

March 10th, 2014

Federation Executives
Michael Siegal, Chair, Board of Trustees
Dede Feinberg, Chair, Executive Committee
Gerrald Silverman, President & CEO

Jewish Federations of North America
The Max M Fisher Headquarters
25 Broadway, Suite 1700, New York, NY
USA

Dear Friends,

We, the lay and professional leadership of the Representatives of Ethiopian Jewish Organizations in Israel (*Netzigit*), are certain you share our joy and pride that the Government of Israel, in a clear and exceptional sign of support of the Ethiopian National Project (ENP), despite cross- and intra-ministerial blanket budget cuts, plans to provide an additional \$5 million to ENP annually for the next three years, and has even sculpted a detailed ten-year plan with dedicated funding and phase-out.

It is with this exciting news and landmark opportunity that we urgently call you to action. For, we also recognize that, as per the founding principles of ENP, this will only come to fruition if North American Jewry matches those funds.

Our community is forever grateful for all you have done to assist us over the last three decades. You, the leadership of North American Jewry, have been instrumental in ensuring our return to the land of our forefathers. Your support of numerous initiatives that aim to assist us in our absorption have enabled many of us to reach the heights we have attained today.

Yet, our community is still at precipitous risk of the formation of a black underclass- 49% of our children live under the poverty line. Poverty results in underachievement, increased risk of failure, criminal behavior and a life of dependency on others- a cycle that will continue unless stopped today.


We know success is within our reach, but we still need your support, just a little bit longer, while we navigate our final path towards self-sufficiency. **These next three years are crucial to transforming our fate and our futures.** We have the utmost confidence that this new Governmental ENP Educational Initiative will enable us to undergo this transformation. And we know Israel will be a far better place once we do.

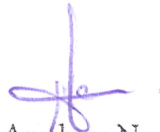
Our desire for our children to succeed is beyond description. We know you share this desire. ENP's educational programs will enable us to realize our dreams so all can take pride in our achievements. Just as you assisted in our rescue in Ethiopia and our relief upon our arrival, we urge you to assist us in our successful resettlement in Israel through this singular opportunity with ENP.

Your provision of matching funds for the next three years will enable us to finally bring our aliyah to its full and successful conclusion. We hope you will grasp our outreached hand and join us in this last effort to help us truly thrive in our homeland.

With deep respect and undying hope,


Fakaddo Gadamo
Chairman


Rabbi Yafet Alemu
Deputy Chairman


Dr. Avraham Neguise
Spokesperson


Wonde Akale
Director-General

Netzigut Member Organizations:

Almaya, Amutat Gideon, Amutat Hatzvi, Behalachin, Ethiopian-Israeli Student Union, Fidel, Hiyot, Mesawat for Ethiopian Aliyah Activists, The National Movement of Ethiopian Jews, Organization for Ethiopian Immigrants, South Wing to Zion, Tebeka, Tene Briut, Volunteer Center for Ethiopian Immigrants in Hadera, Yechalel

cc: Saby Behar, Chair, Israel and Overseas, JFNA
Rebecca Caspi, Senior Vice President, Israel & Overseas
Bruce Sholk, Chairman, JFNA ENP Task Force
S. Lee Kohrman, ENP Co-Chair, North America
Raviv Zoller, ENP Co-Chair, Israel
Roni Akale, Director-General, ENP