



HMCHA
HOLISTIC MINISTRY OF CHILDREN
OF THE HORN OF AFRICA

Changing the world, one child at a time

Spring, 2020



WE'VE GOT NEWS

There's nothing like a cement mixer and some tools to attract little boys to stand quietly watching adults at work anywhere in the world! The construction of HMCHA's primary school is no exception. Started in January at a projected cost of **\$100,000**, the community is anxiously waiting (and coming to watch too) to see it completed.

PRIMARY SCHOOL UNDER CONSTRUCTION

This school will be beautiful! On the site of the community center in the village of Keteba, there will be two buildings with two classrooms each and a small office for grades 1-4. Better yet, it's right next to the library and computer lab. After their half-day of school students can study or play on the playground if they don't have farm chores to do at home

We've already raised \$61,500, and we need \$23,500 more!

Now we're asking you to help deserving children have a school with lights, desks, bathrooms, a roof that doesn't leak and a library next door.

Because \$15,000 of the remaining \$38,500 will be matched, only \$23,500 more needs to be raised. Any amount you can contribute to building the school will be greatly appreciated.

Every little bit helps!



Future school building



Future school bathrooms

COMMUNITY CENTER IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



The HMCHA community center opened in October, 2017. It is truly becoming a gathering place.

370 adults meet once a week, in smaller groups of men or women, to discuss community affairs.

35 youth and adults play volleyball several afternoons a week when children are not using that area.

The **playground**, opened in February, is used by about 80 children.

More than 85 children come to Saturday classes (Bible stories, health education, tutoring and games), with 50-60 being faithful attendees. **15** completed a keyboarding course on the computer and **10 more** have started that course.



More than 60 children come to the library every week, with **25-30** of those coming daily to do homework, read books & write stories.

20 children come to regularly-scheduled tutoring classes for their grade level.

Math/Science camp is held for 10 days in August for sponsored students entering grades 7-9.



WAITING FOR HOPES TO BE FULFILLED



Meron, 7, grade 2 Eyob, 13, grade 1

Resilient Ethiopian children are surviving on one meal a day, and perhaps that 4-5 days per week, hoping they will be chosen to have a HMCHA sponsor. Once they are chosen they may wait as long as a year before a sponsor is found. Maybe YOU are the one who will respond to their hope and make them part of HMCHA's family in Ethiopia.



Abbaba, 10, grade 1 Zufan, 10, grade 5

Note: You may wonder why a 13-year old is in first grade. Many children can't start school until they have a sponsor. Perhaps a parent died, or an older sibling was going to school and there was no money to pay for school materials for more than one child.

Sponsorship is \$360 per year, about \$1 per day. When a child is sponsored, that sponsorship money provides not only for school expenses, but also for food for the family. If you would like to know more about how sponsorship money is used contact Carol Pfleiderer at carolpfl@aol.com

CAN YOU HELP?

We know these are difficult times for many of you. First, we ask for your prayers for these children. If you have a Donor Advised Fund, with money given already, that's a wonderful way to support HMCHA now. Any amount you can give helps us build the school and keeps our programs going for our children. If you'd like to sponsor a child, you may pay annually (\$360, semi-annually (\$180), quarterly (\$90) or even monthly if you wish.

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ Preferred contact: mail _____ email _____

CHECK ENCLOSED AMOUNT _____ FOR _____

If you are sponsoring a child, do you prefer _____ boy _____ girl _____ either

MAIL TO HMCHA, P.O. BOX 591, HOPKINS, MN 55343

OR PAY ONLINE AT www.hmcha.org OR to PayPal Giving Fund.

God's blessings to you in the coming days and months. Be well, stay safe.



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A LETTER FROM THE HMCHA BOARD & STAFF

Dear HMCHA Family,

Those of us on the HMCHA Board and Staff send our prayers and wishes for health and safety to all of you during this time of uncertainty and rapid spread of COVID-19 throughout the world.

Pandemics are not new on Earth, and past leaders have recommended the same steps to help stop the spread of disease. Here's what Martin Luther wrote 500 years ago.

"I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed ...and so cause their death as a result of my negligence."

Endalew, our country director in Ethiopia, wrote last week:

"Thank you for your concern. There is big fear that the virus will spread fast in the coming weeks. 56 people are confirmed in Ethiopia but it is expected that many more are infected. Because our health system is very inadequate, there is fear that the spread of the virus will hurt many.

As Christians, we trust God and we take care too. We need your prayer for our people, for Ethiopia, for HMCHA workers and children and families, and also for my family.

**We pray for you too. We believe God is in control of everything.
Stay in peace and be safe."**

Endalew

Even now and especially now God walks with us. Be safe and fear not, we are not alone.

In partnership,

**Jay Boyle, Roy Lafayette, Micah Wenck, Jim Burgess, Deb Vavra, Carol Pfleiderer,
Endalew Terefe, and all our staff in Ethiopia**

