



**Project:**

Fostering Young Israeli Women Entrepreneurs

**Local Partner:**

Western Galilee College

**Summary:**

Opening social and economic opportunities and fostering the entrepreneurial capacity of talented young women from diverse backgrounds



**The facts**

Research shows that Israeli women are less likely to apply for traditionally male dominated academic programmes such as economics and management.

Women in Israel do not have the academic requirements for these courses and many lack confidence in their ability to master the relevant subjects such as mathematics, statistics and finance.

Women entrepreneurs in Israel face a number of barriers to success: banks are less willing to approve loans to women; many lack business skills; there are few role models to inspire women to start their own businesses; and they lack support networks.

**What people say**

“The programme supports and assists female students to excel in their studies. The extra tutorials offered make me and the other students feel special and confident in our potential to succeed.”

**Hagar**

Student, B.A. Economics and Management, Western Galilee College

**Fostering Young Israeli Women Entrepreneurs**

The Cherie Blair Foundation for Women, in partnership with the Western Galilee College, is supporting twenty-one young women for three years on a higher education programme aimed at developing entrepreneurial skills and contributing to socio-economic opportunities for women from all communities in Northern Israel.

**About the project**

The interdisciplinary B.A. in Economics and Management provides tutoring, practical training in the workplace and business development opportunities, and gives young women the confidence and skills needed to succeed in business. This comprehensive programme develops the entrepreneurial capacity of women while also strengthening local networks between Jewish and Arab communities.

The Foundation is offering additional network opportunities which include pairing students with successful business leaders around the world to enhance learning through e-mentoring, along with offering practical experience in which to apply their newfound business knowledge and expertise.

The women who graduate from the course are paving the way for future generations in their capacity as ground-breaking role models and community leaders. Alumni will be able to share

their knowledge and contribute to their communities by developing business initiatives and creating new work places. Once they have achieved a level of success in their businesses, they will be encouraged to give back, for example through funding or mentoring, creating a sustainable flow of support for the programme.

The programme also strengthens inter-cultural relations in the region. With a number of religions and cultures represented, students are given the opportunity to work in a diverse environment offering new perspectives and opportunities for personal growth.

Overall, our aim is for graduates of the programme to be an asset for the advancement of the region.

For more information about the Western Galilee College: [www.wgalil.ac.il](http://www.wgalil.ac.il)

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