



Shalom from Fidel!

Issue 2, March 2008

We welcome Mrs. Mirla Gal as she takes on the role of chairperson, and welcome Mr. Rami Lippman and Mr. Itzik Sharir, our new board members. We heartily thank Mr. Ariel Landau for his many years of service as chairperson, and for his ongoing activities on the Fidel board.

Presidential Visit to the Yona Bugale School

On 24.3.08, the naming ceremony of the Hadarim-Yona Bogale School in Kiriati Moshe, Rehovot, took place in the presence of the President of Israel, Mr. Shimon Peres, the Mayor of Rehovot, Att. Shuki Forer, representatives of the Ministry of Education, led by Central Region Director Dr. Soli Natan, Bogale family members, **Fidel's** chairperson and executive director, and neighborhood residents. This was the first Israeli school named for a member of the Ethiopian community. Kiriati Moshe has over 50% Ethiopian residency. The local school had been closed for 7 years, and neighborhood children were driven to 13 schools across the city. In order to provide an educational anchor for the residents which would promote their children, a joint decision was made by neighborhood activists to reopen the school. When the community was ready, the subject was brought to the city and the Ministry of Education. As a result of the efforts of neighborhood activists and **Fidel**, and with the support of the Moriah Fund and CEI-PEA of New York, the school reopened in 2005. 3 years later, 101 neighborhood children are provided with an intensive study program in a long school day, which emphasizes each student, while forging a model school within the neighborhood, from the belief that every child must be given the best tools in order to wholly fulfill their potential.



Fidel Scholarships

87 **Fidel** scholarships were granted during March. 17 scholarships for law students were distributed at the Meitar and Partners Offices in Tel Aviv. 34 scholarships were distributed in the **Fidel** Hod Hasharon offices by Mr. Rami Lippman, on behalf of a group of businesspeople. 14 scholarships from the Leo Greif Fund were presented to students of natural sciences, by fund director, Att. Hadasah Machlis. 22 engineering students were presented with scholarships by Motorola Israel at a touching ceremony in their offices.



Lame Bora—Initiating Social Responsibility

On 5.3.08, the graduation ceremony was held for the participants of **Fidel's** Lame Bora Parents Empowerment program in the Ramle Absorption Center. The 16-member group, comprised of both men and women who met 24 times with the purpose of initiating social action and responsibility within their neighborhood, organized the ceremony themselves. They wrote the texts, expressing their desire to act within the community. Present were municipal key officials, **Fidel's** executive director, and the chairperson of Ruach Tova who spoke on volunteering in society.



Fidel Youth Learn Health

18 youths from the Lod and Ramle ENP SPACE Youth Outreach Centers operated by **Fidel** are participating in the Maccabi Health Fund's youth enrichment program. They are learning about CPR, accident prevention and first aid, diet and life-style, primarily physical activity and preventing smoking. At the end of the course, these youths will volunteer in Maccabi branches and facilities.



A Mediator's Success

"Recently, a special education teacher approached me, requesting that I speak with a student who she thought was not making enough of an effort to transfer into the regular class, despite advanced abilities. Speaking with the child, I learned that his parents are divorced, and there is no contact with the father. His mother is very sick, and as the eldest, he takes care of the family, including leaving school to administer medicine to his mother. He also said that they do not have hot water, and he broke down, crying. I spoke with the grandmother, who confirmed the situation, claiming that the help was vital. I spoke to a guidance counselor who sent a letter to the welfare services. Soon the family received help for the mother, and the student stopped leaving school early. He joined the ENP after-school program, and for the first time ever came to school with homework prepared. Today, I see him smiling and I expect him to advance to the regular class, due to our support"

Iris, an Educational and Social Mediator



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עמותת פידל נתמכת על ידי הפרוייקט הלאומי של עולי אתיופיה