



Ethiopian National Project
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הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה האתיופית בישראל

**2021-2022
ANNUAL REPORT**

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Introduction

The Ethiopian National Project (ENP) works to ensure the full and successful integration of Ethiopian-Israelis into Israeli society. ENP partners with the Ethiopian-Israeli community and with those who seek to make a difference.

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.

Our journey will be complete when the success of the Ethiopian-Israeli community serves as a light unto the nations. Together we are taking the critical steps needed to achieve this goal. We will continue to carry out our afterschool programming, community events, leadership building, and other initiatives you learn about in our report. It is thanks to you, our devoted friends and partners who share the same goal of empowering the Ethiopian-Israeli community, that we will succeed in this monumental task.

Thank you for your commitment and support,



Roni Akale
Director-General



Dr Itzick Sharir
Israel Chair

ABOUT

E

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.

N

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.

P

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 2021-22 academic year, ENP operated in 15 cities across Israel, serving 3,136 schoolchildren in its scholastic assistance programs and hundreds of parents and leaders.

A Holistic Approach

Through its grassroots approach that empowers Ethiopian-Israelis to identify and design the right interventions to ensure the community's integration, ENP constantly keeps a finger on the pulse regarding the most pressing needs of the Ethiopian-Israeli community.



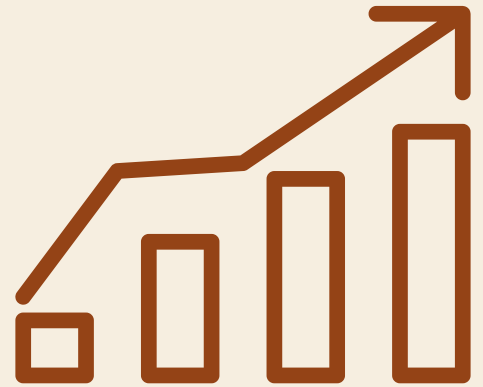
Targeted

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

Programs



SPACE

Holistic intervention that provides scholastic, social, emotional and nutritional support to 7th-12th grade schoolchildren

BRIDGES

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

TI'UD

Students deepen appreciation for Ethiopian Jewry and strengthen identity by documenting and sharing Jewish life in Ethiopia and aliyah to Israel

MEDICAL & 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

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

ENP ensures parents are partners in their child's education and are thoroughly informed of the resources provided

COMMUNITY ACTIVISM

ENP provides tools for Ethiopian-Israeli leaders to positively impact their communities

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

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

School **P**erformance **A**nd **C**ommunity **E**mpowerment

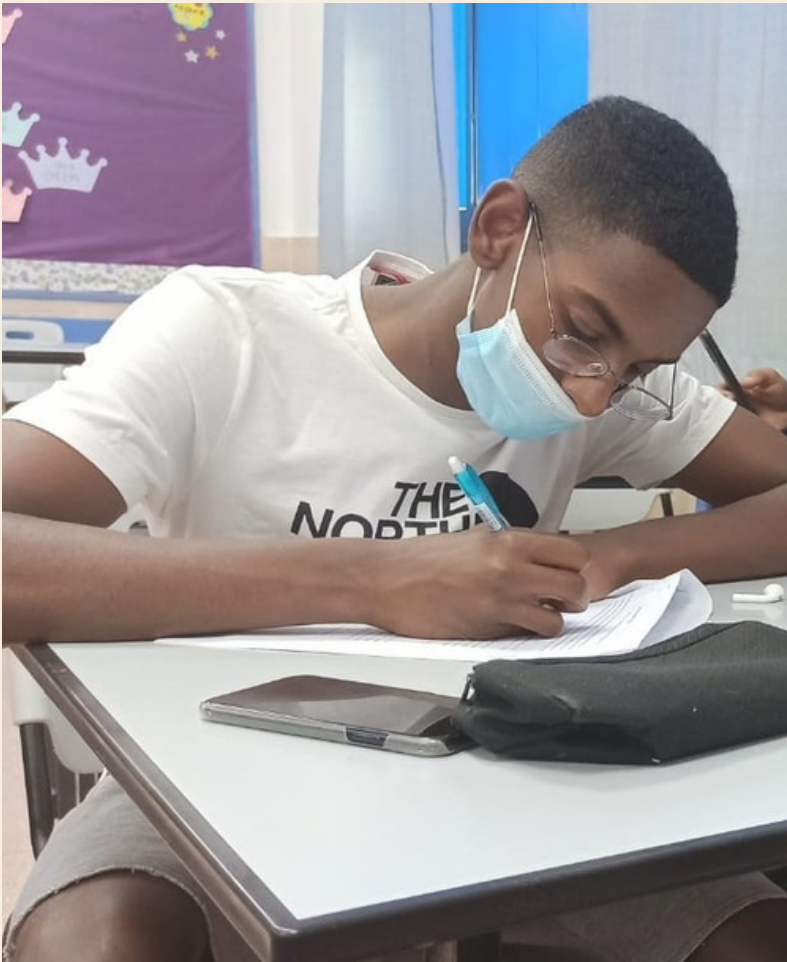
ENP SPACE works to increase the number of Ethiopian-Israeli high school students who pass the matriculation exams, improve the level of achievement in these tests and reduce overt and covert dropout rates. SPACE provides supplementary after-school teaching hours in small groups of up to nine children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

SPACE 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 act as advisors and role models who encourage students' aspirations, as they work with parents to promote awareness and commitment to their children's success.

SPACE also includes lunch, a critical component for many. Inspirational speakers, activities, and field trips, including to higher education institutions, expose students to an array of opportunities that promote future success. Intensive collaborative work with school administrations, local municipalities and ministries alters the path of negative trends toward positive, nationwide social impact and societal change.

In the academic year of 2021-22, SPACE was provided to 3,136 Ethiopian-Israeli and other in-need students in 15 cities across the country. The program participants worked hard during study marathons over their vacations and enjoyed extra-curricular activities and field trips to enrich their experience.





Objectives of the Program:

- Improve overall scholastic performance of participants
- Placement of Ethiopian-Israeli students in higher tracking levels
- Prevent students from exiting prematurely from the school system
- Improve the social/personal/emotional domain by strengthening students' motivation to study and generating self-confidence in their abilities
- Providing emotional support- SPACE 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

Bridges

Empowerment through Spoken English



ENP participants at summer camp in Canada!

ENP Bridges provides rising ninth and tenth-grade children the opportunity to participate in an exciting English immersion and exchange program. Bridges serves as a platform for participant children to focus on and develop their English language skills and participate in intensive English study instruction. This year, 135 ninth and tenth graders took part in the Bridges program, 4 students went abroad to summer camps in North America, and 4 to English-speaking camps in Israel.

English is used as a tool to empower and motivate children and help them understand the unlimited potential available to them 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 group project in English, and each individual participant has the opportunity to forge connections with Diaspora peers. The students can submit projects as an entry for the Sudilovsky-Busel Family Initiative for Youth Advocacy and Leadership Prize which is given once a year.

ENP wishes to extend its deepest gratitude to the Emma Kaufmann Camp, the Harry Bronfman Y Country Camp, Camp Kimama, and all those who played a crucial part in making campers' dreams come true.

The Bridges program consists of four components:

1. Supplementary after-school English instruction utilizing creative and innovative methods that inspire students and increase motivation (2 weekly hours, year-long, plus holiday or summer marathons and field trips)
2. Diaspora-Israel connections between Diaspora and the Ethiopian-Israeli youth, with a specially-developed curriculum that enlightens both, utilizing Zoom or other media
3. Group Projects: Projects that forge leadership and community-building skills, empowerment, and self-confidence, while utilizing English language skills
4. Camp Emissaries: Jewish Summer Camp experiences for select Ethiopian-Israeli youth who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to and progress in the program



Project Ti'ud

Imparting the Story of the Ethiopian Aliyah to Future Generations.

Imparting the Story of the Ethiopian Aliyah to Future Generations has changed countless lives since it was launched in 2018. Today, children, parents, community leaders, principals, municipal officials, and the Ministry of Education consider this an indispensable program. The program has successfully preserved inspirational stories and is certain to reinforce Ethiopian-Jewish identities for generations to come.



Within the program, students from around Israel meet and interview elders within the Ethiopian-Israeli community who made the journey from Ethiopia to Israel, including students' family members.



Later, the students write the stories, and together, then they are compiled into a book enriched with the breathtaking stories that they have collected. In its third year, ENP continued Ti'ud in those cities where it was introduced in its pilot year and expanded to additional cities.

Project Ti'ud is generously supported by Rosalee and Richard Davison and the Ben and Zelda Cohen Foundation. In 2021, 106 students documented the lives of Jewish Ethiopian heroes.

Medical & Dental Healthcare Scholarships

ENP provides medical and dental healthcare scholarships for Ethiopian-Israelis who pursue an academic degree in medicine or dental healthcare. Medicine is the most competitive of all degrees in Israel. Unlike in the United States, where students first pursue an undergraduate degree and then seek to enter medical school, in Israel, for the vast majority, medical school commences from day one of university, for seven years: six years of study and one year of residency, after which they are awarded their degree. Dental students receive their degrees after six years of study and residency.

The medical and dental university tracks are highly intense and demanding programs. ENP's medical and dental healthcare scholarships allow medical and dental students to focus on their studies and be less distracted by fiscal concerns that, in the past, were a 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.

ENP Ethiopian-Israeli Healthcare Scholarships are made possible thanks to the generous support of the Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley, the Sudilovsky Busel Family, the Gilboa Family, the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, Beth-Israel Federated Jewish Charities of Fayetteville, North Carolina and the Harry Yanoff and Jeanette Master Charitable Trust of Cumberland Community Foundation.



Parental Involvement



ENP forges connections between parent, children, and schools so parents can be full partners in their children's education.



Community Activism



ENP Provides tools for Ethiopian-Israeli leaders to positively impact their communities



ENP expresses its deep appreciation to all who recognize the crucial importance of supporting and developing leadership in this community

Leadership Programs



In the 2021-2022 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.

Additionally, ENP launched leadership programs for eight grade students so they could take a leading role in student councils and help make a difference in their schools.





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 mission. ENP treasures the opportunity to share with mission participants the amazing story of Ethiopian Jewry and the successes of ENP's programs nationwide. In 2021-22, ENP was thrilled to host numerous in-person missions after a long break.

Volunteers & Interns

ENP is pleased to host many volunteers and interns every year 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 the 2021-22 year, ENP hosted 16 volunteers; from South Africa to Australia, Los Angeles to Washington, DC, ENP was overjoyed to have the opportunity to blossom thanks to these extraordinary volunteers and 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 ensuring 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.

**ENP was overjoyed to host lay leaders
from Birmingham, Alabama in 2021**



Outbound ENP Visits

ENP's Director of International Relations, Grace Rodnitzki, and ENP Medical Scholar, Orli Wube, met with members of the community in Nashville, Detroit, and Delaware to share the story of Ethiopian Jewry and relay the importance of ENP's critical work. It was a privilege to be hosted by the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, The Jewish Federation of Metro Detroit, The M&M Fisher Foundation, and The Jewish Federation of Delaware. ENP values the partnership and support of all those who enable ENP's impactful work to continue.



Ethiopian National Project's Achievements

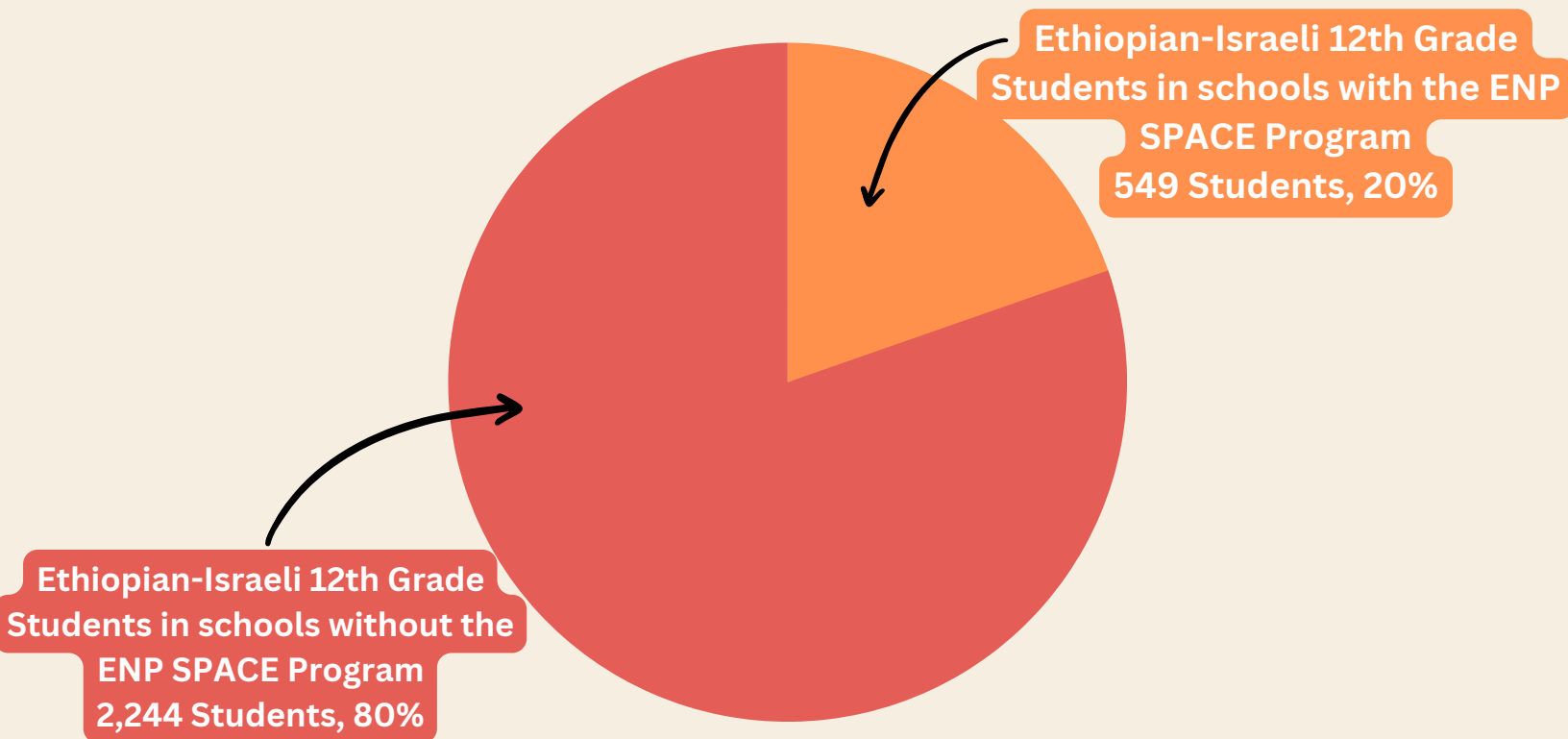
ENP monitors the matriculation achievements of 12th-grade Ethiopian-Israeli students in schools participating in ENP SPACE. The following pages present a summary of some of these findings.

The following were the indicators used to examine student achievements:

1. Ethiopian-Israeli 12th-Grade Students in Israel in schools with the ENP SPACE Program ("ENP Participants")
2. Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and ENP Participants
3. 2007-2021 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants Entitled to a Base Matriculation Certificate
4. 2007-2021 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and ENP Participants who met University Entrance Requirements

In the 2020-21 school year, 20% of Ethiopian-Israeli 12th-Grade Students in Israel studied in schools with the ENP SPACE Program

Ethiopian-Israeli 12th Grade Students TOTAL: 2,793 Students



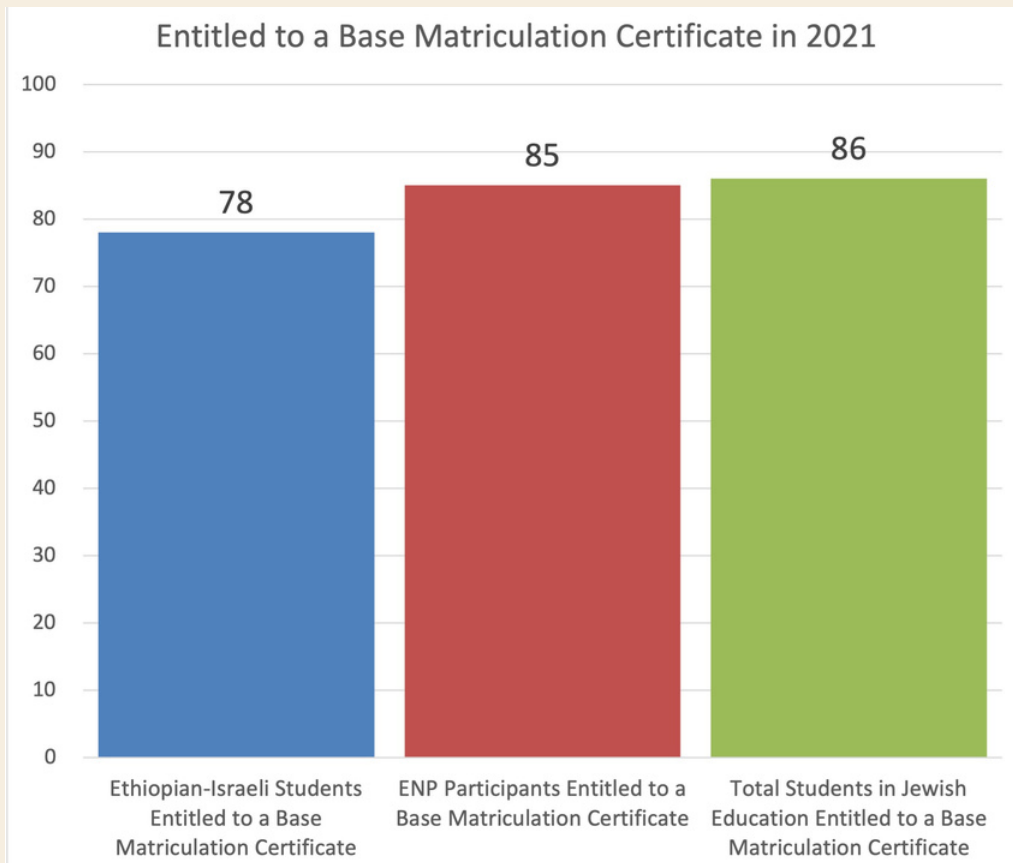
Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students in Schools with the SPACE Program 2020-21

- Eligible for an "excellence" matriculation certificate
- Eligible for a matriculation certificate meeting university prerequisites
- Eligible for a basic matriculation certificate
- Eligible for a partial matriculation certificate
- Not near a matriculation certificate

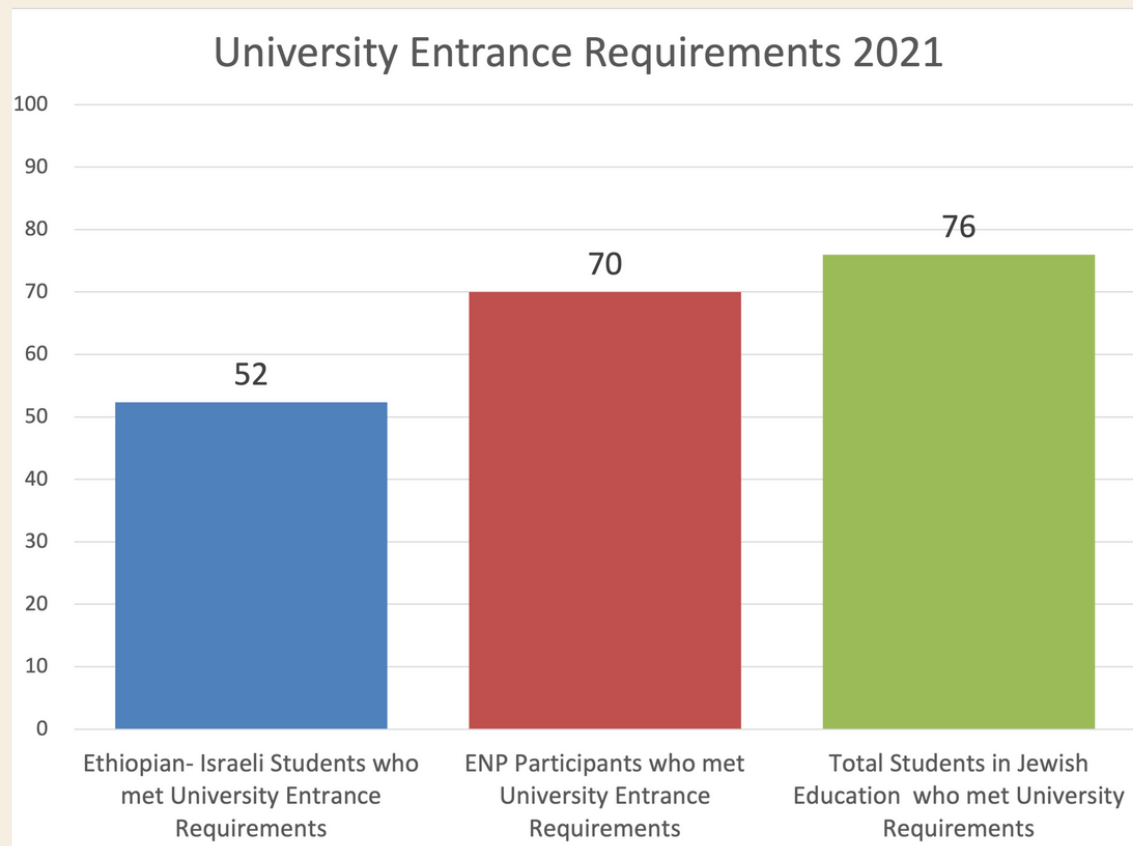


In 2021, 85% of ENP's Program Participants were eligible for a full matriculation

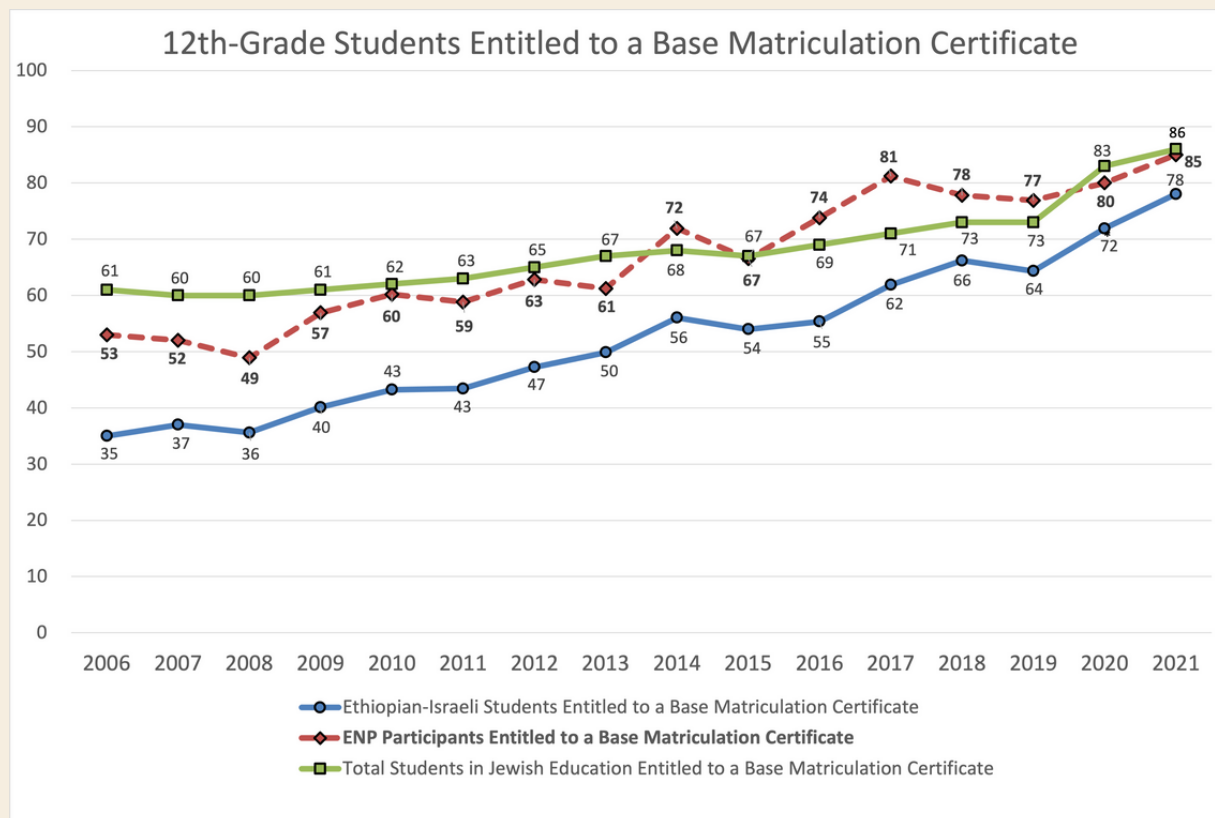
2021 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and ENP Participants



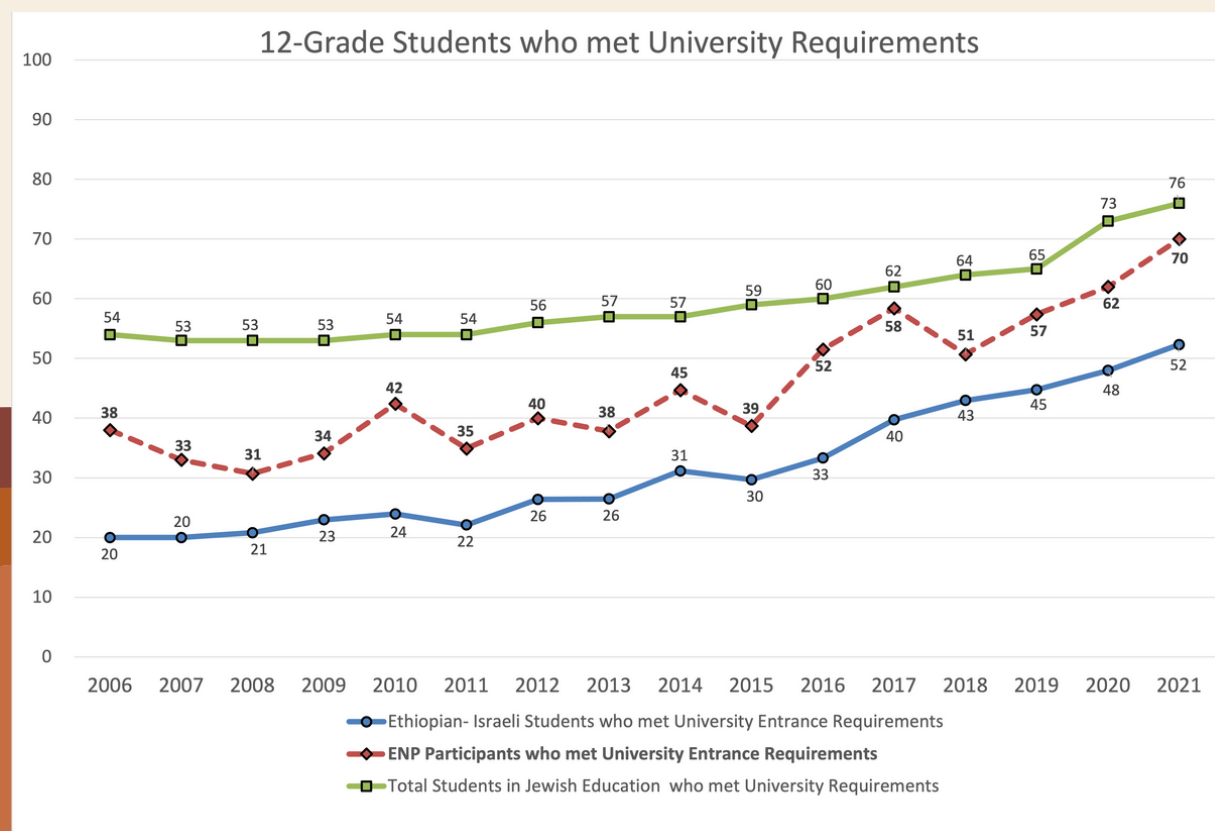
ENP Program participants achieved higher results than non-participants in the percentages eligible for matriculation certificate and university entrance requirements



2006-2021 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants Entitled to a Base Matriculation Certificate



2006-2021 Achievements of 12th-Grade Ethiopian-Israeli Students and Ethiopian National Project Participants who met University Entrance Requirements

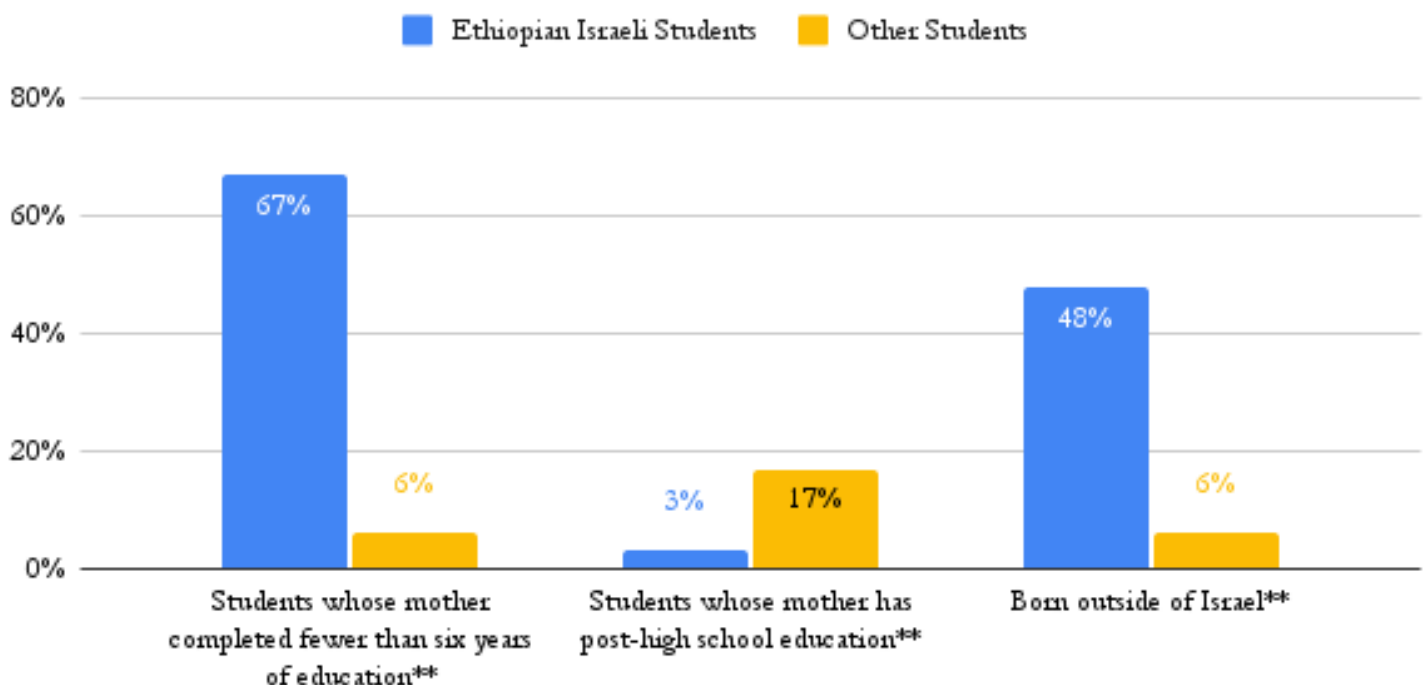


Socio-economic Background Evaluation

According to the most recent data (2019), Ethiopian-Israeli 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 program come from a weaker socio-economic background than other students in the program (N=655)



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

Organizational Partners



ENP Board Members

Dr. Itzick Sharir
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. The Government of Israel matches these generous gifts.

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

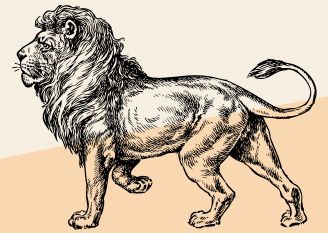
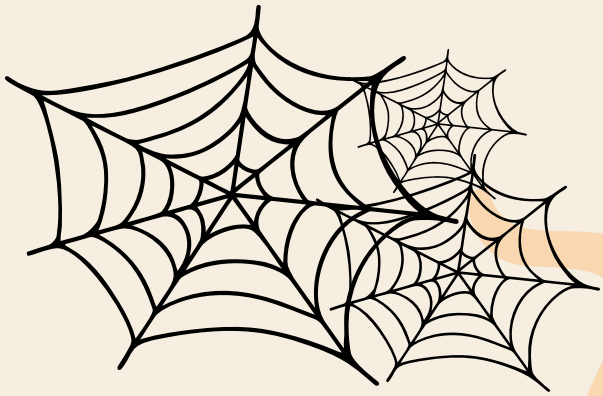
Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
Diane & Guilford Glazer Philanthropies
Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation
Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County
Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County
Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte
Max and Marjorie Fisher Foundation
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
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



**"When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion."
- Amharic Proverb**



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ENP

