

# Village Way Educational Initiatives



*Serving 36 partner educational communities, 14,200 at-risk youth and 1,775 educators in Israel.*

## ► Village Way Expansion: By the Numbers

Six new educational communities have joined the Village Way integration process, bringing the total number of educational partners to 36. This total number includes 23 graduate communities that have completed the three-year integration process: 9 youth villages, 11 high schools and 3 therapeutic communities. To date, VWEI has impacted 1,775 educators and 14,200 youth at-risk in Israel.

## ► Empowering Educators

Intercommunity Forum meetings provide opportunities for educators in different sectors of Israeli society to gather for learning and networking. There are eight meetings each year designed to meet the needs of school principals, youth village directors, graduate coordinators and others. The concept “it takes a village to raise a child” is reflected by including adults from all areas of the educational arena to serve as a mentor in the life of a fragile child.

## ► Trailblazers Are Emerging Leaders

The Village Way Trailblazers Course for emerging leaders launched its third cohort in the Fall. The year-long course, in cooperation with Tel Aviv University’s Continuing Education Unit, brings educators together from

partnering communities to tackle important issues on an advanced level, and share their experiences. The group develops new educational programs designed to meet the needs of at-risk youth in new, creative ways.

## ► Experimenting with Science

The Village Way Science Enrichment Program allows partners to provide students with science enrichment programming from Israel's top scientific education institutes. Underprivileged teens learn complex science concepts in a new way: exploring, experimenting and discovering on their own. In this way, at-risk youth become interested in the field of science.



*At-risk youth show interest in science.*

## ► Gap Year Leadership Programs Build a Path Toward Success

Yemin Orde's gap-year leadership programs for young men and women are specifically designed to meet the unique needs of marginalized at-risk youth.

### *Young Men's Mechina*

In September, Yemin Orde's men's

mechina welcomed 58 participants, primarily Ethiopian-Israelis. Throughout the year, they will work to strengthen academic skills, build self-confidence and develop strong and healthy minds and bodies so they may have a positive experience while serving in Israeli's military.



*Men's Mechina*

### *Israelite Young Women's Mechina*

In September, the IsraElite Young Women's program welcomed 33 women from around Israel to live, learn and volunteer together for this one year leadership program. IsraElite empowers women from immigrant backgrounds to break out of the cycle of poverty, and to rise to leadership positions in their mandatory service and beyond. The core of the program is helping young women gain self-confidence and to plan for their future.



*IsraElite Women's Mechina*

