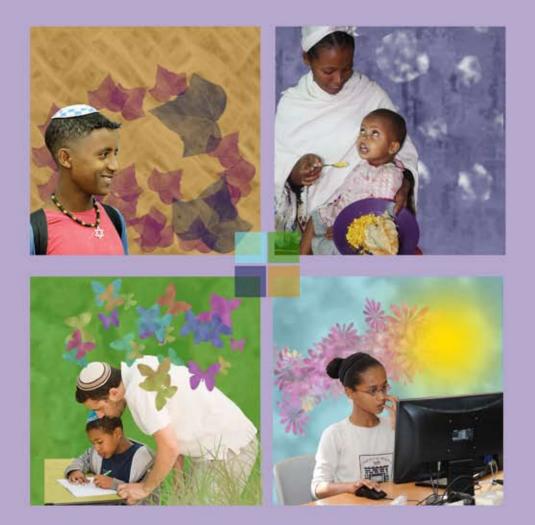
SEASONS OF CHANGE in Ethiopia and Israel



Annual Report 2010

NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ETHIOPIAN JEWRY

Table of Contents

3 The Year in Review:

Message from Evely Laser Shlensky, NACOEJ President

Message from Barbara Ribakove Gordon, NACOEJ Founder and Executive Director

- 4 ETHIOPIA: Food, Education and Advocacy
- 6 ISRAEL: Limudiah: Intensive After-School Education Program
- 8 ISRAEL: NACOEJ/Edward G. Victor High School Sponsorship Program
- 9 ISRAEL: NACOEJ/Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-Student Sponsorship Program
- 10 Statement of Financial Position
- 11 Statement of Activities
- 12 Thank You to Our Supporters
- 14 Board of Directors and Staff

The Year in Review

Message from Evely Laser Shlensky, NACOEJ President



For those of us concerned with the quality of Jewish life in the next generation--and generations after thatrecent studies

that document increasing detachment from Israel and the Jewish people among young American Jews give cause for soul searching. That searching can galvanize creative responses to staunch the distancing of young Jews from Zionist commitment.

I'm thinking about the growing detachment of this generation in light of my personal history. I grew up in an intensely Zionist home. Much of my father's philanthropic work focused on raising money to help "ransom" Jewish refugees coming out of Eastern Europe and North Africa in the 1950's. He and my mother often accompanied those refugees as they headed for Israel. I guess one could say that accompanying endangered Jewish communities is my ethical inheritance.

History moves on and the endangered Jewish communities in need of accompaniment have changed. Since first I learned of the situation of the Ethiopian Jews decades ago, largely through the efforts of Barbara Ribakove Gordon, I've wanted to "accompany" them in whatever ways I was able: through advocacy, education, visits and monetary contributions. Involvement with the plight of Ethiopian Jews has become for me a means to contribute to my people and to Israel.

My experience may have application to others looking to play a part in Jewish history. As critical as NACOEJ programs are to the welfare of Ethiopian Jews in Israel and in Ethiopia, those

programs are also uniquely valuable to the larger Jewish community. The work of NACOEJ is a tangible expression of our deepest Jewish values. Our projects offer a vehicle for diaspora Jews, including young Jews, to express commitment to Jewish peoplehood and to social justice.

I suggest that that the linkage of Jewish values with the needs of the Ethiopian Jewish community can offer to younger Jews a potent means to invigorate their relationship to the Jewish people and the state of Israel. Please consider directing the young people in your life to our website for projects in which they can engage to aid this treasured community. In so doing, my experience, and that of my parents before me, suggests that they may well encounter an avenue to attach themselves to Israel and to the people Israel.

Due ly Laser Stillensky

Message from Barbara Ribakove Gordon, NACOEJ Founder and Executive Director



The past 12 months have seen extraordinary changes, in NACOEJ's efforts on behalf of Ethiopian Jews in Ethiopia and Israel, and in our own orga-

nization everywhere we work.

In Ethiopia we've met major goals, helping the JDC reopen their closed free clinic for the Jews, turning our new little Jewish Day School (grades one through six) into an expanded facility that just received a prestigious award as the second-best private school in the Gondar City area, and (thanks to a generous grant from the UJA-Jewish Federation of New York) reopening our Feeding Center to provide two excellent meals a day to children age three and under, and to pregnant and nursing mothers. Now we're working on a new challenge: to

fund at least one meal a day for children age four through six, till they enter our school at age seven (Ethiopian practice) and get school lunches.

In Israel, though the economic crunch has forced us to reduce the number of high school and college sponsorships we provide for Ethiopian students, and even to close some of our crucial after-school education classes for younger pupils, we've been able to open one new afterschool program in Jerusalem (special funding was available), and beginning to find some funds for reopening some classes and starting new ones elsewhere. We will continue to seek new sponsors for our really remarkable high school and college students.

In the U.S. we've moved our New York headquarters into cost-cutting space. created new, active Board Committees, and started considering our long-term goals.

NACOEJ is accustomed to change;

our 28-year history is replete with new challenges, obstacles, unexpected events, and economic disasters and miracles.

What remains constant? Our devotion to the community we serve, our ability to overcome difficulties and make the most of opportunities; our incredibly loyal supporters- and our endless search for the funds we need to achieve our goals for the world's poorest, most isolated and neglected Jews. By the time you read this, a new change toward which we have been working constantly may have occurred: an Israeli government decision to speed up and complete the Aliyah of the Jews remaining in Gondar may have been made. If it happens, we will enthusiastically move into a new, exclusively Israel-based dimension; if it doesn't, we'll keep trying. We'll never give up. That's unchangeable.

Barbara

ETHIOPIA: Food, Education and Advocacy



In the Feeding Center

School Lunches

This year, NACOEJ continued to feed essential, nutritious school lunches to up to 1,000 destitute Jewish children attending the NACOEJ Beta Israel Community Primary School in Gondar, Ethiopia. Our well-balanced meals are critical for the children, whose present and future health, and mental and physical development, are dependent upon adequate nutrition they cannot get at home. The lunches also enable them to be alert and prepared to learn each day in school, rather than becoming lethargic and even fainting from hunger in class.

A short time ago, we expanded the program to include modified Sunday lunches for several hundred Jewish children who do not attend our school daily (they go to public schools offering grades we do not cover) but come to our school on Sundays for Jewish studies and Hebrew language classes. A number of our regular students have begun to join these classes as well, improving their Hebrew and their knowledge of the traditional Jewish world they will find in Israel.

Feeding Center Reopens!

For many years in both Addis Ababa and Gondar, NACOEJ funded Feeding Centers, supplying nutritious, twicea-day meals to the most vulnerable populations in the destitute Beta Israel communities: children under the age of six, and pregnant and nursing women. The Addis community has long since reached Israel, but in Gondar the Feeding Center continued to do its life-saving, life-changing work until we ran out of funds in 2008. Tragically, the Gondar Feeding Center closed in June 2008, causing great physical, mental and emotional anguish both in the population it fed, and in all of us who care about hungry Jewish women and children.

In 2010, thanks to a generous grant from UJA-Federation of NY, we were finally able to reopen for a portion of that population: the pregnant and nursing women, and the most at-risk children, age three and younger. Once again, after this painful hiatus, at least some of the stunting and wasting of both body and mind, the weakened immune systems, the prolonged and frequent childhood illnesses, the unnecessary deaths, and the life-long debilitating effects of chronic malnourishment, have been mitigated.

As this is written, however, we still have a major problem. Children from age four through six, though slightly less vulnerable than their younger siblings, were not being fed-again, for lack of funds. As painful as this is on a material level, the psychological pain- and bewilderment— felt by these children, who have to accompany their mothers and younger siblings to the Feeding Center, and wait outside, hungry, while meals are being consumed inside, is worse. Unbearable. We are now urgently seeking funds to provide those left-out children with at least one meal a day. (We can not eliminate one of the daily meals meant for the younger children, to cover the cost, because, according to our consulting doctors, the younger children must be fed twice to absorb adequate nutrition.) Perhaps by the time this report reaches you, those other children-future citizens of Israel— will also be receiving the food they need.

Current Population Being Fed in the Feeding Center:

- 445 children age three and younger
- 18 pregnant women
- 41 nursing women

• 450 children age four to six need to be fed. (Children in Ethiopia do not start first grade till age seven. Our pupils then receive school lunches in the Beta Israel Community Primary School in Gondar.)

Passover

Once again, we held the world's largest Passover Seder. Approximately 6,000 people jammed into our synagogue space for candle lighting, matzoh eating, raisin wine drinking, singing, dancing and above all, experiencing the Hagaddah, whose tale of leaving Egypt and reaching the Promised Land stirs longing and hope in the Beta Israel community in Ethiopia.

The Seder was led by Rabbi Menachem Waldman of the Israeli Chief Rabbis' Committee on the Spiritual Absorption of Ethiopian Jews and a contingent of ordained Ethiopian-Israeli rabbis and teachers. The entire community including uncountable numbers of excited children— went home at the end with hand-baked matzoh for the whole week of Passover.

Now, if the final shouts of "Next year in Jerusalem!" prove prophetic, the Seder of 2011 will be one of the most memorable ever.



Making matzoh

The NACOEJ Beta Israel Community Primary School in Gondar

Our school in Gondar has a long name and a short history—but it is doing so well that it was recently named the second best private school in the Gondar City area! Considering that it is only two years old, that most of the children never went to school before entering, that we teach a heavy-duty double curriculum of full academics and full Jewish studies/Hebrew language and that there are 87 "private schools" in Gondar- it is considered amazing. At a ceremony attended by some 3,000 educators, officials and others, our program director, Getu Zemene (below), received an ovation, a handsome certificate and a much appreciated gift- a radio cassette recorder for the school.



We are greatly pleased, but not greatly surprised. During the past year, Israeli visitors have been impressed by the children's current acquisition of Hebrew, and a Jewish Agency official was heard to say that, thanks to their education, these youngsters would be much easier to absorb in Israel than their predecessors.

The school has grown, adding a fifth grade and now a sixth, plus the additional facilities (including a library and a small computer lab) mandated by the Board of Education for grades above four. We were recently able to move children in fifth and sixth grades into a full eight-hour school day, while grades one through four remain on the age-appropriate two-shift schedule. A large piece of land adjoining the school was granted by the government for a playing field, and we hope we can have a soccer team that can compete in its local Little League, if we can afford a coach, uniforms, and equipment.

Most important, the school is now in use every day of the week. On Saturdays, when our Jewish pupils are at Shabbat services and programs in the synagogue, the school is open to non-Jewish neighboring children, who attend classes and tutoring taught by our secular academic teachers. On Sundays, Jewish children who attend seventh and eighth grades in local public schools, arrive for Hebrew lessons and Jewish studies. A small lunch is provided for them, and for the regular NACOEJ school students who come in increasing numbers to improve their ready-for-Israel skills.

Aliyah Update

Pursuant to a government resolution passed in September 2008, a portion of the Jews remaining in Gondar were entitled to make Aliyah. This decision was not implemented. As a result of intense efforts, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs Eli Yishai agreed to inspect and bring those eligible. However only a portion of those who should have been inspected were inspected and as a result only around 1,100 people made Aliyah (through April) of an estimated 1,800 who should have been found eligible. An additional 200 made Aliyah under the Law of Return and other provisions of Israeli law.

As a result of further advocacy, Eli Yishai ordered the Ministers back to inspect the remaining 700 who are eligible under the 2008 decision. However, after they were inspected, the Interior Ministry refused to complete the process that would allow for their approval despite having been provided with the pertinent documentation over two years ago. Strenuous efforts are currently being made to have these people approved and brought to Israel. In addition, it is anticipated that another 120 people will make Aliyah before the end of the year pursuant to the Law of Return and other provisions of Israeli Law.

Intensive negotiations with the Prime Minister's office have been going on all year to obtain a government resolution that would provide for the inspection of the remaining 7,700 Beta Israel remaining in Gondar and bringing those possessing the requisite maternal lineage. NACOEJ representatives have made numerous trips to Israel in connection with these discussions which have taken place between representatives of the Prime Minister's office, NACOEJ, the Jewish Agency for Israel, the Chief Rabbinate, the Public Committee for Ethiopian Jewry (headed by Justice Shamgar), members of Knesset and community representatives. It is anticipated that the results of these negotiations should be known in the relatively near future.



A member of the Beta Israel community waits to make Aliyah with her children.



often could not afford to buy.While the statistics are improving, over half of Ethiopian-Israeli families still live below the poverty line (which itself is very low). Children from impoverished families, particularly those who have recently emigrated from Ethiopia,

In the past ten years, the percentage of Ethiopian-Israelis eligible for Bagrut (Israeli high school matriculation) rose from 30% to 40%, representing a gradual narrowing of educational gaps between them and their non-Ethiopian peers (of whom 58% are eligible for matriculation).

We believe this is due, in no small part, to the NACOEJ Limudiah: Intensive After-School Education Program, which provides ten weekly hours of academic help to Ethiopian-Israeli elementary school children (with one accredited teacher for every eight students). In the 2009-10 school year, the program's 17th year of operation, 773 children in grades one through seven, in eight cities and towns across Israel, received specialized assistance in reading, language, math and enrichment curriculum. They also received much-needed homework help, which their parents are often unable to provide.

continue to struggle with Hebrew language, reading, vocabulary and math. They are often left frustrated, dejected and socially isolated in their classrooms.

Without early intervention like that of the NACOEJ Limudiah, many risk being left behind forever and relegated to a life of poverty.

Achievements

More than 85% of our Limudiah students attained average to high achievements in the 2009-10 school year, well above the national average for Ethiopian-Israeli students, which is only about 35%. For example, in the town of Nes Tziona in central Israel, over a third of the students in the Re'ut School are Ethiopian-Israeli. Ninety-five percent of Ethiopian students there who participate in the Limudiah had average to high achievements, including many recent immigrants who

> began the year with Hebrew language challenges and are still acclimating to a new culture.

In Jerusalem, in the fall of 2009, NACOEJ opened its newest Limudiah in

the Brandt School,000 where 60% of the 200 students are Ethiopian-Israeli. A remarkable 94% of our students had average to high achievements by the end of the year. Most are from disadvantaged families who have been in the country for 12 years or less. In Rishon LeZion, the new municipal elementary school division director visited our Limudiah, accompanied by the department's new head of evaluation. So impressed were they with the program's clear goals and professionalism, that they asked NACOEJ to raise funds for an additional Limudiah at another city school. The municipality is also partnering by providing the program's critically important lunches.

We also opened an additional Limudiah in the Ramat Alon School in Rehovot, at the request of the municipality. It replaced the Limudiah in the Smilansky School that recently closed because of the great reduction of Ethiopian-Israeli students there. (The Ethiopian children who had been attending Smilansky now attend a new local school in their own neighborhood.)

Challenges

The global economic crisis continued to pose challenges to NACOEJ's Limudiah program in 2009-10. As in the 2008-09 school year, we served about 300 fewer students than in the period prior to the recession. Despite this, we were able to secure funding to open the new Jerusalem Limudiah, at the city's request, underscoring the continued recognition of the program for its long-term effectiveness and impact on Ethiopian-Israeli students.



A student about to enter the Brandt School in Jerusalem, where NACOEJ has opened its newest Limudiah.

"The Limudiah is a quality program providing reinforcement of class study, homework and students' social experience."

Principal, Efrati School, Bnei Ayish (near Gedera)

A full stomach is a prerequisite to keeping any child focused on schoolwork. Therefore, hot lunches (often the only substantial meal Limudiah participants eat during the day) were provided. The children also received basic school supplies which their parents Israel: Limudiah: Intensive After-School Education Program

2009-10 Limudiah Program Summary

City	# of Schools	Grades Served	# of Students	# of Staff
Ramla	3	1-3	77	13
Lod	3	1-7	146	21
Rehovot	3	1-6	180	25
Rishon LeZion	1	1-6	142	20
Kiryat Ekron	1	1-4	39	8
Nes Tziona	1	1-6	43	7
Jerusalem	1	1-3	34	4
Gedera	3	1-6	112	15
TOTAL:	16		773	113

Summer Programs

The 2010-11 Limudiah was preceded by NACOEJ's Peachy Levy Back-to-School Summer Education Program in Lod and Gedera. Over the long summer holiday, when many students (not just Ethiopians!) are prone to academic regression, 150 Ethiopian students maintained and developed critical study skills through the Back-to-School program. They participated in two intensive weeks of learning in August and as a result, returned to school in the fall confident and ready to move ahead. Their teachers were delighted with the children's progress.

2009-10 Highlights

In a special project called Young Authors, Limudiah teachers encouraged students to read, write and increase their vocabulary by assigning each student the task of creating their own book. While challenging, the children looked forward every day to writing their books and received individualized instruction from their teachers. In the project's second phase, they edited and illustrated their books. To mark the project's completion, the children met celebrated Israeli children's author Datya Ben Dor and proudly exhibited their stories (see photo, below). In addition to Ben Dor,



NACOEJ's Israel director, the school principal, a Kiryat Ekron Municipal Education Department head, a parent representative and the NACOEJ community coordinator were also in attendance.

Continuing the NACOEJ Limudiah tradition, children in all communities anticipated Passover with a model Seder. Many of the children's parents joined the school celebrations. In an effort to expose the broader student population to Ethiopian-Jewish customs and promote pride in the community's traditions, some schools also marked the Sigd in school-wide ceremonies. Sigd is a religious holiday unique to Ethiopian Jewry, celebrating the return from the Babylonian exile. It is now a national holiday in Israel.

Prospects for 2010-11

The Limudiah is now entering its 18th year of operation. While continued support has been secured for most sites, the re-opening of the Nes Tziona program is in question.

We were very pleased to achieve a firsttime ever contract with the Ministry of Education in support of our programs in Lod, but bureaucratic difficulties are placing its execution in question. We are working to resolve this.

Almost every city in which we operate a Limudiah has requested we add at least one additional program. In addition, we were recently introduced to a school in the very depressed Pardes Katz

"I wish to thank NACOEJ for your important, multi-year contribution to advancing Ethiopian-Israelis in Ramla."

Yoel Lavie, Mayor of Ramla

neighborhood of Bnei Brak, which has received an influx of new Ethiopian families and urged us to open our first Limudiah there. We will begin investigating fundraising possibilities for the 2011-12 school year.

In two schools in Gedera, the fifth- and sixth-grade Ethiopian-Israeli students were in the after-school PELE program of the Israel Association of Community Centers, one of our partners. That program was recently discontinued by the Absorption Ministry, and as a result the city has asked us to take on all Ethiopian students in grades one through six, which we plan to do.

Additionally, we will be opening three or four new programs in Beit Shemesh, at the invitation of the local Ethiopian community council. It will be funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, to whom we express our thanks.



A student in our Limudiah enjoys a much-needed hot lunch.

NACOEJ/Edward G. Victor High School Scholarship Program



Great Goals

For over a decade, the NACOEJ/ Edward G. Victor High School Sponsorship Program has enabled thousands of Ethiopian teenagers to attend high-quality local schools instead of being relegated to lower-level statesubsidized boarding schools. While basic tuition in local schools is covered by the government, schools charge many additional compulsory fees that are beyond the means of most Ethiopian immigrant families. NACOEJ high school scholarships—routed through the students' schools— defray most of these costs. As a result, more Ethiopian high school students are studying at good local schools and taking advantage of all the educational, cultural and social activities their schools offer. They receive an education that increases their chance of passing college entrance exams, which, in turn, greatly increases the probability of good jobs in the future.

Great Gains

This year has seen some good news about Ethiopian high school students in Israel:

The Central Bureau of Israel Statistics of published a report that showed that the dropout rate for Ethiopian high school students in the 2007-08 and 2008-09 school years was actually lower than that of other Israelis. Just a few years ago

the Ethiopian drop-out rate was more than three times the rate of the general population. The new report also found that an increasing number of Ethiopian high school students are earning Bagrut (national matriculation) diplomas at a level that enables them to be accepted into universities and colleges.

Unfortunately, these gains are far from enough. Last year, only 36% of Ethiopian teenagers earned Bagrut diplomas, still significantly below the Israeli average. Many of the successful students had help from NACOEJ sponsors. All young Ethiopians are eager to catch up with and even surpass their peers, but they still need help to do it at this crucial juncture.

Great Results

A high percentage of NACOEJsupported students study on a full matriculation track and the numbers of those graduating with full matriculation has increased in recent years. For example, NACOEJ has given scholarships to hundreds of high school students in Rehovot, including more than 300 this year alone. New figures show that 90% of Rehovot's Ethiopian high school-age students now attend local schools, compared to 90% who were sent to boarding schools ten years ago. Significantly, last year 60% of Ethiopian high school students in Rehovot received full Bagrut diplomas, higher than the national average of 55%.

Challenges

With results like these, it is obviously very important to make NACOEJ/ Edward G. Victor High School Sponsorships available to more and more Ethiopian-Israeli high school students. But while in peak years, as many as 1,500 students a year benefited from the NACOEJ scholarships, the program has not been able to maintain these high levels of inclusion. Due to the weak U.S. economy, more than 100 students on our waiting list did not receive sponsorships this past year.

The 2009-10 School Year:

• 994 Ethiopian-Israeli high school students in 53 schools in 18 cities received NACOEJ scholarships.

• **150** students in the program successfully graduated from high school.

• Funds received through the program totaled **\$143,312. 228** sponsors participated.

NACOEJ scholarships have been instrumental in enabling the following students (among thousands of others) to excel and serve as role models for the entire Ethiopian community.



Tzlil Leijashel is the only Ethiopian student in her class at Omanuyot, Ashkelon's

prestigious High School for the Arts. Tzlil excels in both her academic studies and her dance program at Omanuyot and says, "My dream is to be an architect, and I want to complete my math and physics studies successfully so I can do just that." She also volunteers as a counselor for Hashomer Hatzair (a Zionist youth movement) and participates in a program called "Salam to the World" that brings together Israeli and Bedouin teenagers.



Yaacov Temenu, although only in eighth grade in the ORT

Rehovot School, is already serious about his future. In seventh grade he attended an after-school program to improve his study skills. Yaacov is one of ten children, and is concerned about helping others. Last summer, a presentation on the dangers of alcohol abuse made such an impact on him that he helped start a group called "Youth Against Alcohol and Drugs". He is also an official spokesperson for the "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life" program.

NACOEJ/Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-student College sponsorship

their degrees.

Student Successes

of undergraduate

students in the AAS

An increasing number

program are qualifying for the most demanding

majors in universities, attending high-level

academic colleges and

science, medicine, law,

engineering, physics and

pursuing degrees in fields such as computer

in university life, and get



Giving Students Opportunities

For over twenty years, the NACOEJ/ Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-Student (AAS) College Sponsorship Program has given Ethiopian college students the support they need to make it through school. While the first three years of college tuition are covered by the Israeli government for some Ethiopian-Israelis, students must pay for their own living expenses, including rent, food, and transportation as well as expensive books and other educational supplies.

This places a heavy financial burden on Ethiopian-Israeli students, whose parents are almost never able to help them. In too many cases, students drop out of college and settle for unskilled jobs to support themselves and help their families. Without a college degree, these young Ethiopian-Israelis remain trapped in poverty. AAS scholarships provide Ethiopian college students with a modest monthly living stipend that makes it possible for them to attend Israel's best universities and colleges, participate fully chemistry.

The number of AAS students studying for advanced degrees has grown. Almost a third of the students studying for advanced degrees completed their Master's degrees in the 2009-10 school year. AAS alumnae are entering virtually every major professional field in Israel. In fact, this year three medical students graduated from the AAS program, the first group in over a decade. AAS sponsorships were especially pivotal for these students, whose intense schedules during medical school made it difficult for them to work part time, even if jobs were available.

Challenges

The weak U.S. economy affected the ability of some of our sponsors to renew their support. Increasing costs of tuition, educational supplies and living expenses in Israel keep Ethiopian-Israeli college students struggling to fund their higher education. We make every effort to retain current sponsors and recruit new ones.

NEW PROGRAM: Barney's Books

In 2010, NACOEJ proudly introduced an exciting new venture, at the initiation of long-time AAS sponsors Barney and Rachel Gottstein. The program, called Barney's Books, provides children's books to AAS students, who bring them home to read to their younger siblings, encouraging them to learn to read. (Children's books are very expensive in Israel, unaffordable to most Ethiopian families.) In addition to reading to and with their siblings, AAS students in the program have read Barney's Books to children living in shelters and in NACOEJ Limudiah classes. Barney's Books has already generated great enthusiasm on the part of AAS students and children alike.

The 2000-10 School Year:

• 402 Ethiopian college students received AAS sponsorships.

• 117 AAS students graduated.

- Funds received through the program totaled \$384,428; 155 sponsors participated.
- AAS students studied in 6 universities and 24 academic colleges, 8 nursing schools, and 7 engineering schools.

• 34 AAS students studied for advanced degrees; 13 have now graduated.

Spotlight on NACOEJ Adopt-A-Students making their mark in Israel and around the world:



Hadas Malada-Mitzri just received her medical degree from Ben-

Gurion University. Hadas' interests extend through helping the Ethiopian community in Israel to global concerns. Last year, Hadas served in a hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and was one of only two Israelis chosen to take part in a special program in pediatric emergency medicine in Canada. While still a medical student, she put together a Hebrew-Amharic pocket dictionary for Israeli medical students, to help Israeli doctors improve communication with Ethiopian patients. **Germao Mengistu**, a 2007 alumnus of the AAS program, recently won first place in a prestigious short story competition held by Haaretz newspaper. Nani Melaku won first place in a national drawing competition held by Israel's Student Authority for immigrant students. "More than anything," Nani says, "it's important that my little brother and sister are proud of me and won't be afraid to dream. After all, dreams sometimes come true!"

Combined Statement of Financial Position

NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ETHIOPIAN JEWRY, INC. AND AFFILIATES

COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2009

	Current Funds				Total	
	,		Temporarily		All	
	Unrestricted		Restricted		Funds	
ASSETS						
Current assets:						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	385,893 \$	346,881	\$	732,774	
Investment in marketable securities		14,957	786,452		801,409	
Contributions receivable		33,682	243,020		276,702	
Prepaid expenses		12,010			12,010	
Total current assets		446,542	1,376,353		1,822,895	
Security deposit		11,813			11,813	
Total assets	\$	458,355 \$	1,376,353	\$_	1,834,708	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	5					
Current liabilities:						

Accounts payable and accrued		
expenses	\$ 318,186	\$ 318,186
Deferred public support	395,907	395,907
Total liabilities	714,093	714,093
Commitments		
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	(255 738)	(255 738)

Unrestricted		(255,738)		(255,738)	
Temporarily restricted		\$	1,376,353	1,376,353	
Total net assets	_	(255,738)	1,376,353	1,120,615	
Total liabilities and net assets	\$	458,355 \$	1,376,353 \$	1,834,708	

NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ETHIOPIAN JEWRY, INC. AND AFFILIATES

COMBINED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

	Current Funds			Total	
				Temporarily	All
	Unrestricted		_	Restricted	Funds
Support and revenue:					
Public support	\$	1,026,183	¢	1,948,945 \$	2,975,128
Sales (net of cost of goods sold of	Φ	1,020,105	Φ	1,740,743 \$	2,973,120
\$1,095)		30,614			30,614
Other income		36,638			36,638
Interest income		50,050		8,501	8,501
Dividend income		1,055		11,351	12,406
Net realized and unrealized gain/(loss)		1,055		11,551	12,400
on securities		5,224		174,102	179,326
Net assets released from restrictions -		3,224		174,102	177,520
satisfaction of program restrictions		2,005,144		(2,005,144)	
Total support and revenue	-	3,104,858		137,755	3,242,613
i otal support and revenue	-	5,104,050		107,755	5,242,015
Expenses:					
Program services:					
Relief in Ethiopia		655,576			655,576
Assistance in Israel		1,858,499			1,858,499
Information and Education - USA		317,777			317,777
Total program services	_	2,831,852	_		2,831,852
Supporting services:					
Management and general		187,149			187,149
Fundraising		372,885	_		372,885
Total supporting services	-	560,034	-		560,034
Total expenses	_	3,391,886	_		3,391,886
Change in net assets		(287,028)		137,755	(149,273)
Net assets, beginning of year	_	31,290		1,238,598	1,269,888
Net assets, end of year	\$_	(255,738)	\$	1,376,353 \$	1,120,615

Institutional funding over \$200:

Gottstein Family Foundation Combined Jewish Philanthropies Peachy & Mark Levy Family Fund Gerald M. & Carolyn Z. Bronstein Fund Jewish Community Board of Akron, Inc. Moriah Fund The Vidal Sassoon Foundation Victor Family Foundation The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation



Richard S. & Lois Gunther Family Foundation The Skirball Foundation Ebenezer Hilfsfonds Deutschland e.V. Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger Kaiserman Company, Inc. The Nathan & Helen Kohler Foundation The Kline Family Foundation Albert B. Glickman Family Foundation Albert B. & Audrey G. Ratner Family Foundation The Charitable Lead Trust of Harry Stern Pincus Paul Charitable Trust Rita S. Gold Foundation Webkinz Foundation The Lucius N. Littauer Foundation The Halley & Ruth Anne Faust Family Fund Tides Foundation British Friends of NACOEJ Oueens Village Jewish Center Àlan & Jane Cornell Philanthropic Fund Traditional Congregation of Creve Coeur Spicerack Morris & Sylvia Trachten Family Foundation The Anna & Emanuel Weinstein Foundation United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism Jeff & Doris Goldstein Family Philanthropic Fund Adath Jeshurun Congregation The Purple Lady/Barbara J. Meslin Fund West End Synagogue Amcha for Tsedakah

Selwyn & Barbara Karp Philantropic Fund The Hodes-Rohde Fund Savitt Family Foundation Harvey and Ruth Gelfenbein Charitable Trust Philip Goldrich Living Trust The Morris J. and Betty Kaplun Foundation The Burton G. and Anne C. Greenblatt Foundation Joseph Pomerantz Trust Temple Beth El Richard and Barbara Braun Fund The Tiferet Center Temple Sinai Paula & Jerry Gottesman Philanthropic Fund Kopp Family Trust Westchester Jewish Center The Robert A. Sugarman Charitable Fund Harris-Shapiro Family Philanthropic Fund Stratton - Petit Foundation Temple Sinai of Palm Beach County Hamond Family Foundation Vollmer Family Foundation Glickenhaus Foundation Louis J. & Ruth G. Herr Foundation Michael & Deborah Braunstein Charity Fund Fabrangen Tzedakah Collective Goulston & Storrs Fiduciary Account Hyman & Esther Burstein Foundation Temple Shaari Emeth Nathaniel D. & Golda Berlin Charitable Fund The Markowitz Family Trust Virginia & Norton Sharpe Fund Milford & Lee Bohm Charitable Foundation Kehillath Shalom Synagogue Alan & Myra Rosenberg Charitable Trust Altronix Corporation Jewish Philanthropic Fund of Ellen & Marshall Cole





Lincoln Financial Group David & Edith Katz Philanthropic Memorial Fund Kavod Jewish Federation of Volusia & Flagler Counties The Marian P. Gelfand Fund The Litwin Foundation Zoller Family Philanthropic Fund Jacobson Charitable Foundation The Susan Klingenstein Fund Temple Sinai Temple Emanuel Congregation Slocum Realty Corporation Kenneth A. Lattman Foundation, Inc. Abdela Foundation Ronald J. & Carole A. Fox Fund Wachter Family Philanthropic Fund Peninsula Temple Sholom Edward and Phyllis Zissman Family Philanthropic Fund **Robin Family Fund** Altman - Aronow Charitable Foundation Temple Sinai Religious School Temple Isaiah Rebecca Sparks Philanthropic Fund Winer Family Fund Jewish Federation of Fort Worth/Tarrant County Tikvah Trust **CLSJ** Foundation Fain Malsky Charitable Foundation Alan B. Slifka Foundation, Inc. Hillcrest Jewish Center Deborah & David Kahn Charitable Fund

Arthur & Edith Stern Family Foundation Pinnacle Gardens Foundation Congregation Orach Chaim W.F. The Jewish Reconstructionist Society of the N. Shore Morton B. & Blanche S. Prince Philanthropic Fund The W. Fund The DM Charitable Trust JDC-PACT The Ted Arison Family Foundation The Madav IX Foundation The J & S Michaan Foundation Boeing International Corporation-Israel, Boeing Company Charitable Trust The Sobell Foundation The Abraham and Sonia Rochlin Foundation Glencore Society for Education and Welfare The Ministry for Immigrant Absorption The Ministry of Education The Municipality of Ramla The Municipality of Nes Tziona The Municipality of Rishon LeZion The Israel Association of Community Centers' PELE Program



Thank you! Amsegenalehu! **!תודה!**

Board of Directors and Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan Giesberg* Founding President

Barbara Ribakove Gordon Founder & Executive Director

President Evely Laser Shlensky

Tzvi Bar-Shai Treasurer

Harlan T. Jacobs Secretary

Faye D. Lieman Board Chairperson Herbert Berman, Esq.* Dr. Ernest Bloch Gail Carp Evelvn Deitchman* Rabbi Jerome Epstein Solomon Ezra Jeremy Feit Joseph Feit Barbara Gaffin Middie Giesberg Richard A. Giesberg Rabbi Jeffrey L. Glickman Sanford Goldhaber Deborah J. Goldstein **Rachel Gottstein** Dr. Ruth Gruber Kenneth S Kaiserman Abraham Katsman Rochelle Larkin* Peachy Levy Robert E. Lichtman Lindsey Mayerfeld Barak Raviv Roen Salem Vidal Sassoon Lisa R. Schachner Sidney Stern* Richard Tell Dr Judith Wolf Caryn Huberman Yacowitz

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin Honorary Chairperson Cvrus Abbe Hon. Gary Ackerman Dr. Jacob Birnbaum Kathryn R. Bloom Devorah Brooks Martin Chasin Rabbi Abraham Cooper Marsha J. Croland Ed Eitches Rabbi Harvey Fields Lucille Kuttler Geller Rabbi Lynn Goldstein Rabbi Dr. Irving Greenberg Eli Halpern David Harris Eve Hartheimer* Lvnn Hazan Roger J. Herz David L. Hvman Golda Kaufman* Jav Luger, D.V.M. Ruth Messinger Rabbi Craig Miller Michael Monheit Hon. Daniel P. Movnihan* Pesia Derin Paolucci

ADVISORY BOARD

Rabbi Albert Plotkin Garv Polland Rabbi Lawrence Raphael Barbara Reader Sevmour D. Reich Glenn Richter Irwin B. Robins Deborah Schiller Rosalimsky Menachem Rosensaft Lesli Koppelman Ross Anita O. Rothfeld Dr. Joan L. Schiff Rabbi Alexander Schindler* Dr. Harris Schoenberg Rabbi Allen Schwartz Allen Schwartz Irving Shillman Monica Siegel Rabbi David Silber Benjamin Susman Gary Tolchinsky Albert Vorspan Rabbi Alfred Wolf* Beth Wohlgelernter Dr. Joel Wolowelsky Murray Wood Rabbi Ari Zivotofsky, Ph.D

* Deceased

STAFF

<u>U.S. Staff</u> Barbara Ribakove Gordon, Executive Director Orlee Guttman, Director of Operations Caroline Barg, Director of Communications Nelya Danielova, Office Manager Judy Dick, Coordinator of Educational Programs Gary Metzger, Director of Community Relations and Special Projects Miriam Weissman, U.S. Coordinator of Bar/Bat Mitzvah Twinning Lauren Yokèd, Director of Donor and Foundation Relations

Israel Staff

Shoshana Ben-Dor, Director of NACOEJ-Israel Yehudit Abramson, Israel Coordinator of AAS College Sponsorship Program Leah Barkai, Israel Coordinator of High School Sponsorship Program and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Twinning Marta Baynesay, Administrative and Accounting Assistant Yonatan Pulik, Translator and Grant Writer Alice Salem, Administrative Assistant to the Director Eti Shitrit, Administrative Director, Israel Kassahun Wondie, Coordinator of Outreach and Special Projects in Israel

North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ) 255 West 36th Street, Suite 701, New York, NY 10018 Phone: 212-233-5200 Fax: 212-233-5243 Website: www.nacoej.org Email: nacoej@nacoej.org

Established in 1982, the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ) is the only organization exclusively committed to the welfare of Ethiopian Jews in both Ethiopia and Israel.

NACOEJ is a registered non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status.