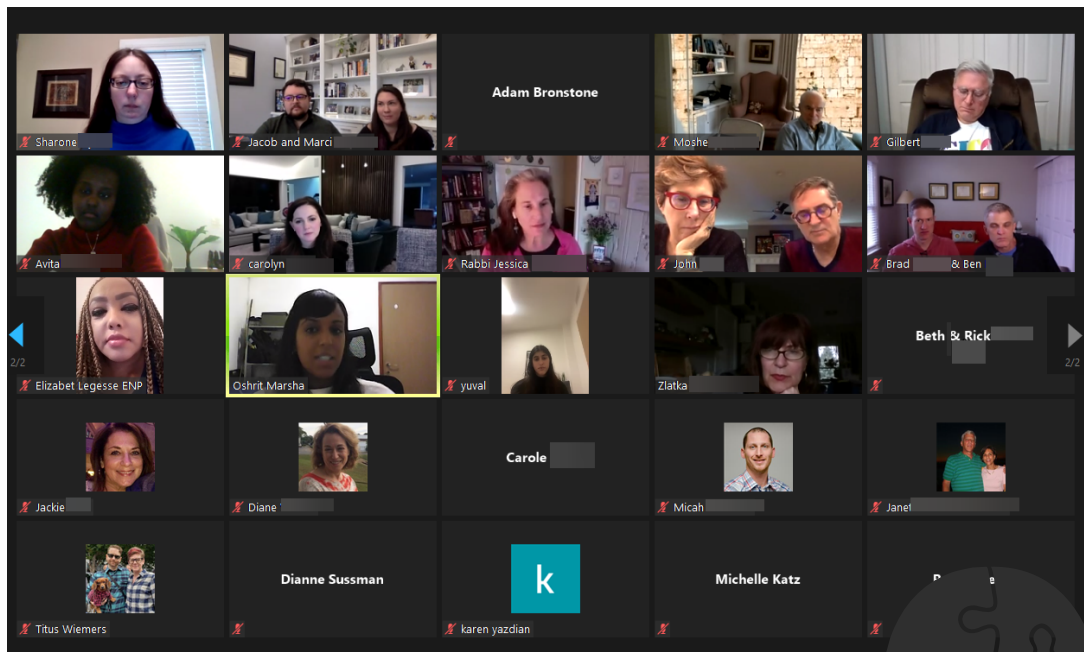
Additionally, ENP executed a Municipal Leadership and Community Advocacy Training Program for Ethiopian-Israelis with the support of the German Federal Office's ifa/zivik funding Programme.



MISSIONS

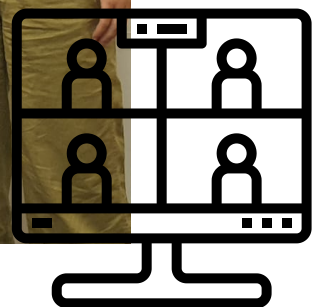
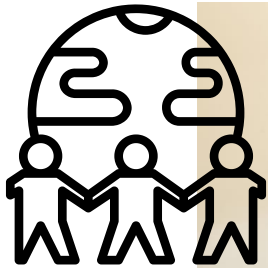


Each year ENP hosts an array of missions to ENP programs throughout Israel. Guests range from youth groups and campus groups from North America, groups and individuals from churches, synagogues, donors, and women's groups to major delegations from Federations and the Jewish Federations of North America and more. Each group and visit is uniquely sculpted to meet the needs and goals of each group. ENP treasures the opportunity to share with mission participants the amazing story of Ethiopian Jewry and the successes of ENP's programs nationwide. In 2020-21, ENP carried out remote zoom missions so remote visits could take place, though international travel was not possible.



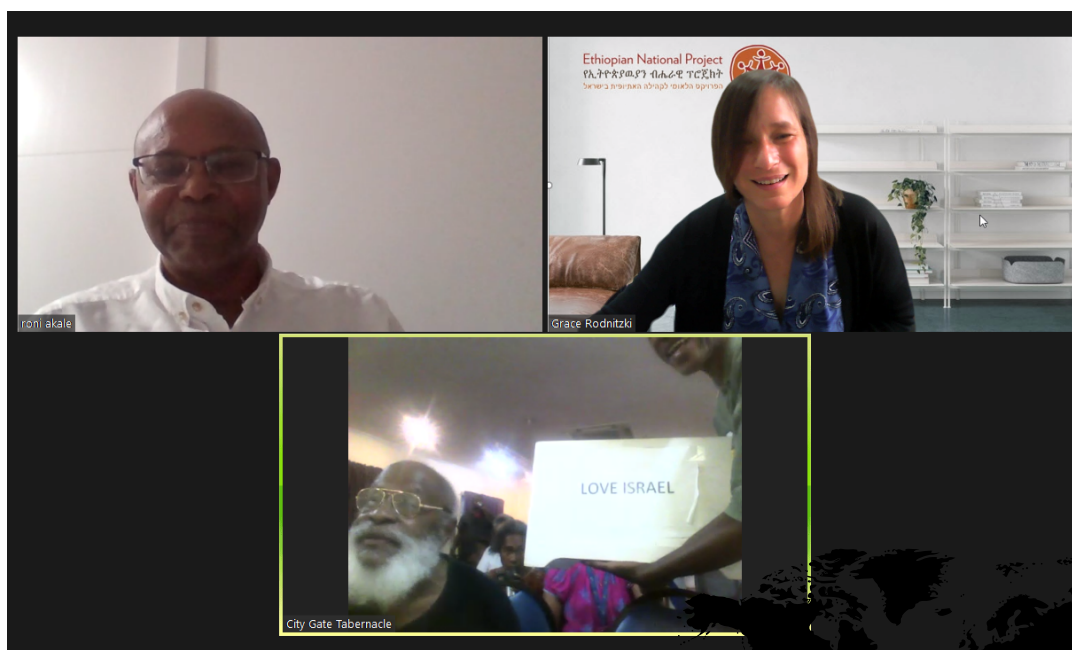
VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

ENP is pleased to host many volunteers and interns every year coming from a wide variety of programs, including Israel Government Fellows and MASA programs, as well as independent volunteers. 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. They give their time to help the Ethiopian-Israeli community by assisting in ENP's efforts to share its stories by volunteering for the organization. In 2020-21 ENP hosted 9 volunteers including year-round and summer interns.



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. ENP is proud and grateful to all supporters and partners who dedicate themselves to ensure the continuation of ENP's programs described in this report. 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. During the height of the pandemic, ENP continued to share the story remotely through numerous avenues to bridge distances and forge connections.

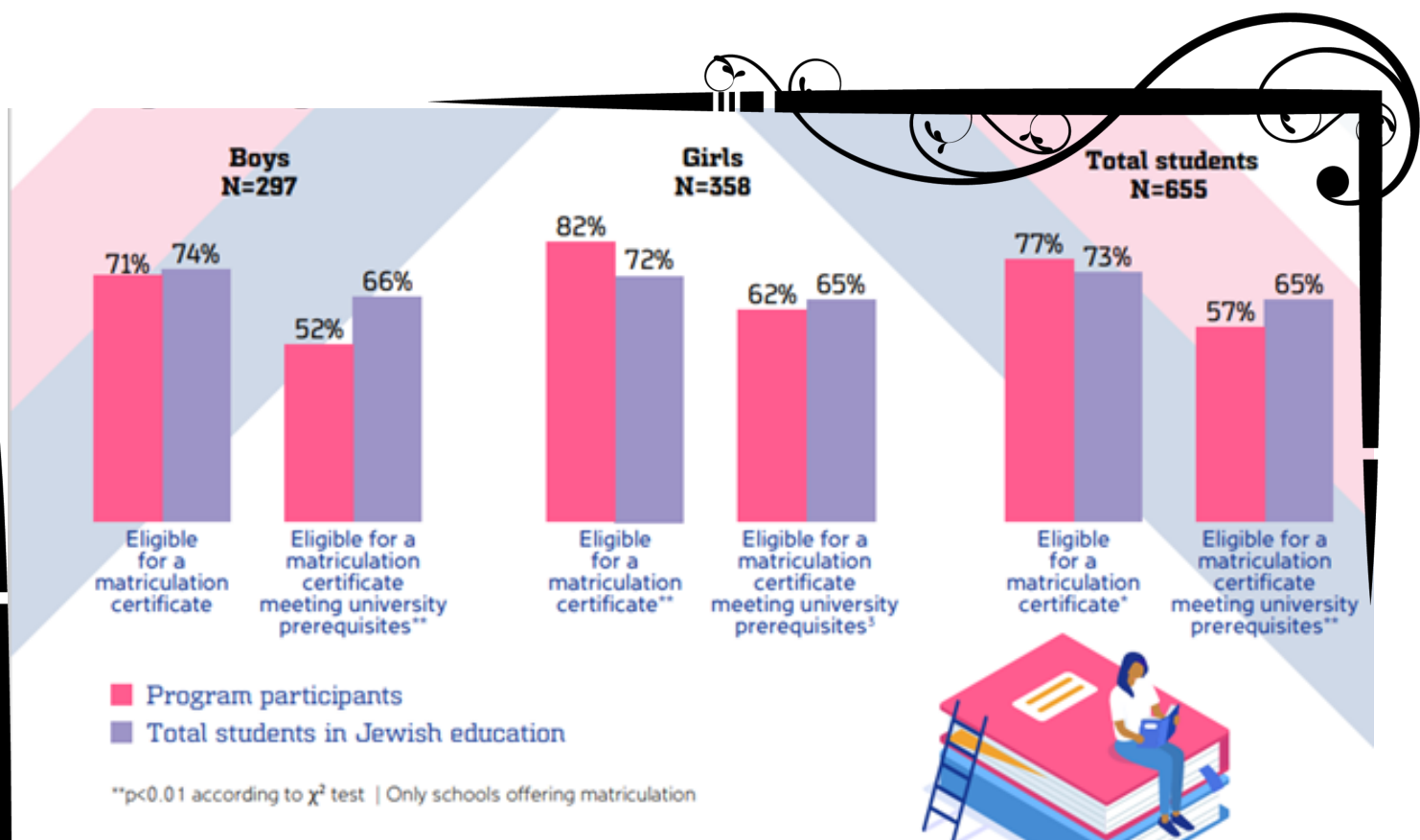


EVALUATION

ENP conducts a study every year to compare and contrast participants to non-participants and various factors that could affect the students' scholastic performance such as characteristics and background.

The following were the indicators used to examine student achievements:

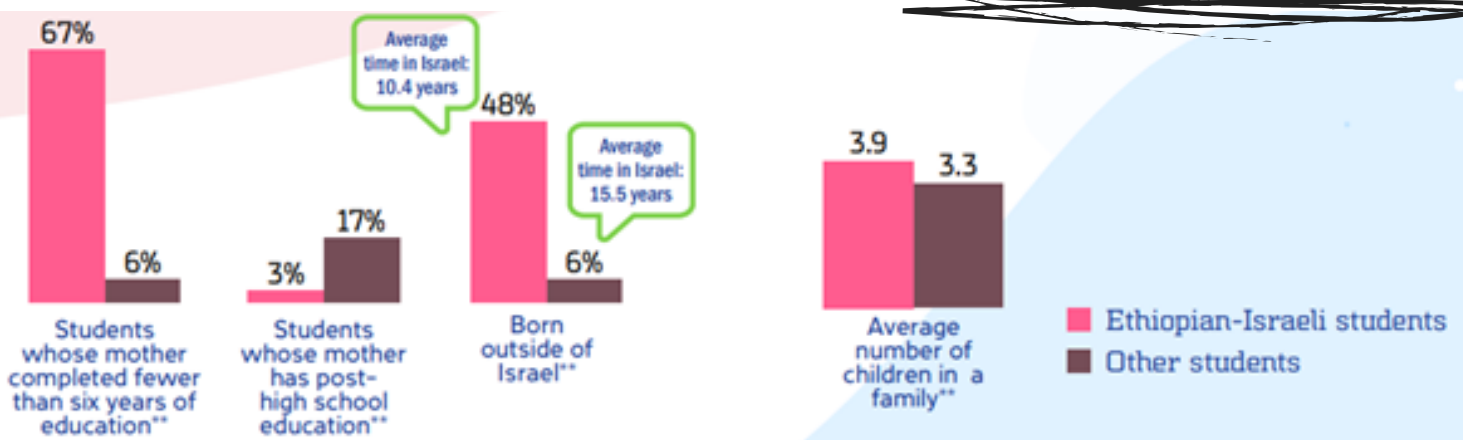
- Percentage of students entitled to a full matriculation certificate
- Percentage of students entitled to a full matriculation certificate with at least four study units in English, hence meeting university enrollment prerequisites
- Percentage of students taking matriculation exams on a scale approaching certificate entitlement (the requirement for which is a total of 14 study units)
- Percentage of students taking the English and mathematics matriculation tests on a level of 4-5 study units each.



EVALUATION

According to the most recent data, Ethiopian-Israelis program students come from weaker socio-economic backgrounds than other students which can strongly impact their success rate. The majority of Ethiopian immigrants come from rural backgrounds and have not completed their formal education; this makes it even more challenging to assist their children academically.

SPACE is even more critical for these students; each one deserves the opportunity to succeed. SPACE creates a community and a space where all participants can benefit from resources that otherwise may not be available to them.



Ethiopian-Israeli and other program students have similar scholastic backgrounds



Ethiopian-Israeli participants N=655, Other students N=215 | ** $p < 0.01$ | % of Israeli-born and mother's education were examined by the χ^2 test | The average number of children per family was examined by the One-Way Anova test



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
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THE JEWISH AGENCY
FOR ISRAEL
Securing the Jewish Future for Generations

משרד העלייה והקליטה
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration



ראש ממשלת ישראל
THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

מדינת ישראל
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STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



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Yossi Rosner-Wachs
Dr. David Breakstone
Avi Fleishon
Shmulik Fried
Hana Heckster
David Yasu
Takale Mekonen
Avi Mesfin

ENP Chair, Israel
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Agency for Israel
JDC-Israel
Keren Hayesod-UIA
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration
Representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Organizations in Israel
Representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Organizations in Israel



DONORS

ENP expresses its deep gratitude to supporters of ENP's critical work, ENP looks forward to working together to forge a lasting, meaningful partnership that will benefit, not only the Ethiopian-Israeli community, but all of Israel as well.

Gifts to and through the following Federations, Foundations and Corporate Philanthropy enable ENP to carry out its critical work

Words cannot sufficiently express ENP's gratitude to all those who help make a difference.

Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
Diane & Guilford Glazer Philanthropies
Embassy of Germany
Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation
Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County
Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County
Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte
Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County
Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation
Center for Entrepreneurial Jewish Philanthropy (CEJP)
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
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Rosenbojm-Komor Foundation
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JDC-Israel
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
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

DONORS

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Minneapolis Jewish Federation
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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
The Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts
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
The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Kalamazoo and Southwest Michigan
The Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
Jewish Federation of Broward County
Barry and Lili Kaufmann Family
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
Schain Family Foundation
*Additional Foundations and Individual Donors



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