

Ethiopian National Project
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הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה האתיופית בישראל

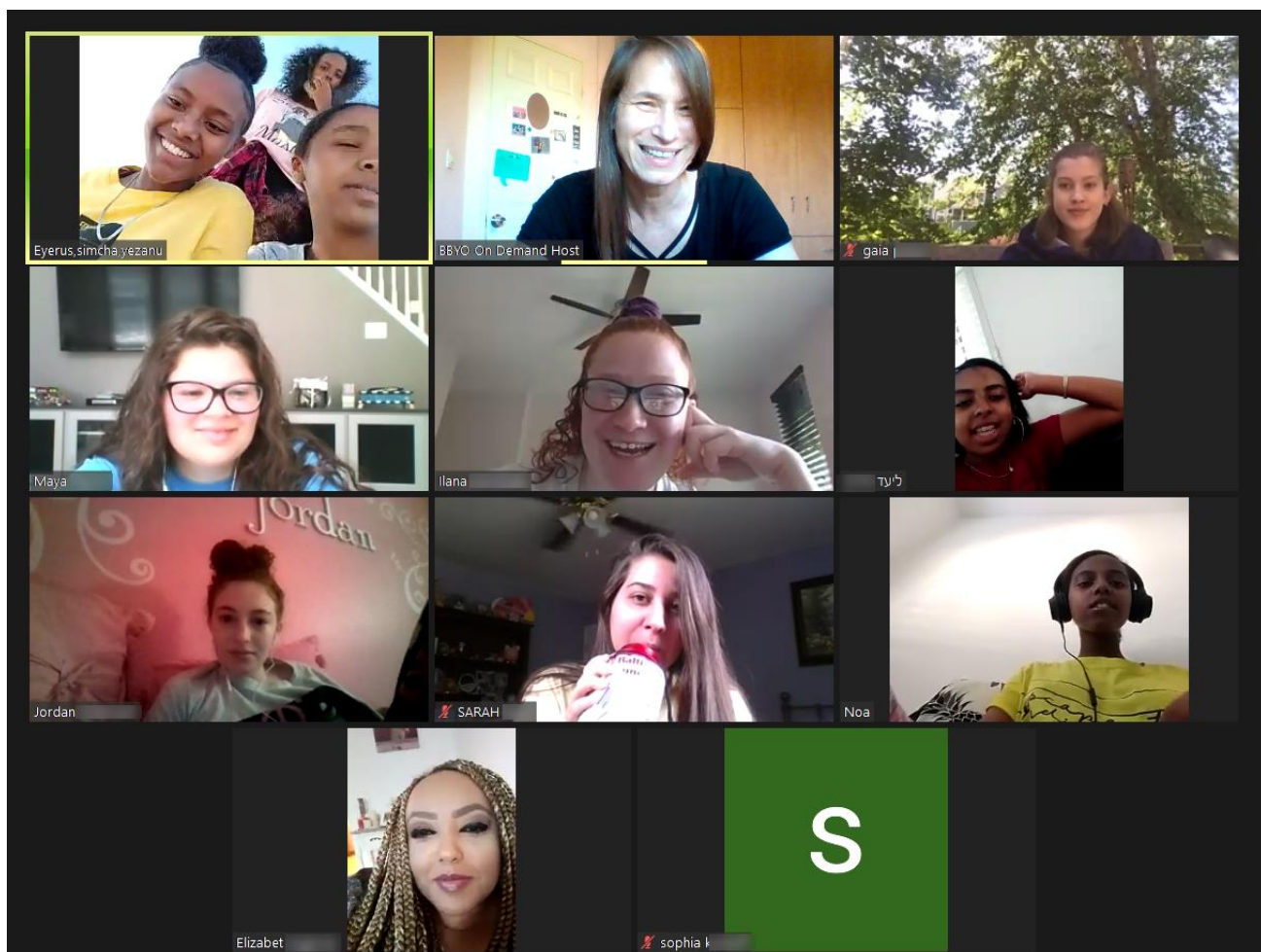


ENP ANNUAL REPORT

2019-20

ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL PROJECT

info@enp.org.il



A YEAR OF NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The 2019-20 school year started in full gear... but by February 2020 it was clear it was a year like no other. The COVID-19 pandemic presented challenges never before faced, but also presented opportunities that ENP embraced with open arms. This yearbook includes ENP's accomplishments and challenges during this exceptional school year.

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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 the Ethiopian-Israeli community itself. A partnership with the Government of Israel, Jewish Federations and the major Jewish global organizations, with supporters from Israel and around the globe, ENP is an iteration of bringing together those who care about the community with the community itself.

The activity year 2019-20 was filled with achievements and with challenges, with moving stories of success and powerful examples of impact. In the following pages you will experience just a small taste of what we are carrying out together.

This school year ENP's flagship program SPACE (School Performance and Community Empowerment) continued its outstanding track record in helping transform the lives of Ethiopian-Israeli youth and their parents, reaching 4,500 students in 26 cities nationwide. In recent years, due to SPACE's documented success, ENP has also included 20% non-Ethiopian-Israeli children in need of the program.

One of the greatest challenges of the 2019-20 school year has been dealing with the coronavirus and its implications. Naturally, COVID-19 has exacerbated the challenges faced by the Ethiopian-Israeli community as a whole, and SPACE participants in particular. In these trying times, ENP's work is more crucial than ever and has proven itself to be a unique source of support for the SPACE students.

In August 2020 ENP celebrated the appointment of the new North American Chair who commenced her sojourn and ushers in this Report. With gratitude to her predecessor, Robert Goldberg, and with the vision of ENP's new North American leadership, ENP is overjoyed to share its conclusions of this important year.

With deep gratitude to all those who take part in ENP's life-changing work.



Roni Akale
Director-General



Dr. Itzick Sharir
Israel Chair



Dana Post Adler
Dana Post Adler
North American Chair

ABOUT ENP

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. ENP's flagship program is SPACE, School Performance and Community Empowerment.

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. Today, ENP operates in 26 communities across Israel, serving 4,500 youth in its scholastic assistance programs and hundreds of parents and leaders.



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.

A Holistic Approach by and with Ethiopian-Israelis

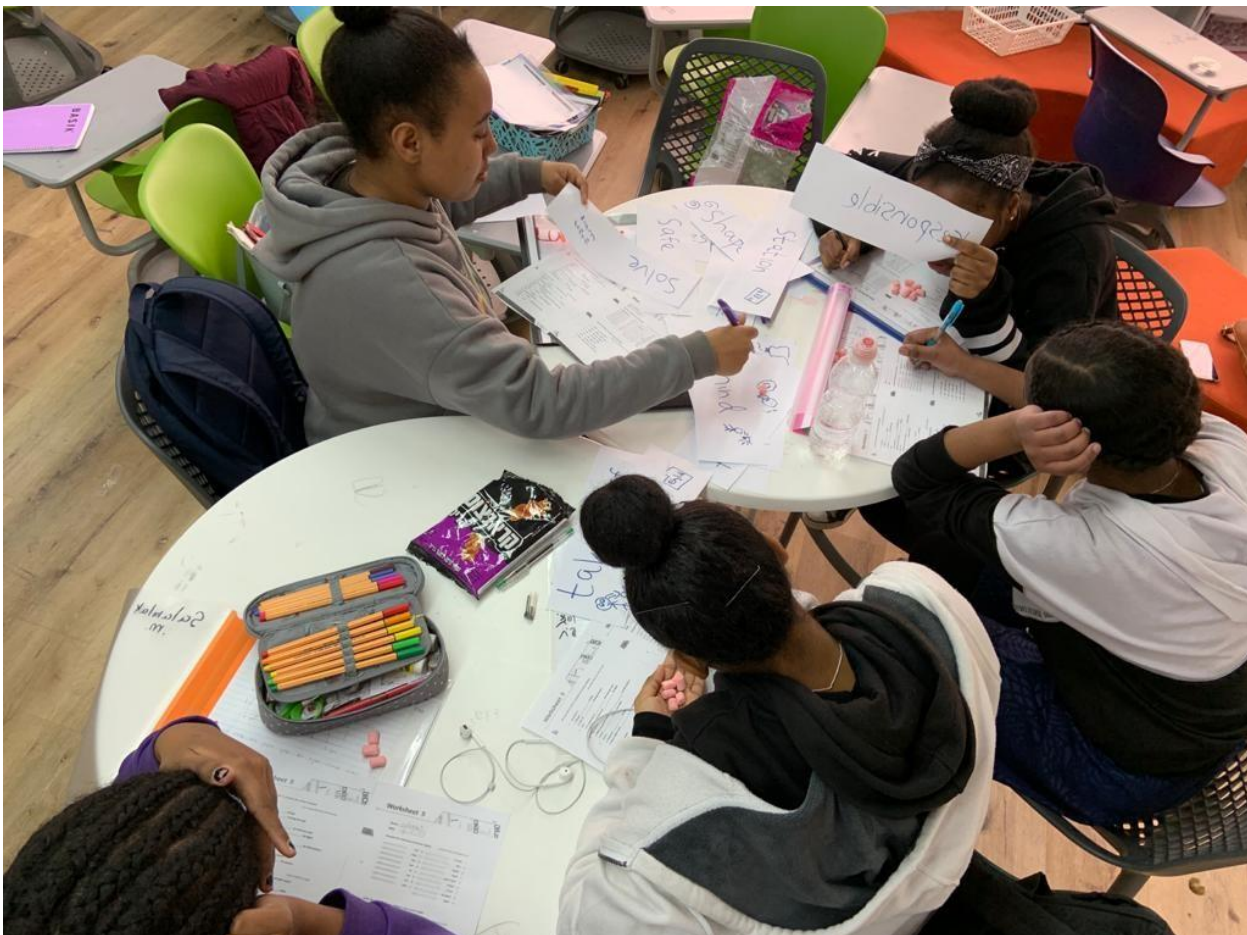


Through its grassroots approach that empowers Ethiopian-Israelis to identify and design the right interventions to ensure the community's integration, ENP is able to constantly keep its finger on the pulse regarding the most pressing needs of the Ethiopian-Israeli community.

ENP PROGRAMS

SPACE: School Performance and Community Empowerment

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 four 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 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 to higher education institutions, expose students to an array of activities and opportunities that promote future success. 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 2019-20, ENP carried out SPACE for 4,482 7th through 12th grade schoolchildren in 103 schools in 26 cities throughout Israel.

In 2019-2020, ENP operated its programs in 26 cities:

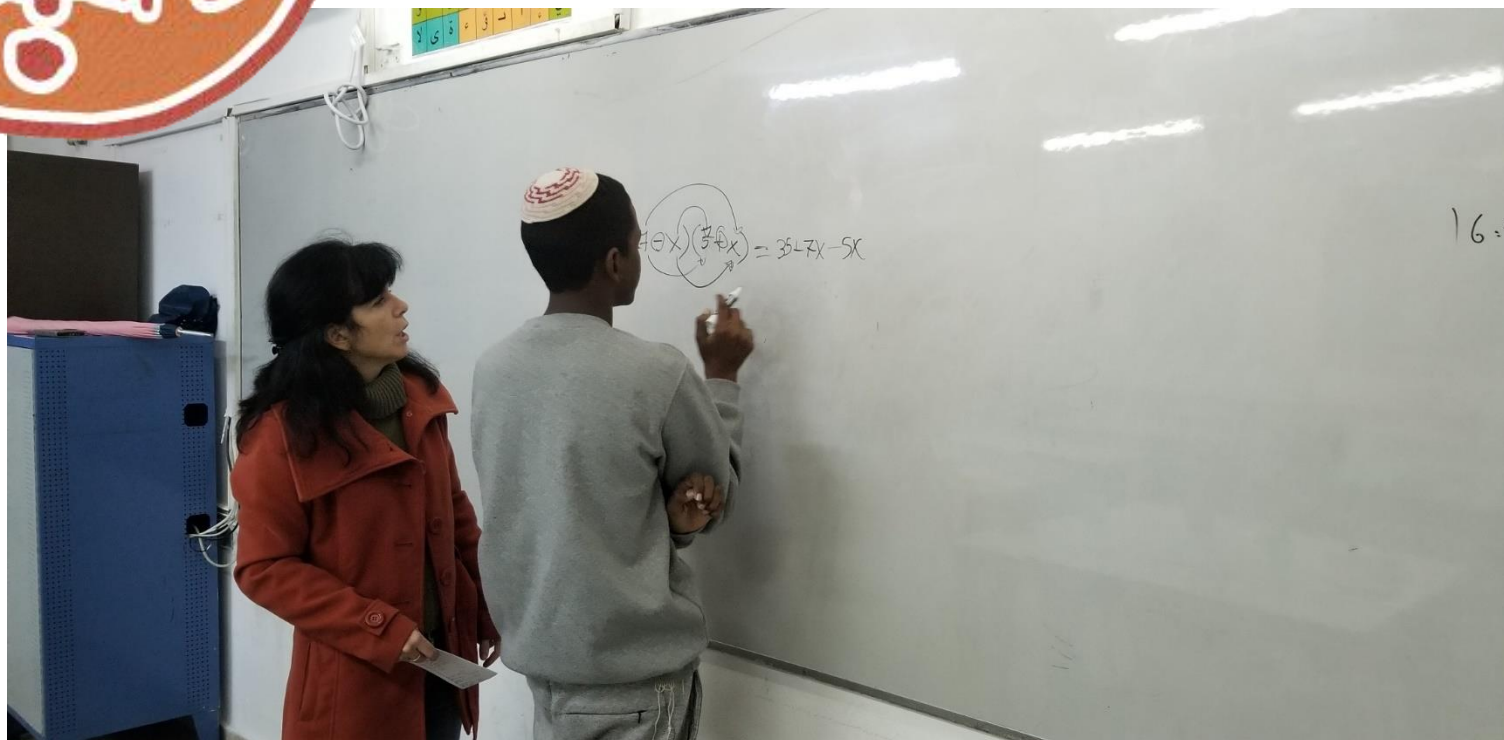
Afula	Carmiel	Netanya
Ashdod	Hadera	Pardes Chana
Ashkelon	Holon	Petach Tikvah
Bat Yam	Kiryat Ata	Ramle
Beer Sheva	Kiryat Bialik	Rehovot
Beer Yaakov	Kiryat Motzkin	Rishon Le'Tzion
Beit Shean	Kiryat Yam	Tel Aviv
Beit Shemesh	Ma'ale Adumim	Tirat Carmel
Bnei Brak	Migdal HaEmek	

Esther's Story

In the middle of the year, Fitlewurk, a SPACE coordinator visited a math study session in Netanya and noticed one of the girls had a long face. Worried, Fitlewurk asked her to step outside to speak with her about what was on her mind and why looked sad. Esther said she was fine and did not want to discuss it. Determined to not let the issue go, Fitlewurk kept an eye on her for the next few days, saying hi to her, and inviting her to speak whenever she wanted. A couple days later, Esther grabbed Fitlewurk before a study session to speak. She shared with her that she was distressed because she received a failing grade on a recent math test, something that never happened to her before. Fitlewurk asked her about how she felt after she learned about the grade and started to discuss together why that might have happened and what they can do.

Esther explained how this year in math was particularly challenging and so she was skipping class a lot and would sometimes not go to the study sessions because she thought either way she wouldn't understand so why bother. Fitlewurk understood that this lack of confidence was negatively affecting her participation and motivation to succeed and try hard, and so she built her up through several personal conversations, as well as involving both her math teacher at school and the SPACE math teacher. Fitlewurk and Esther set a goal to get at least an 80 on the final test at the end of the year.

Their plan was to make sure she attended all of her classes, did all of her homework even when it was hard, attended all the twice weekly study sessions and asked questions when she didn't understand. This support system built from the SPACE math teacher, Fitlewurk and in cooperation with the school math teacher boosted her motivation and drive to succeed. She didn't miss even one lesson after that. Everyone was thrilled to see that she surpassed her goal by the end of the year and received an 88 on the final exam.

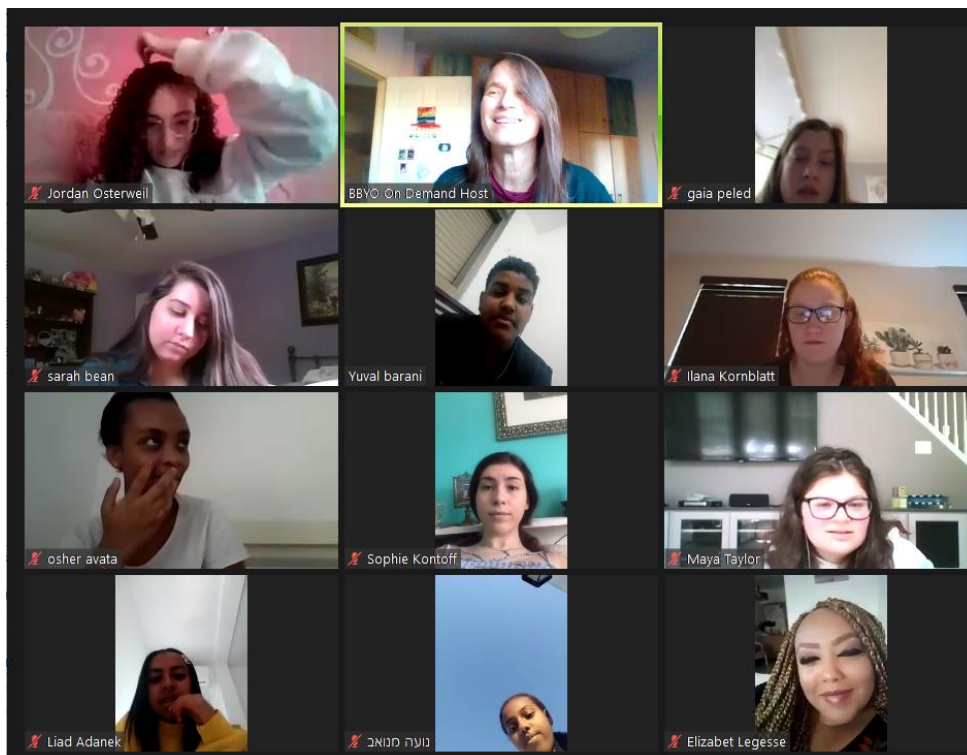


Bridges: Empowerment through Spoken English

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. English is used as a tool to empower and motivate the 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 will have the opportunity to forge connections with Diaspora peers.

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 Pairs that forge 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 and Home Hospitality Experiences for select Ethiopian-Israeli youth who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to and progress in the program



In 2019-20, ENP carried out Bridges with 222 9th and 10th grade schoolchildren in 17 cities with 28 groups throughout Israel. ENP partnered with BBYO to carry out Zoom calls, and tremendous bonds were forged.



ENP Ti'ud

Project Ti'ud: Imparting the Story of the Ethiopian Aliyah to Future Generations, changed countless lives in 2019-20. 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 seventeen cities around Israel meet and interview elders within the Ethiopian-Israeli community who had made the journey from Ethiopia to Israel, some of which are students' family members. The students sit with their community members and listen to the stories while documenting it all. Later, the students write out the stories and together, make a book enriched with the breathtaking stories that they have collected. In its second year, ENP continued Ti'ud in those cities where it was introduced in its pilot year and introduced it in additional cities.

Project Ti'ud is generously supported by Rosalee and Richrd Davison and the Ben and Zelda Cohen Foundation.

In 2019-20, ENP carried out Project Ti'ud in 18 cities nationwide, reaching over 275 students.



תיעוד יהדות אתיופיה ודרכה לארץ ישראל

מקבץ ראיונות וסיפורים
שנאספו ונכתבו על ידי תלמידי
תוכנית תיאוד'ד



במסגרת תכנית הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה האתיופית בישראל

תיעוד יהדות אתיופיה ודרכה לארץ ישראל



פרויקט תיאוד'ד - תיעוד יהדות אתיופיה ודרכה לארץ ישראל - החל לפעול לראשונה השנה, שנה'ל תשע"ט, בערים אשדוד, אשקלון, באר שבע, חדרה, נתניה, עפולה, פרדס חנה, פתח תקווה וראשון לציון, כחלק מפעילות תכנית ספיים של הפרויקט הלאומי לקהילה יוצאי אתיופיה ואחרים בישראל (ENP).

הפרויקט נועד להביא את סיפורה המיוחד והמרגש של עליית יהודי אתיופיה לתודעת החברה הישראלית ולשמור בקרב קהילת יוצאי אתיופיה, תוך העברת מסריו וערכיו לדור הצעיר, שטאמר: "מה שבעל פה יישכח, מה שכתוב יישאר לתמיד" (יעבור מדור לדור).

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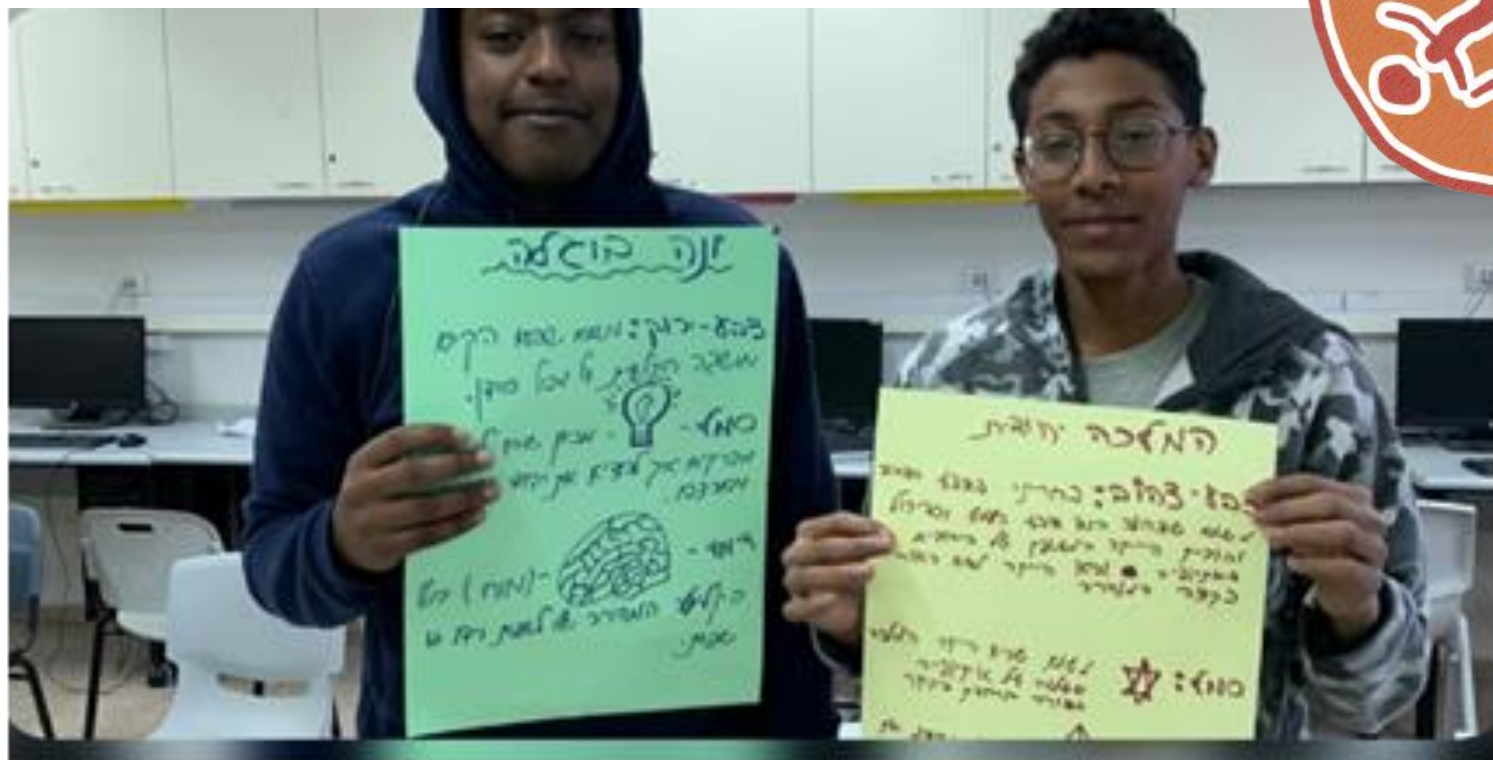
אנו תקווה שהסיפורים שנאספו יעשירו ויעמיקו את תחושת היהדות של כל מי שקורא בהם, והן יחזקו את הקשרים ויבנו הבנה משותפת בין ישראל לבין יהדות התפוצות ואחרים, כשסיפורם המופלא של יהודי אתיופיה משמש לכולנו מקור של השראה.



Ethiopian National Project
התוכנית הלאומית ליהדות אתיופיה



באדיבות רחלי וריצ'ארד דוויסון וקרן בן חלדה כהן



Learning About Ethiopian Jewish Heroes

ENP Medical and 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 degree 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 allows medical and dental students to focus on their studies and be less distracted by fiscal concerns that, in the past, was 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, the Harry Yanoff and Jeanette Master Charitable Trust of Cumberland Community Foundation and CJA Montreal.

In 2019-20, 18 Ethiopian-Israeli medical and dental students received this scholarship. These students learn in 5 different exceptional institutions throughout the country.



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 Jewish Federations throughout North America, churches, synagogues and more. Each group and visit is uniquely sculpted to meet the needs and goals of each group. From February 2019, the first effects of the Coronavirus were beginning to be felt, and by March 2019 many missions were already put on hold or cancelled. Very quickly, ENP transitioned to “virtual missions” to share snapshots of the reality on the ground or, health conditions permitting, held socially-distanced experiences. ENP treasures the opportunity to share with mission participants the amazing story of Ethiopian Jewry and the successes of ENP's programs nationwide. Following is a glimpse into some of the delegations ENP hosted in 2019-20:

There is no better way to understand ENP than to experience ENP.



Fun and games with Milwaukee Federation and ENP SPACE in Afula!



ENP Hosts Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh Representatives at ENP SPACE Karmiel

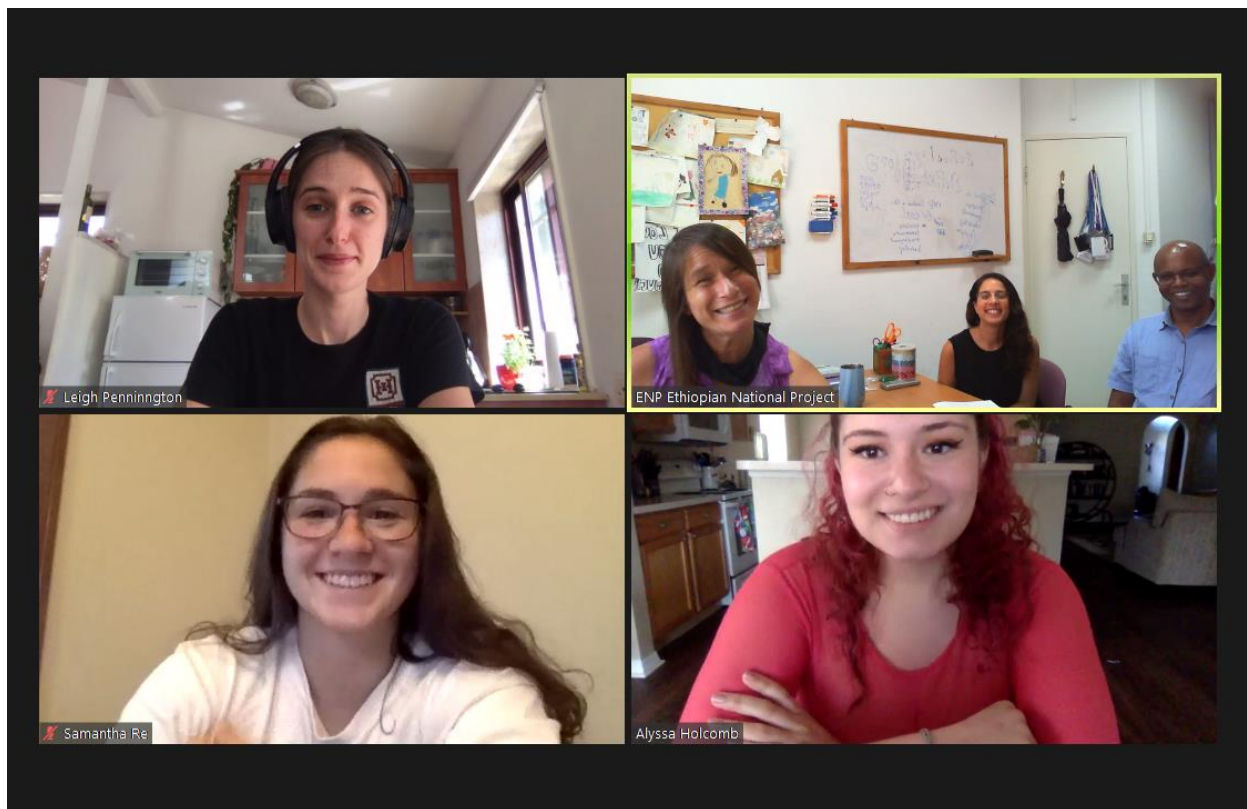


VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

ENP interns and volunteers continued to make a difference all year long through ENP. ENP treasures its year-round interns through partnerships with the highest quality programs that bring gap year or international students to ENP for a long-term program that enables them to delve into all things ENP. In the summer months, ENP opens its arms to shorter-term summer interns. In summer 2020, Coronavirus prevented in-person internships but opened the doors to exciting collaborations and talented volunteers from throughout North America.

In 2019-20, ENP had 7 dedicated interns hailing from the U.K., Florida, New Jersey, Illinois and Virginia who joined our team!





ENP virtual interns enjoyed lectures from myriad lecturers, such as Qes Efraim Zion.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

ENP is an extraordinary tool to share the story of an immigrant, minority community of color that is reaching success through innovative and targeted action, with the help of individual donors, Foundations and Federations. To share this story, throughout the year, ENP visits communities and Jewish Federations throughout North America where it serves as a resource to relay the tremendous achievements and incredible potential of an extraordinary community through innovative and targeted action.

Prior to the pandemic and its subsequent lockdowns from March 2020, ENP was a guest at a plethora of communities and shared its compelling stories first hand to myriad audiences. From Federation staffs and leadership to synagogues and even an international teen convention, ENP relayed the beauty and importance of its work to hundreds.

During the height of the pandemic, ENP continued to share the story remotely through numerous avenues to bridge distances and forge connections.

ENP is delighted to meet and spread our mission with many foundations, federations and communities.



ENP in Minneapolis!

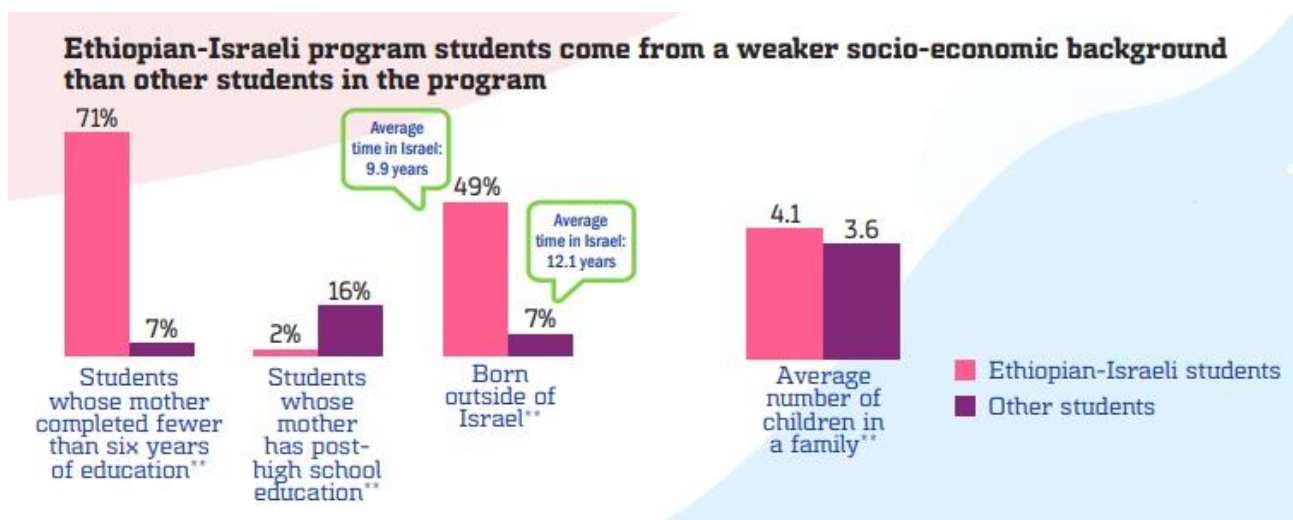


Forging connections ENP at Har Zion Synagogue!

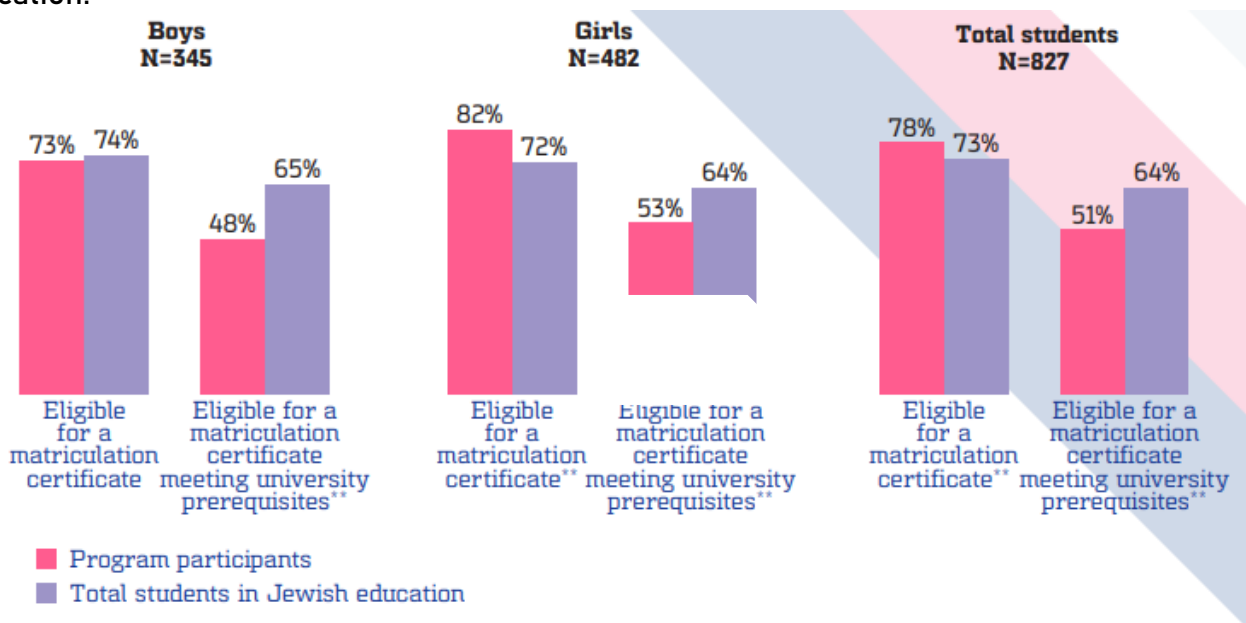
EVALUATION

ENP prides itself on its adherence to the critical importance of external evaluations as a learning and growth tool. Following are excerpts from the findings of the June 2020 evaluation conducted by the Myers-JDC-Brookdale Institute, revealing exceptional outcomes:

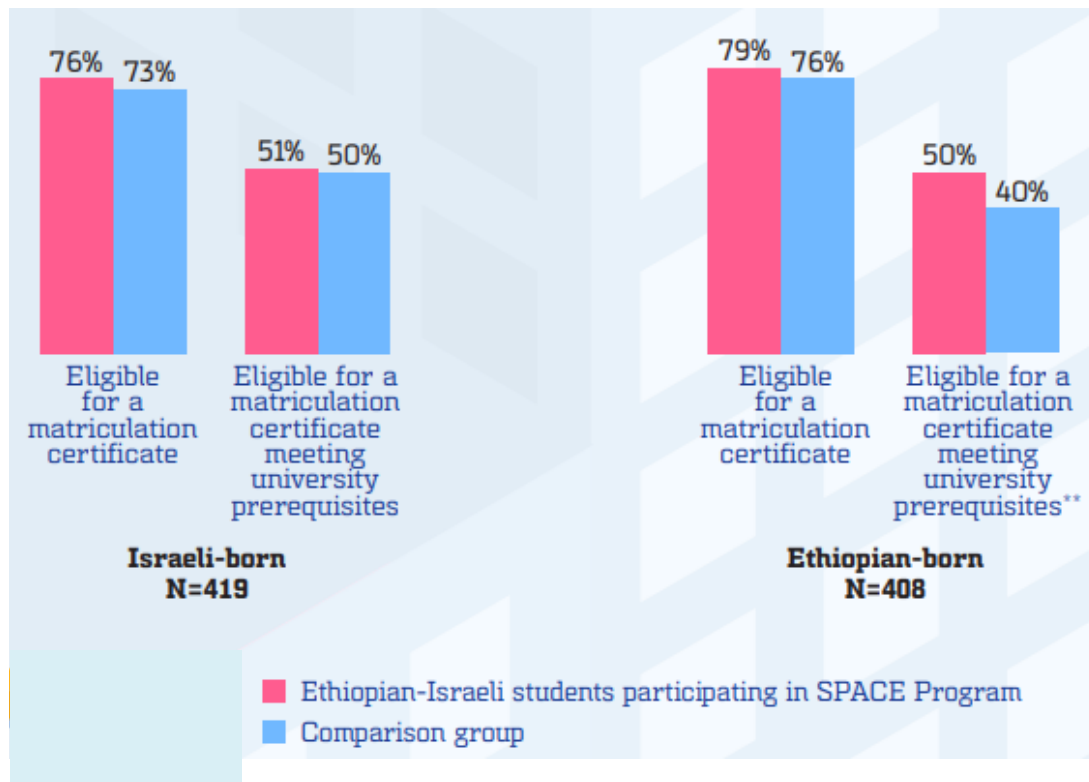
Ethiopian-Israeli program students come from a weaker socio-economic background than other students. 71% of Ethiopian-Israeli program students' mothers have completed fewer than six years of education and only 2% of Ethiopian-Israeli program students' mothers have a post-high school education.



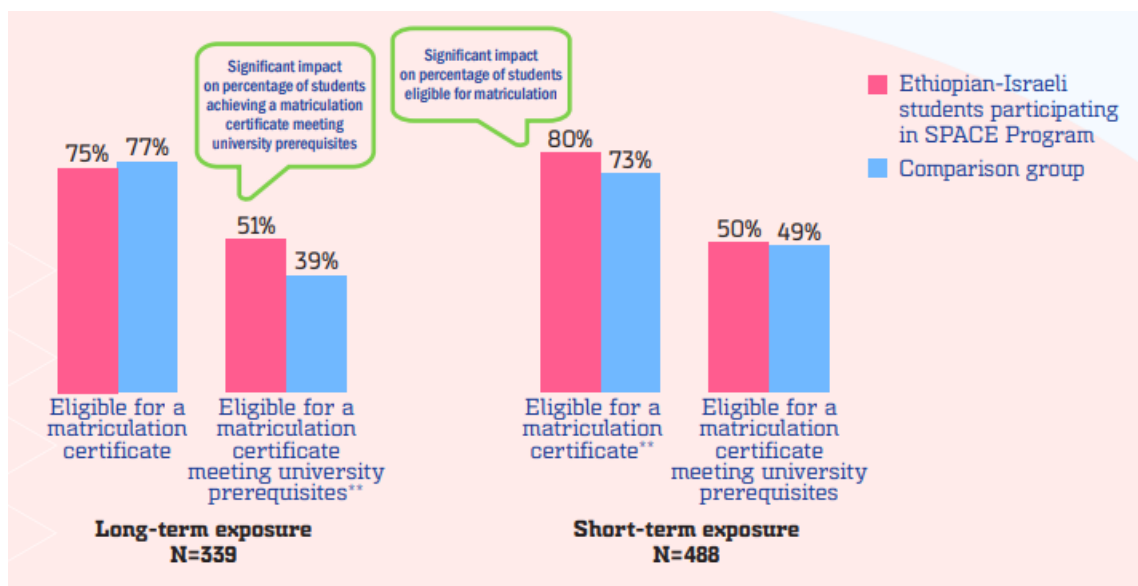
Program participants achieved a higher percentage of matriculation eligibility than the total students in Jewish education, owing to high achievements of the girls. The percentage eligible for matriculation meeting university perquisites was higher among the total students in Jewish education.



An examination of the program's impact on various population groups found that in the achievement of matriculation certifications meeting university prerequisites, the program had an unmistakable impact on students at schools where the program has been running for at least three consecutive years. Thus, it can be concluded that long-term exposure to the program is advantageous. This conclusion strengthens the approach that it is important to maintain a continuum of services in the school over time to enable the Ethiopian-Israeli students to participate in the program throughout their high-school studies.



The Participants' long-term exposure to the program raised their chance of achieving a matriculation certificate meeting university prerequisites, whereas short-term exposure impacted only on the achievement of matriculation eligibility.



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



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THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

מדינת ישראל
משרד החינוך
STATE OF ISRAEL
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



ENP is shared initiative between those who care for the community together with the Ethiopian-Israeli community itself.

ENP Board Members 2020

Dr. Itzick Sharir
Dana Post Adler
Rina Edelstein
David Breakstone
Avi Fleishon
Benny Zaken
Hana Heckster
David Yasu
Takale Mekonen
Avi Mesfin

ENP Chair, Israel
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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

"Many spider webs together can capture even a lion" - Amharic proverb

ENP expresses its deep gratitude to these and the multitude additional supporters of our critical work. We look 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 us make a difference.

\$300,000+

Jewish Federation of Cleveland

\$100,000+

Abraham z"l and Zulema Sudilovsky

Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County

Max M and Marjorie S Fisher Foundation

Rosalee and Richard Davison and the Ben and Zelda Cohen Foundation

\$50,000+

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Israel

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Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte

Jewish Federation of Greater Houston

Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

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\$25,000+

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Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley
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The Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island
The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore
Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
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*Additional Foundations and Individual Donors

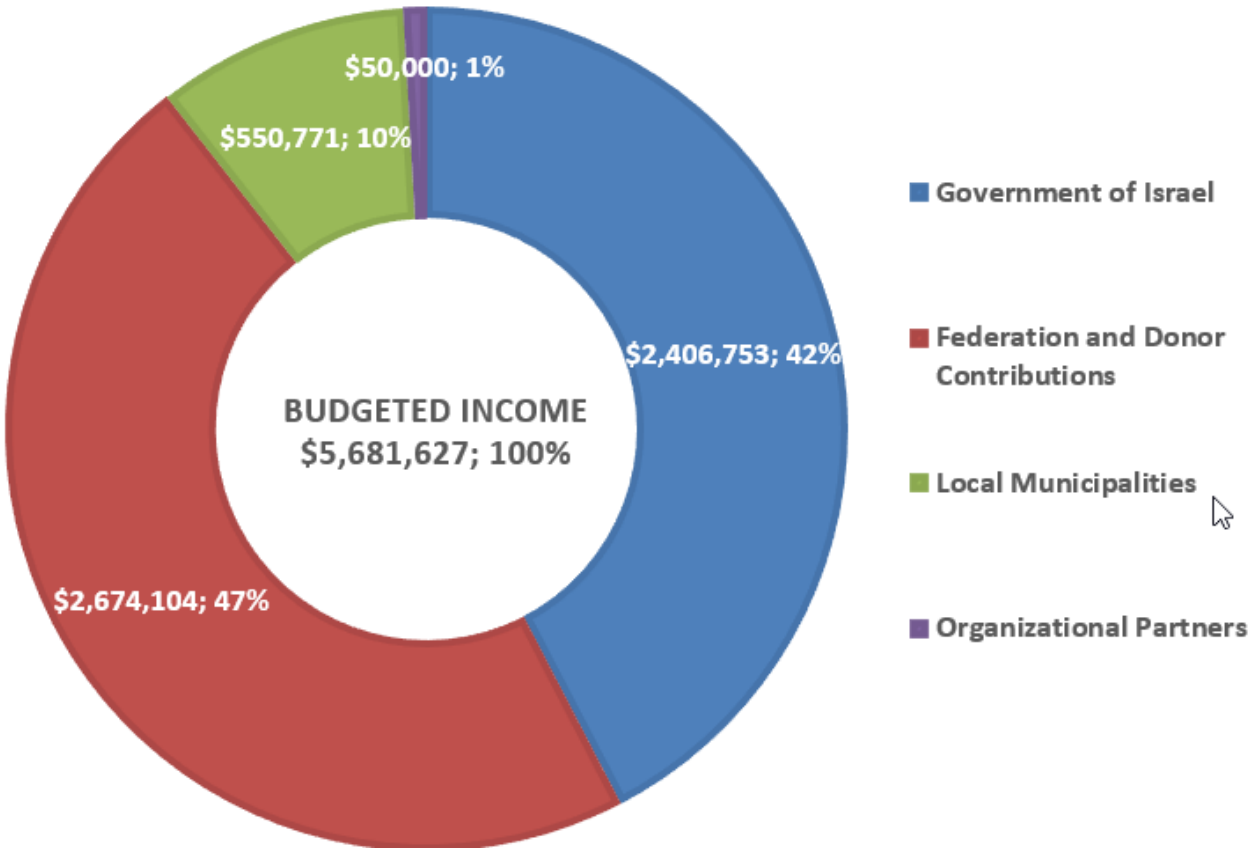
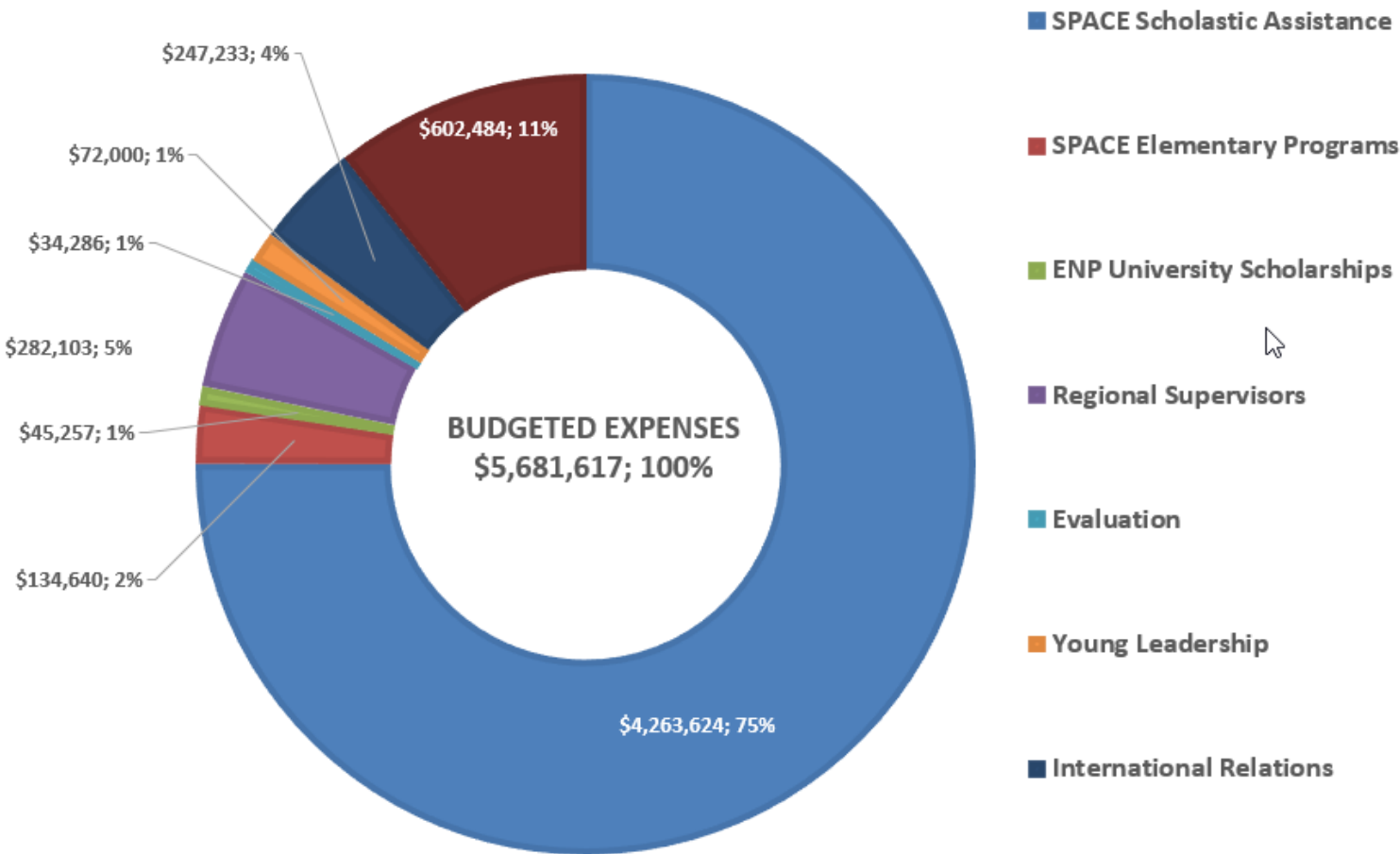
\$10,000+

Ben & Jerry's Israel
David and Inez Myers Foundation
Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County
Ithaca Area United Jewish Community
Jewish Federation of Delaware
Jewish Federation of Florida's Gulf Coast
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta
Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis
Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
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Samuel J. and Mary E. Colef Fund
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*Additional Foundations and Individual Donors

\$1,000+

Augusta Jewish Federation
Greater Lansing Jewish Welfare Federation
Jewish Federation of Greater Naples
Jewish Federation of Jacksonville
Jewish Federation of Kansas City
JEWISHColorado
Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation Sarasota-Manatee Women's Giving Circle
Stanley and Flo Mae Moravitz Family Foundation
Tallahassee Teen Philanthropy Initiative
The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey
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Yvel Design Center
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BUDGET





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