

EVERYONE IS BACK IN SCHOOL



Tariku with his new school supplies

With great joy and excitement, prepared with notebooks, pens and uniforms, your sponsored children returned to school just before Christmas. Some went back 5 days a week, others for 3 days because of social distancing. Out of school since last March, all students except for 8th graders, were passed to the next grade. HMCHA 8th graders studied hard for this important exam that determines if they continue to high school or repeat 8th grade. Out of ten of your children who took the exam, seven passed and three are still waiting for results. What an accomplishment for rural sponsored students! Only about half of Ethiopian students finish 8th grade, but all of HMCHA children do. Your sponsorship makes a huge difference!



First graders in HMCHA's new school

What did you do during the pandemic? A question for children (& adults, too).

Sponsored children studied at home and at the community center, played some sports and came to the playground, but much of their time was spent on chores. Look to see if these are the same chores you do at your house.



1. Threshing
2. Plowing
3. Weeding
4. Chopping onions
5. Selling drinks by the market
6. Taking care of cattle
7. Roasting coffee
8. Getting water
9. Finding firewood



Mestu, Age 8, Grade 1



Habtamu, Age 13, Grade 7

I'm waiting for a sponsor to change MY life. Thank you for choosing me!



Yonas, Age 9, Grade 3.



Seife, Age 15, Grade 9

Sponsorship means an education, and a way out of poverty. It also means learning Bible stories, receiving tutoring and eating everyday. Turn the page to see exactly how your sponsorship money is used.

In 2011, 14 people traveled to Ethiopia with HMCHA on our first trip. We celebrated our 5th anniversary there and came back committed to finding more sponsors who realize the importance of education for needy children. Many of you responded, and suddenly the number of sponsored children went from 16 to 32 and kept increasing. We now have 125 children sponsored, and more waiting anxiously for a sponsor to choose them.

YOU changed my life. I'm attending school & I have 3 goats. I'm so happy!



Listen to Zerihun, sponsored last year: *My beloved sponsor, I am very happy for your support. If you couldn't have helped me, I couldn't educate myself. You have pulled me out of darkness to the light. You're destroying poverty and improving a generation. An educated person is competent in this world, and you're leading me to this competency. My plan is to be an independent person in the future.*

Belaynesh wrote: *This year I'm going to school in town. I rent a room with my cousin and we pay the rent. Education is better in town and we are not so busy doing farm work like in the village. Our only job is studying. I take the 8th grade exam this year, so I am studying hard.*

Mastike was sponsored in 2020, and her family didn't have a place to live. She wrote: *Your sponsor money purchased clothes, chickens and shoes. I have five chickens. All of these are fulfilled by your sponsorship. Thank you a lot. If I have money, I will buy clothes for you, but I don't have any.*

Aster greeted her sponsors like this: *I would like to send my greetings, which can cross over mountains and oceans. I am fine, and so are my families. How are your families? I am very happy for you. I have exercise books, pens and clothes. I am going to school everyday.*

WILL YOU RESPOND to their hope and make them part of your family here, and part of HMCHA's family in Ethiopia? Can you sponsor one more child, if you already have one?

SPONSORSHIP IS LESS THAN \$1 PER DAY.

There are monthly parent meetings to support families. **ALL your sponsorship money goes to the families.** Administrative costs are raised through separate donations.

Your child will write twice a year, and we'll send you our HMCHA letters with news of what's happening in our little corner of Ethiopia.

Our HMCHA Primary School

Two years ago board members met with a group of community leaders and our local committee. When asked how we could help there was no hesitation: this village needs a school and the government isn't going to build it. Will you help us?

Could we possibly take on another building project so soon after the community center was finished? After prayerful consideration, we decided to try to raise the money, and committed to the construction of the school.

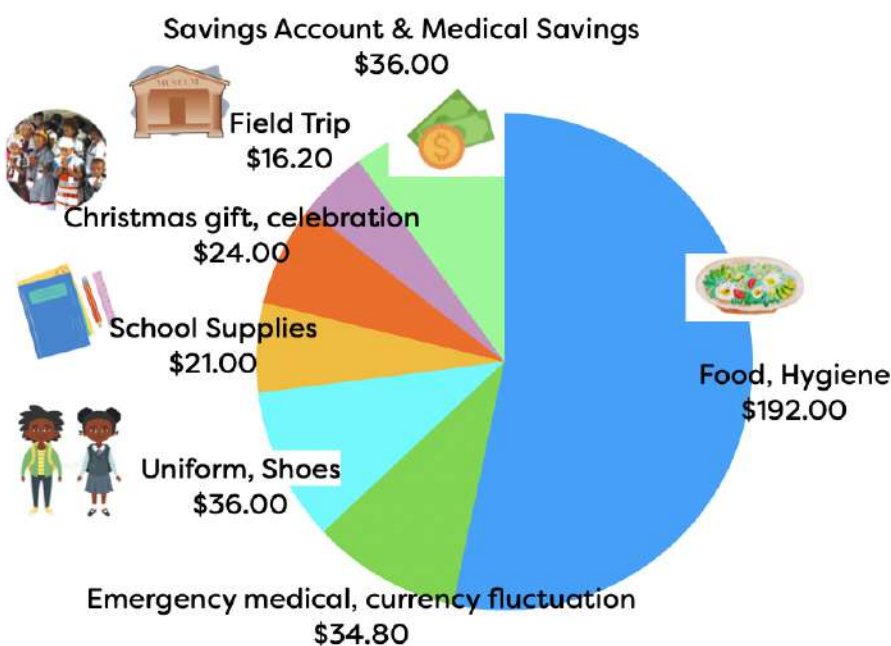


Our Teachers: Tsiyon, Diribe, Yemane



In December forty-seven kindergarten and first grade students were ready to begin their school year at a brand new school. They are eager to learn, attending from 8:00 to noon, and then returning after lunch for art, story time, and tutoring. They even had their first computer lesson in March at the community center next door to the school! Children use the playground and community center library. What a special place this compound has become.

Where does my sponsorship money go?



"Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be."

JOB 8:7

HMCHA TURNS 15!

As we celebrate 15 years we are grateful to God, you who are our donors and supporters, and to our dedicated staff and all the children who are proud to be HMCHA family.

We pray for the many more who would like to be sponsored, that soon their hopes and dreams will come true.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

PRAY for the children and staff, and for peace in Ethiopia. The area served by HMCHA is currently stable, but recently there has been increased violence in Oromia, which although far away from HMCHA's region, impacts the whole government of Ethiopia.

CONTRIBUTE

In-kind donations needed:

used laptops
point and shoot digital camera
Saturday classes,
Learning materials for reading and math

Monetary donations needed:

art supplies for the school, library, and Saturday classes
\$23 for a grade 8-10 student to attend math/science camp in July

For in-kind donations, contact carolpfl@aol.com or at 952-465-1349

Designate your gift, or indicate that you would like it to be used "where most needed".

Other Ways to Give:

Employer Match, Thrivent Choice Dollars, AmazonSmile, Your Donor Advised Fund.

SPONSOR A WAITING CHILD. Fill out the form below to indicate your preference.

When you sponsor a child, you make a difference in the life of a family for a lifetime! Many more are waiting and hoping.

You may pay annually (\$360, semi-annually (\$180 x 2), quarterly (\$90 x 4) by check or credit card at www.hmcha.org.

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ Preferred contact: mail _____ email _____

CHECK: ENCLOSED \$ _____ TO BE USED 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

Blessings to you this Easter and always! Be well, stay safe.

Visit www.hmcha.org