

OFFLINE

NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON ETHIOPIAN JEWRY

WINTER 2010



Our Beta Israel school in Gondar may not look impressive to American eyes, but it is clean, light, and it works. It has electricity, toilet facilities, a little library, a school nurse and other amenities. Local people think it is very modern. We think the land – donated by the Ethiopian government – is beautiful. There is space for the children to play, and sometimes on the hill behind the school, they can see cattle or sheep grazing. Photo: Myer Daniels

What's Going On in Ethiopia?

Well, the health and vitality of the youngest children in our reopened Feeding Center seem to be improving rapidly. That's a blessing.

And, as promised, we've started feeding one meal a day to those previously left-out four-to-six-year-olds, who were breaking all our hearts. That's another blessing.

Thanks so much, once again and always, to all of you who have contributed so generously, and of course to the UJA Federation of New York that made the reopening possible, and to our newest Feeding Center partners, Melvin and Claire Levine of Florida.

Now, we are praying that the promised – stalled – promised again – not yet happening – aliyah will get going. We still have so many little mouths to feed.

As I write, so many authorities in Israel, from the Prime Minister's office to the Supreme Court, to the Knesset, the Jewish Agency, the Chief Rabbis – are all in favor of getting the aliyah going, speeding it up, and continuing it so that the Jewish Agency, with its much greater budget than ours, can even-

tually take over our programs and run them well until the last eligible Jews leave for Israel.

We've been trying for years to make it happen. In open court and behind closed doors, the debate over the aliyah goes on.

And now, when we're very close to succeeding, the Israeli Treasury is a problem. As Don Futterman* put it in the Israeli newspaper "Haaretz", "The one obstacle is the Treasury, which is more concerned with costs than with the ingathering of the exiles."

If that's the case, it can be a big problem. We've been through this before, and know how powerful this obstacle can be. It has caused endless postponement of aliyah in the past, keeping broken families apart for years, leaving Jews in Ethiopia stranded in dire poverty, subject at times to war and famine, while their relatives in Israel, poor themselves, struggle to send them a little money to pay the rent on their straw and tin hovels.

Continued on Page 2

*Don is the Israel Program Director of the Moriah Fund, which has steadfastly partnered with NACOEJ in our efforts on behalf of the Ethiopian Jews.



From left, Ato Dessalegne Asrade, Gondar City Administration ANDM (Amhara National Democratic Movement) branch head officer, presenting the certificate to Getu at right. Center, Ato Zewedu Messalieu, Master of Ceremonies.

Elementary School in Gondar was honored by being named the second best private school in the Gondar City area.

Ato (Mr.) Getu Zemene, our Ethiopia Project Director, was given the highly prestigious award before an audience of more than 3,000 notables, receiving a handsome certificate and a radio cassette recorder for the school (see left).

In a call to NACOEJ, Getu proudly explained why the award was so significant:

“There are about 87 private schools in Gondar,” he told us. “We were compared to well-organized schools serving for many years, while we are only two years old.

“Our teachers were compared to older teachers with many years of teaching experience, while our teachers are young and new.

“Our students were compared to more modern city students, who know modern things and are helped by their educated parents, while our students come from farms and most of their parents have no education.

“I want to thank NACOEJ,” Getu concluded, “because of your day and night effort, guiding us properly with no bureaucratic manner. Congratulations!!!!”

Our congratulations go to Getu, our brilliant Ethiopia Project Director, to Ato Asrat Kassa, our superb school principal, our great teachers in both the secular and Jewish studies programs, and of course to our wonderful children and their amazing parents, who know the value of education and are proud to do everything they can to help their children succeed!

As a very special additional pleasure, we have a gracious comment from Ethiopia’s Ambassador to Israel, who heard about the award to our school and was aware that we open it on Saturdays for neighborhood children while our children observe Shabbat.

“Thank you so much for sharing this good news with me,” the Ambassador said. “It is not always that I receive such a message. Please pass on my congratulations to Mr. Getu and all that are doing good to change the lives of the future of Ethiopia, its young citizens.”

We thank the Ambassador for his kind words. We take pride in the fact that our school is open to hundreds of non-Jewish neighborhood children on Saturday and that our secular studies staff generously tutor and teach them.

Barbara

What’s Happening in Ethiopia

Continued from Page 1

All the delays in getting approval mean more delays in starting the aliyah again, and a longer stretch until we feel secure that it is going to continue, and the Jewish Agency feels ready to take hold in Ethiopia.

And the more the delay, the longer the care, feeding, and education of the community in Ethiopia remain NACOEJ’s responsibility.

In the meantime, all of us at NACOEJ will go on doing what we’ve been doing – meeting the most urgent needs of our Ethiopian families wherever they are.

And we must be doing a pretty good job, because on October 2, 2010, our NACOEJ Beta Israel



We hope that one day all our Beta Israel children will be in Israel, and our school will be a treasure for the neighborhood children. But we don’t want to be forgotten. So we have set a simple stone slab in front of the school. It shows a Star of David and the Hebrew letters that mean Baruch Hashem. Below, in English and Amharic, it identifies the school: “The NACOEJ Beta Israel Elementary School founded by the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry for the benefit of the children of Gondar. September 2008/Tishrei 5769.” We hope it will always remind people of the Jews of Ethiopia and America who came here together, to teach and learn in Gondar.

Hunger and the *Limudiah*

A little immigrant boy we'll call Yochai came into one of our *Limudiah* after-school classes in Israel to start second grade, having transferred from an absorption center in another town, about 18 months after arriving in Israel.

Yochai wasn't ready for second grade. He couldn't understand Hebrew, didn't recognize letters, couldn't write and obviously couldn't read.

But all our teachers' efforts to teach him were stymied because Yochai's stomach growled, his head hurt, and it turned out he came to school without having had anything to eat for breakfast – and not much the night before, either.

We always give our pupils a hot lunch in *Limudiah*. We know many Ethiopian families suffer from what Israelis call "food insecurity" due to poverty, and many of the children are hungry.

We've had children who tried to save half their *Limudiah* lunch to give to their siblings waiting for it outside the school. We recently had a little girl who refused to eat her lunch at all because her siblings, who weren't in our classes, were hungry.

We can't feed all the hungry Ethiopian children in Israel, but we do the best we can.

In the case of the little girl who wouldn't eat, we ordered extra lunches for her siblings. In the

case of Yochai, we gave him his lunch the moment he walked into our classroom, after which his tummy stopped growling and his headache went away, and he learned to read and write.

He's catching up to second grade very nicely now.

Israeli elementary schools don't have kitchens, so we pay for simple, nourishing catered lunches, and for years our nice caterer has donated food to Ethiopian families on Fridays to provide for their Shabbat dinners.

We don't like to write, or talk, or even think about hunger in Israel, but it exists, especially in the poorest families like Yochai's.

That's why the second biggest item on our *Limudiah* budget, right after teachers' salaries, is children's lunches.

For children like Yochai, the lunches are as important as books and pencils to the whole process of learning.

At NACOEJ, we know *Limudiah* classes are expensive these days, at about \$1,400 per child per year, but the fact that they can nourish our children's bodies as well as their minds, makes them a bargain! ■

CARING FOR THE FUTURE TODAY...

To each of you reading this newsletter, we offer our deepest gratitude for your unceasing generosity and compassion. You are quite literally the backbone of NACOEJ's ability to care for Ethiopian Jews, in Ethiopia and in Israel.

It is this partnership that we have forged together – this deep and abiding sense of family – that enables those still in Ethiopia to live from day to day under the most trying circumstances. Knowing that you care tells them they are not forgotten. They know there is hope that they will reach the Israel of their dreams.

For those in Israel, your support means the opportunity to achieve the education that will

enable them to forge productive futures. It makes it possible for them to be independent, to care for their families, to be the kind of citizens of Israel they want to be.

Together we have achieved so much. But there is yet a great deal of work to be done to ensure that this ancient community of Jews can fulfill their dreams.

As you continue your generous support of NACOEJ's work today, we ask you to give thought to extending this partnership into the future.

By remembering NACOEJ in your will, you enable Ethiopian Jews who are still coming to Israel to have the educational opportunities they need

when they arrive. You ensure that those already in Israel can achieve their tremendous potential.

A simple instruction in your will naming NACOEJ can change the future for Ethiopian children and families. On their behalf we offer our profound gratitude.

Should you have any questions on specific NACOEJ programs you may wish to designate, or want to let us know about your plans, please contact Orlee Guttman at 212-233-5200, ext. 224, or email to oguttman@nacoj.org. If you have legal questions, please consult your attorney, accountant or financial advisor.

Thank you so much.

LIFELINE
NOVEMBER 2010
Lifeline is published
three times annually.
NACOEJ
255 West 36th St.
New York, NY 10018
Issue No: 69

PARTNERS, KIDS AND SPARKS

We love having partners.

Working closely, long-term, on many levels, with other organizations, foundations, Jewish federations and individual members of our wonderful NACOEJ family, who not only give money but also give us their ideas and their hearts, makes everything we do even more worthwhile.

Among the major federations that have partnered with us on various projects are Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, MetroWest, Washington, DC and the UJA Federation of New York.*

The UJA Federation of New York, a very generous, long-time partner in our work in both Ethiopia and Israel, has decided to sponsor over 40 Ethiopian college students in Israel through the NACOEJ/Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-Student (AAS) program.

When 14 of these students were in high school they were chosen to participate in the prestigious "Sparks of Science" program, which seeks out talented youngsters from disadvantaged Israeli families, and brings them to the famed Weizmann Institute for special courses in science.

The UJA Federation of New York, which provides funding for "Sparks of Science", now wants to help these young men and women get their college degrees through AAS. We're honored.

As a matter of fact, we're not strangers to the

**For a complete list of federations, foundations, and other organizations that have supported our work this year, please contact Lauren Yoked at 212-233-5200, ext. 227 or email lyoked@nacoj.org. Or go to www.nacoj.org/support.htm.*

"Sparks of Science" program ourselves. A current high school student, sponsored by Ethel Booth of California through our NACOEJ/Edward G. Victor High School Sponsorship program, is Noa Yeshayahu, who is in "Sparks of Science" now.

Noa just had the amazing experience of being one of three Israeli youngsters selected to represent Israel at an international science camp held last summer in Mumbai, India. After many exciting tours, classes, and one-on-one meetings with Nobel Prize scientists, Noa is planning on college and a professional career in science.

Another of our sponsored high school students who was in "Sparks of Science" before he graduated is Daniel Elias, sponsored by Jay Heimowitz of New York.

Daniel spent last summer at a special science program in London, and, like Noa, is determined to become a scientist.

When these two talented young people have finished the military or national service required of high school graduates in Israel and are ready for college, we'll let you know. They will need sponsors.

Of course, we still have many other high school and college students who need sponsors right now.

For example, in their last years of high school, sisters Fantanesh and Katama Antenau, who take care of their widowed, paralyzed mother at home, need help with some of their costs at the AMIT Noga High School in Beit Shemesh.

Katama, in 11th grade, loves science and is in the biology track; Fantanesh is a counselor every weekend to younger girls in a program she helped to found. It's called "Fruits of Tomorrow" and was, Fantanesh says, designed to help youngsters "stay on the right path."

Fantanesh also told us that she "really connects to books in Amharic", the language Jews



Katama Antenau



Fantanesh Antenau



Noa Yeshayahu, center, with Dudu Mashasha and Alemu Avara, other outstanding Ethiopian-Israeli students, who all went to Mumbai, India for an international science camp. Photo: Zvika Tishler, "Yedioth Acharonoth".

spoke in Ethiopia. This is rather unusual, since many Ethiopian-Israeli youngsters – like immigrant kids all over – want to put “the old country” behind them. Fantanesh warms our hearts by being determined to know and preserve her Ethiopian heritage.



Abrashe Dabebe

Please sponsor either or both sisters.

We also have a very special young woman, Abrashe Dabebe, who needs an AAS sponsor to help with basic college expenses at the Landers Institute in Jerusalem, where she is taking a degree in Business Administration so she can earn a good living as an accountant.

“I like numbers. I like math.” Abrashe says. “I thought long and hard about what I would study, and about my future as a citizen of Israel, and this is what I want to do.”

She also thought about whether she could possibly cover all her college expenses by holding part-time student jobs, while studying many hours in difficult courses.

The numbers didn’t crunch.

It’s not that Abrashe is afraid of work. “I like to work,” she says, and as a teenage immigrant to Israel, she always worked to help support her family – 10 people in a four-room apartment, including her beloved, elderly grandmother.

To help them all out, Abrashe cleaned a bakery, scrubbed stairwells, and did any other jobs she could get, even while she was doing her required national service after high school.

But now, with a heavy program of studies, for the first time she is asking for help for herself. We think she deserves it.

So – if you are interested in sponsoring Abrashe, Fantanesh or Katama, please contact Judy Dick at college@nacoej.org for Abrashe, highschool@nacoej.org for Fantanesh or Katama, or call her at 212-233-5200, ext. 230. Please let her know you read about these deserving young people in the *Lifeline*.

You’ll be more than a sponsor to these young women – you’ll be a beloved friend. ■

Planning a Trip to Israel?

Why not plan to take along school supplies for Ethiopian children in elementary schools? They need them so badly, and their parents often can’t afford to buy them.

Collecting school supplies is a project kids, schools and synagogues love. We’ll send you a list of what is needed. (DON’T START WITHOUT THE LIST!) Please time the collection to take place before your Israel trip – which can be a synagogue mission, or a visit by a family or an individual. Take the supplies with you as part of your luggage.

Once you get to Israel, our staff can pick up the supplies at your Jerusalem address, or you can take them to our office and meet our terrific Ethiopian and non-Ethiopian staffers. It’s a special highlight of your stay in Jerusalem.

Please remember, this is a “collect and take” project. Please do not send school supplies to our New York office. We don’t have space for them in our new, smaller quarters.

To get started, contact Gary Metzger at supplies@nacoej.org or call him at 212-233-5200, ext. 228. ■

Congratulations To...

- NACOEJ President **Evely Laser Shlensky** on the birth of a grandson, Lev Zilber-Shlensky. Mazel Tov to the parents, Drs. Lincoln Shlensky and Caren Zilber-Shlensky.
- NACOEJ past President **Dick Giesberg** and past Chairperson **Middie Giesberg** on celebrating 63 years of marriage by hosting a champagne brunch for family and friends in Los Angeles.
- NACOEJ Advisory Board member **Cyrus Abbe** and wife Dr. Judy on the birth of a granddaughter, Sarah Esther, in Israel. Mazel Tov to the parents, Hava and Dovid Preil, and to big brothers Yehudah and Chaim.
- **Barbara Ribakove Gordon** for receiving the Rabbi Samuel S. and A. Irma Cohon Award for work that benefits the Jewish people. The award will be presented on Shabbat Chanukah at Temple Emanu-El in Tucson, Arizona by Rabbi Samuel S. Cohon’s grandson and namesake, Rabbi Samuel Cohon. We’ll tell you more about this honor, for which we are very grateful, in the next *Lifeline*.
- NACOEJ staffer **Caroline Barg** and husband Hershel on the Bar Mitzvah of Caroline’s grandson Chaim Dov Porush. Mazel Tov to the parents, Sara and Benjie Porush, and siblings Elisha, Shana and Jakie.
- NACOEJ Israel staffer **Alice Salem** and husband Eitan on the birth of a baby girl, Hodiya. Mazel Tov to big sister Agam.

Another Adopt-A-Student Success Story: AN OLYMPIC STAR IN THE MAKING

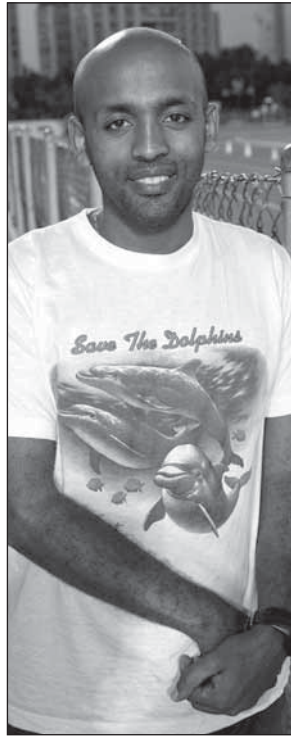
There are many great success stories about Ethiopian-Israeli students who've had help from the NACOEJ/Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-Student College Sponsorship program.

But this story stands out. Here it is, written by NACOEJ Israel staffer Jonathan Pulik.

Since he was 14, Kochav Bitaw has been running. A teacher spotted his athletic potential a year after Kochav immigrated to Israel from Gondar in 1991. The long-distance runner, whose name means "star" in both Hebrew and Amharic, now hopes to represent Israel in the 2012 summer Olympics in London.

According to the Israel Athletics Association, Kochav ranks among the 50 fastest Israeli runners of all time. "It would be a dream come true to represent Israel in the Olympic Games," says the former NACOEJ AAS student, who is now 33 years old and a newlywed.

While he was still a student at the Kfar HaRoeh Boarding School (where he teaches physical education today), one of Kochav's teachers involved him in track. He went on to represent Israel at marathons in China, Paris, and in 2004, in Boston.



Between 1997 and 2001, Kochav completed a Bachelor's degree in physical education at Israel's prestigious Wingate Institute. He did so with the assistance of NACOEJ/Vidal Sassoon Adopt-A-Student program sponsors Andrew and Karen Friedman of Silver Spring, Maryland.

Andrew said they decided to sponsor Kochav because "Ethiopians were having a rougher ride than most," integrating into life in Israel. Andrew and his family have visited the Hadera-based runner half a dozen times since then, including coming with their son Aharon in January to Kochav's wedding. They were guests of honor. Kochav said, "The Friedmans have always kept in touch. My wife Oshrat and I were very excited when they said they were coming."

Kochav, like most athletes in Israel, works full-time in addition to training. He splits his time between teaching physical education, coaching emerging runners, and heading *Ratzim MeHalev* (Running from the Heart), a non-profit organization he founded in 2008 to identify and cultivate athletic talent in young people. (See "It All Comes Together: Lior's Story" on page 7.)

Still ahead of Kochav in his quest to qualify for Israel's Olympic squad is the goal of finishing the Tiberias Marathon in two hours and fifteen minutes or less. Kochav is very optimistic. As he puts it, "I want to serve as an example to the next generation. This is my contribution."

We salute Kochav and wish him much success. And we salute the Friedman family for being there with him all through the years, helping him to reach for the stars, as well as helping the many other college students they have sponsored since.

Want to sponsor a student yourself? It's an experience that will enrich you as much as your student. For further information, please contact Judy Dick at 212-233-5200, ext. 230 or email her at college@nacoj.org. Please mention reading about sponsoring a student in the *Lifeline*. ■

Kochav Bitaw (left) coaching young athletes before the National Track and Field Championships 1000-meter race in Tel Aviv. Photos: Win Robins



It All Comes Together: Lior's Story

Back when we started helping Ethiopian youngsters in Israel get a good education, there wasn't much connection among our programs.

We started our college sponsorship program (AAS) first. Then we began after-school programs (*Limudiah*) for Ethiopian children in elementary schools. Then high school sponsorships.

It made sense because the necessity for the programs became apparent at different times, but there wasn't much traceable effect from one program to another.

Now, that has changed.

Today, we are sponsoring college students who started out in our *Limudiah*, and some of our *Limudiah* students today have parents who went to *Limudiah* years ago, and tell us they won't let their children be enrolled in any school that doesn't have our program!

High school kids write to their sponsors that they were in *Limudiah*. Some college sponsors learn that their students were in our high school program.

Now, a different kind of connection also comes up to delight us.

Just as we were putting together our story about former AAS student Kochav Bitaw, who is an Olympic hopeful (see page 6), we got word that Kochav is coaching a high school runner, Lior Bogala, whose special athletic program is being sponsored by an American boy, Ethan Baer, who is raising funds for Lior through a NACOEJ Mitzvah Project! (See page 8 for more information on Mitzvah Projects.)

It sounds very complicated, especially since Ethan is also twinning with another Ethiopian-Israeli boy through the NACOEJ twinning program,

and we are also looking for an additional sponsor to supplement Ethan's funds because Lior needs equipment that will cost extra money!

But it's really very simple: as we wrote in a previous *Lifeline*, an immigrant Ethiopian girl we were helping years ago told us, "Jews help Jews – that is all!"

In this case, there's a special added attraction. Lior's great uncle (his grandfather's brother) was Yona Bogala, the revered patriarch of the Ethiopian Jews.

As a boy, Yona was taken from Gondar to Europe and Israel to study; later he established and ran a school for Jews in Ethiopia; he rectified the Jewish calendar; he led his people when it was dangerous to do so; and eventually he himself made aliyah.

NACOEJ Israel director, Shoshana Ben-Dor knew him well and other NACOEJ leaders had the privilege of meeting with him in his last years.

When Yona died in Israel, he was honored with a state funeral, attended by thousands.

Now we feel that history has touched us again, as we lend a hand to his great nephew, Lior.

Yes, it all comes together. ■



LEFT: Lior
RIGHT: Ethan Baer

Condolences to...

- The **Ethiopian Jewish community** on the passing of a great sage and great friend, former Israeli Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliyahu, who was a strong supporter of the community for many years. At NACOEJ we cherish a letter R. Eliyahu wrote to us as Chief Rabbi, commending our work on behalf of the Beta Israel, and urging us to continue teaching and assisting them. We join R. Eliyahu's family and hundreds of thousands of followers in mourning the loss of a revered rabbi.
- NACOEJ Board Chairperson and past President **Faye Lieman**, husband Meyer, and the Lieman family on the loss of Faye's beloved brother, Henry Davis. He was an accomplished pianist and businessman, who created the Henry Davis Travel Corp., as well as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and brother.
- NACOEJ Executive Director and Founder **Barbara Ribakove Gordon** on the loss of her lifelong best friend, Dr. Carol Laderman, and to Carol's husband Gabriel, and sons Raphael and Michael. Carol, an internationally honored anthropologist, and her family have always been NACOEJ supporters.
- The **Tutnauer family of Jerusalem** on the passing of Rabbi Moshe Tutnauer, husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and mentor of Jews literally all over the world. Moshe and his wife Margie were the first Israelis to "adopt" Ethiopian college students and have always been among the community's best friends in Israel.

FROM OUR "E-BAG"...

This beautiful note came from Cheryl Bratcher, a new NACOEJ supporter, who came across a video about Jews in Ethiopia on-line.

"I had no idea this kind of suffering and desperation was going on concerning these people," Cheryl wrote. "When I saw that woman holding her very malnourished two-year-old daughter, it literally grieved me to the core. I am a mother of two very young children as well, and I know what a healthy two-year-old should look like.

"I could not bear the thought of living my life wondering, day after day, if my children will live or die. So I googled the phrase Ethiopian Jewish Children/Charities and then read through the entries until I found ...your organization.

"I have been collecting unemployment for over a year now, but even my worst day without a job seems a thousand times better than what the Ethiopian Jewish people are struggling with as a standard way of life. I know how I feel when I see my own kids, and I hope the gift that my family was able to share through your organization will help restore that joy and relief over their children's welfare in at least some of those Ethiopian families' lives."

Thank you, Bratcher family, for your generosity and your deep compassion. Your gift will indeed help feed hungry Jewish children.

For more information and many exciting ways to help Ethiopian Jews, please go to our web site – www.nacoej.org.

NACOEJ OFFICERS 2010/2011

PRESIDENT:

*Evely Laser Shlensky
Santa Barbara, CA*

VICE PRESIDENT:

*Sanford Goldhaber
Brooklyn, NY*

TREASURER:

*Tzvi Bar-Shai
Bronx, NY*

SECRETARY:

*Harlan Jacobs
Minneapolis, MN*

BOARD

CHAIRPERSON:
*Faye Lieman
Bronx, NY*



Adam Cintron

Adam Finds a Cause

Adam Cintron was looking for a cause he could believe in for the mitzvah project required for Bar Mitzvah preparation at Temple Shalom Hebrew School in Manalapan, NJ.

Since he was interested in helping Jews in need, his mother, Sheryl, suggested that he consider Ethiopian Jews. On the internet, Adam came across NACOEJ's website. He'd found his cause!

He proceeded to educate himself about Ethiopian Jewry, beginning with materials from NACOEJ, and decided to raise funds for the NACOEJ school lunch program in Gondar.

He set up his own web page on the NACOEJ website, with the goal of feeding 13 school children in Ethiopia for one year. (You can find it at www.nacoej.org. Click on the Mitzvah Project page in the upper right hand corner and look for Adam Cintron.)

Then he went to work.

He created awareness by sending emails with a link to his page to friends and family; giving out flyers to his Hebrew School classmates; and even asking the school's Education Director to include a unit about Ethiopian Jewry in the curriculum. (YAY!)

Adam says he was especially affected by how Ethiopian Jews were cut off from other Jews for so many years, and decided to participate in the NACOEJ Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning Program to get in close touch with an Ethiopian Bar Mitzvah boy in Israel.

Adam's three-pronged Mitzvah Project (Twinning, fundraising, education) culminated with his Bar Mitzvah on November 13th, when he spoke about what he learned and displayed a poster illustrating his Mitzvah Project.

Adam is not only well on the way to meet his fundraising goal, but has become quite expert about Ethiopian Jewry. His mother notes that his personalized web page has been very useful – people, she says, responded to being offered a specific way to help others.

NACOEJ has a handsome, colorful brochure of Mitzvah Projects, full of terrific ideas for kids, adults, and teachers (including access to curriculum materials). Students, parents, and teachers all over the country have been finding their causes in it.

You can get a free copy of the brochure and have a chat with Judy Dick, coordinator of the Mitzvah Project program by calling 212-233-5200, ext. 230 or emailing to mitzvah@nacoej.org. For Bar/Bat Mitzvah Twinning, contact Miriam Weissman at 212-233-5200, ext. 222 or email to mweissman@nacoej.org. ■



NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON
ETHIOPIAN JEWRY (NACOEJ)
255 West 36th St. Ste. 701, New York, NY 10018
www.nacoej.org 212-233-5200

Mitzvah Projects brochure