

HOPE Enterprises

Third Quarterly Report 2005

I. Headquarters

The period of reporting, *Kremt*, Ethiopia's winter season, coincides with the school holidays, allowing valuable maintenance and construction to be carried out in the HOPE sites across Ethiopia. In addition to such works, other activities continued as normal throughout the third quarter; the poor continued to require assistance and a large number of international visitors were received.

The Business Platform sent 13 businessmen from the Netherlands, all of whom were delighted to be able to share their knowledge with both staff and beneficiaries during their visit to centers in Addis Ababa, Dessie and the Rift Valley. Hans Treurniet, the architect of HOPE's future college visited in July in order to discuss plans, meet with consulting firms, visit the site in Mekanissa, Addis Ababa, and take part in a general press release announcing and describing the university college's master plan. Other guests included journalists from a dozen newspapers, local, national and international news media. Following the above mentioned press release in Ethiopia, Ethiopian television felt it fitting to air the university college's plans on prime time television. The President, Dr. Minas Hiruy, was also interviewed by a number of newspapers and the Voice of Germany, further spreading the news about the university college and the organization's good work.

Due to structural changes being made within HOPE, the President spent much of his time revising the operational manual and finding ways to introduce HOPE to the benefits of online fundraising. Menlo Park Presbyterian Church has kindly offered to assist HOPE in the development of a website specifically for this purpose. BOK, a European partner of HOPE, is also creating a website and journal for the HOPE University College.

Improvements were also made to HOPE's academic and vocational sectors; using the findings of an external evaluation, changes were made to our academic structure and textbooks and CD-ROM learning (donated by Human Info NGO, a Belgian agency in Antwerp) were introduced in the vocational learning centers.

II. The Ladders of HOPE

The Ladders of HOPE continued to show good results operating under the able leadership of its Executive Director, Zenebe Ayele. A number of our new activities were strengthened during the summer with Mr. Zenebe making a number of field trips with his project director, Benyam Shibru. A number of graduations took place in HOPE schools and training centers across Ethiopia, all attended by government dignitaries, parents, community leaders, staff and students. Many of the graduates have found jobs or enrolled on business development schemes.

The Addis Ababa Branch

Full Family Based Child Care

The Addis program has been increased to provide assistance to 302 beneficiaries (140 boys and 162 girls) following the enrollment of fifty new children. The new children were chosen by a committee of community members and HOPE's child-care officer who visited 158 homes. As is the norm, the final list of fifty was posted in public bulletins in order to allow the communities to raise any objections to the chosen few. When no community objection was registered, the 50 children were admitted in early September qualifying for full assistance and educational support.

Partial Family Based Child Care

During this period the program supported 162 children (97 boys and 65 girls), 157 of them attended the HOPE school while the remaining five joined government schools. A HOPE summer enrichment program was organized in July and 154 of the students chose to attend. Uniforms for the new academic year were also distributed to the children.

Feeding Center

With the continued provision of hot lunches for the needy, the feeding center was visited by 660 people on a daily basis (except on Sundays). During this quarter some 51,880 people received assistance from HOPE (2,277 children, 25,121 females and 24,484 males).

Street Children's Breakfast

Provision of breakfast for 530 (277 boys and 253 girls) children continued during the months of July, August and September. In addition to receiving breakfast, the children also received basic education including basic literacy and numeric lessons. Afternoons saw the continuation of tuition classes for those students who wished to receive further instruction/assistance rather than trying to complete homework at home where chores and other interferences often make concentrated study close to impossible.

HOPE School, Addis Ababa

School finished for the academic year at the beginning of July with a ceremony attended by staff, students and their guardians. The children performed a number of activities including drama and singing before report cards were issued to the parents/guardians of the students.

Analysis made on the overall achievement of students excluding 8th grade results revealed that from the 815 (413 males and 402 females) students who sat for the final exam, 800 (401 males and 399 females) were promoted to the next grade. From a total of 60 students who sat for the 8th grade national examination, 53 students scored above 80%. In the case of 10th graders, of the 60 students who sat for the National Examination, 36 students scored above 3.00 and 22 scored above 2.00, allowing 48 take up places in

college preparatory studies. Twelve others were eligible to join one or two year vocational training institutions. During the months of July and August the branch's office purchased the necessary school books and teaching aid materials. Playground equipment was repaired, classroom walls were painted and the school's compound was renovated.

The new year school year began with the registration of students from August 27 to September 10, 2005, during which time 49 new students (18 boys and 31 girls) were registered. The staff and the parents/guardians held a special opening ceremony to welcome the students to the new academic year. To mark the New Year a torch was lit by a representative of the new students. A session for student orientation, including school regulations and policies, was held before the commencement of study. Teachers also met to discuss the program for the coming year.

Community Based Educational Support for Street children

During the reporting period, 350 children, of whom 154 were girls, were supported on the program. The vast majority of the children (319) were successful in being promoted into the next grade at school and six of the children (four boys, two girls) came first in their respective classes. HOPE's social worker spent time gathering information about the performance and behavior of the children.

HOPE Vocational Training Center

In July 2005, the Vocational Training Center was proud to graduate 154 students in woodwork, general mechanics, auto-mechanics, electrical technology, hotel & home services, videography and cosmetology. During this period first year students undertook apprenticeships within ten different organizations in Addis Ababa, gaining valuable experience and skills relevant to their chosen field of study.

Recruitment for new students for the vocational training school was undertaken with specific targeting of students from the poorer strata of society. In all, 82 students were recruited in August and during the summer months, bulk purchase of raw materials for the various fields of training was made following detailed planning for requisitions.

58 students in the field of electrical technology displayed their final evaluation projects during this period. These included: regulated power supply, dying machines, incubators, TVRO (Television Receiver Only) installation, four different tapes and electronic training models. As part of their studies the trainees also carried out electrical maintenance in the compound.

59 students were trained in the department of general mechanics during the 2004/05 academic year. First year trainees were assigned to different organizations for the apprenticeship program during July and August. With the exception of one student, all completed the program and have successfully begun the 2nd year program. Graduates of the department produced a brick machine, physical fitness equipment, circular saws and gas stoves as their projects for final exhibition. These students also carried out repairs to preschool playground equipment.

17 students (11 male and six female) graduated from the Woodworks Department. Nine of the trainees (seven male and two female) were assigned to different organizations for apprenticeship.

The department designed and built school furniture for HOPE's Assosa, Roggie, and Hurrara project areas as part of its training scheme. Orders for office furniture were also taken from those not involved in HOPE's work, demonstrating the high quality of production demanded and reached.

33 young women received training under this program. The training lasted for 10 months and all graduated on July 2, 2005. Preparations for the 2005/06 academic year were carried out during the quarter. The coordinator of the department pursued her own studies in hotel management during the summer with HOPE fully covering her tuition fees in order to be able to offer better training to our own students.

Career Planning and Placement

In order to know exactly what was desired by July's graduates, the Career Planning and Placement office undertook a needs assessment analysis, which resulted in the provision of two options: job placement or business development. Those opting for business development were required to highlight specific interest areas in order to assure them of suitable programs.

Business Center

During this quarter two business enterprises were set up and made fully operational in the areas of general plumbing & sanitary work and electrical & computer technology. **Holiyad Technical Service Plc.** was set up by five students specializing in general plumbing at HOPE Enterprises. This company recently won a contract in plumbing for a local housing project. The other company, **International Computer Networking System PLC**, is owned by six youngsters all of whom are graduates of HOPE.

Abro Adeg Modern Ceramics Cooperative Society, a HOPE society of former needy girls, has shown an increase in revenue registering an average monthly income of ETB 13,628.33, more than 100% increase from the last quarter. The cooperative had a rolling cash balance of ETB 60,996.33 by the end of the quarter. The business center is also assisting in the foundation of a car-washing and maintenance business for graduates of the auto-mechanics program.

The Dessie Branch

The Dessie centre received a number of visitors during this quarter, receiving the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, Evergreen Valley Church (both from the Bay Area, California), a delegation of Dutch businessmen and an evaluation team examining our Job and Income Center for graduates from HOPE in Dessie. This evaluation went very

well. **Abenezer Fast Foods** was visited by the evaluator where it was noted that success was evident virtually from the inception of the project.

Given the high number of visitors to the Dessie branch it was felt expedient to expand the guest house to allow accommodation for up to twelve people.

Family Based Child Care

During this quarter, ongoing family based childcare support was increased from 741 children to 791. The recruitment of the new beneficiaries was conducted by a committee constituted of local officials, community members and the branch's child care officer. The provision of lunch, education, medical care, uniforms and monthly allowance continued unhindered.

A missionary team from the USA (Evergreen Valley Church), led by Ms. Sally Anderson, spent three days in our guest house, during which time they organized various educational and recreational programs for the children. The team handed out balls, bags, stickers, pencils, markers, colored pens, balloons and other gifts to the children.

HOPE Junior Clinic

85 children (40 male and 45 female) visited the clinic during the quarter for treatment by the HOPE nurse. The Nurse also provided valuable instruction of preventive healthcare to the children.

HOPE School, Dessie

Parents' Day in July was well attended with the school's director delivering a speech analyzing the overall successes of the academic year. Following the speech awards were presented to outstanding students and report cards were distributed.

The scores of the 8th grade National Examination were very pleasing with all the 50 students promoted to the 9th grade. Similarly all 46 students who sat the 10th grade National Examination scored above the passing grade point average required for entrance to the college preparatory level.

15 students in the college preparatory class scored a grade point average that qualified them for entrance to universities and 25 first year college preparatory class students have successfully moved up to the 2nd year preparatory class level. The tragic and accidental death of one student, Ahmed Tadesse, is deeply shocking and HOPE extends condolences to his family and friends.

In July and August, a number of former HOPE students, currently enrolled in university, arranged thrice weekly summer enrichment classes for 200 HOPE school students (120 male, 80 female). It is a delight to see that HOPE graduates are keen to help those who succeed them in HOPE schools.

The new school year began in September with a welcoming ceremony, attended by parents/guardians, students, teachers and other HOPE staff. Teachers met prior to the commencement of classes to discuss methods of improving performance.

HOPE Vocational Training Center

The center graduated, for the third time, 55 trainees with a 10+2 certificate in construction technology, electrical technology, general mechanics and secretarial science & office management. The head of the South Wollo Zone's Capacity Building Bureau, the Archbishop of South Wollo Zone, other invited guests and family members of the graduates attended the ceremony. The management committee, board members, president of HOPE and 12 visitors from Woord en Daad, a donor agency in the Netherlands, were also present. Miss Eden Nigatu, representing the graduates, delivered a speech expressing gratitude for all the support that HOPE had provided. A representative of the Business Platform also spoke, conveying how happy they were to see that the graduates had worked so hard and achieved so much. Members of the Business Platform also presented HOPE with thirty chairs and two cupboards they made with trainees in HOPE's general mechanics workshop.

In September, with all the 10th grade completers opting to join college preparatory classes, a new intake for vocational programs was accepted and Abebe Tezerra was employed as instructor for those studying electrical technology.

Career planning and Job placement

Questionnaires were distributed to those graduating in order to assess their needs and wishes in terms of employment/business development. After identifying individual interests efforts were made to contact potential employers around the town of Dessie.

Business Center

The Abenezer Fast Foods Plc. was visited by Mr. Theo Dijkstra, who runs restaurants in the Netherlands. Mr. Dijkstra came to share his experiences with the five young women who own the restaurant. Topics such as customer management and health and hygiene in the workplace were covered.

It was noted that the restaurant was profitable. HOPE's management has taken various steps to help the young women develop their business, understanding that the transformation from full assistance to working alone is never easy.

Preparations were also underway to establish a construction company and a business center for the graduates interested in having their businesses.

Construction of Auditorium

The auditorium (to be shared between the vocational training center and the high school) was completed in September. HOPE students of construction technology, electrical technology and general mechanics were all involved in the construction process.

With the advice of Mr. Klaas de Wit, President of DWA Installation and Energy Consultancy of the Netherlands, an outlet for the warm air generated inside was installed making a more comfortable atmosphere within the auditorium. The building was inaugurated following the graduation ceremony for the vocational training students and thanks were given to the funding agency, Oikonomos, of the Netherlands.

Gambella Branch

Family Based Child Care

With the addition of 40 new children in this quarter, the number of beneficiaries supported under this project increased to 480 (244 boys and 236 girls). These children were incorporated from the day care and feeding projects that were discontinued. During this quarter, 48 (22 boys and 26 girls) children with illnesses such as malaria were treated by HOPE.

HOPE School, Gambella

480 children were registered in our HOPE school. Out of the 35 students who sat for the 8th grade National Exam, 21 students scored a pass mark. Eight students from the HOPE school in Gambella sat the 10th grade National Exams, as yet no results have been announced. One student who took the National Examination in the preparatory class scored a grade point average that will qualify him for college study.

The school offers extra-curricula activity clubs, which include: Language, Drama, Music, Anti HIV/AIDS, Red Cross, Girls', Question and Answer, Sport, Environmental and a pedagogical center. The clubs began registering members in late September.

Community Based Child Care

125 (49 boys and 76 girls) children were supported by the community based child care program in Gambella. 102 children (36 boys, 66 girls) successfully passed end of year school exams, eleven failed their exams and twelve did not complete their course work for various reasons.

A team of twelve members from South Valley Christian Church visited the children for a week in July. The team had various educational and recreational programs for the children. It also hosted a luncheon for the children and their families with 1,300 guests attending. The luncheon was used as an opportunity to emphasize suitable methods of childcare and healthcare options for the families of HOPE children.

Day Care and Feeding Center

The Day Care and Feeding Center project was supporting 160 children (73 boys and 87 girls). The program was active for the first two months of the reporting period but was terminated in September when sponsorship allowing the majority of the children to

remain at home with their families was found. Those for whom sponsorship could not be provided have been incorporated into other HOPE programs.

The Assosa Project Area

The 41,975 square meters of land granted to HOPE by the regional government has been fenced and the pre-qualification tender for the construction of the elementary school announced in a public newspaper. Woord en Daad has kindly agreed to support the Assosa project. Until the elementary school is completed, a room has been rented to accommodate the teaching of newly recruited children. One kindergarten teacher has been hired for the additional group of students.

Family based Child Care

50 new children were recruited in August bringing the number of beneficiaries to 100 (43 boys and 57 girls). School uniforms, shoes, exercise books, pens and pencils were bought and distributed to each child. Breakfast and lunch was also provided for the children in school as well as Birr 40 given to the families of the children to cover additional expenses.

HOPE School, Assosa

New furniture for the kindergarten class was manufactured by our carpentry shop in the Addis school and new carpets were bought to ensure a comfortable nap time.

The Roggie Child Care and Training Center

Family Based Child Care

In September, the Roggie Child Care and Training Center admitted 50 new children bringing the number of children on this program to 100 (49 boys, 51 girls). These new children were enrolled in the kindergarten, which was built earlier in the year. The children were provided with necessary school supplies and daily lunches and a Birr 40 monthly allowance was given to parents to cover additional expenses.

Letters to the children from sponsors were distributed, much to the delight of the children. The whole operation was financed by Menlo Park Presbyterian Church of California. Thanks to the kindness of the church, these children are able to learn daily and are assured of at least one good meal a day. The area project was visited by members of the Menlo Park Presbyterian Church during the summer and the President of HOPE visited in September where a number of very real needs in the community were highlighted for him; these included a lack of clean water and the community's need for a grain mill.

HOPE School

The Preschool

The community contributed labor for the construction of the kindergarten during the summer. The school of carpentry of the Addis Ababa branch made the furniture. A

kindergarten teacher was employed to teach the new class after a careful interview conducted by staff from the head office.

Construction of the Elementary School

Pre-qualification tender for the construction of the Roggie Elementary School was announced in a public newspaper and bidders submitted their profiles. A committee then short-listed five of the top companies on the basis of capacity, past performance and delivery and client relations, following this, the five were asked to put in their tenders. The contract will be awarded following careful consideration of all tender bids.

The Hirara Child Care and Training Center

Family Based Child Care

By July the 50 children receiving assistance on this program were promoted to the kindergarten, allowing HOPE to recruit 50 new children in August to move in to the nursery due to begin studying in October. This project was fully funded by South Valley Christian Church, letters from the Church were distributed to the students who were thrilled to receive them.

HOPE School

Pre-school

An additional classroom was built to allow the new kindergarten children a room of their own in which to learn. A kindergarten teacher has been employed to teach this new level.

Construction of the Elementary School

The construction tender for Hirara elementary school has been announced in public newspapers to invite potential construction company bidders. Organizational profiles were submitted by different companies, short-listed by the management and purchasing committee following the criteria set by HOPE Enterprises. HOPE has requested the short-listed construction companies to submit their bill of quantity.

III. The HOPE University College

During this period, the focus regarding the HOPE University College was construction and curriculum. A local architectural firm was hired to oversee production of detailed designs of the master plan, to advise on the selection of a building contractor and to supervise construction, material requirements and time schedule. Two members of the construction consortium from the Netherlands, Hans Treurniet and Klaas de Wit, assisted in the examining of short-listed company profiles in order to ensure that only the highest quality company won tender.

Interviews with four local companies were carried out and office visits made to assess capacity and ability of work across all media of work: architectural, mechanical, electrical, structural engineering and environmental care. Following the extensive interview procedure, Abba Architects Plc was awarded the contract. This organization has many large projects to its name including the construction of the main buildings at the Dutch Embassy and the Fistula Hospital.

Curriculum preparation was begun by Dr. Minas who prepared elemental sketches of the planned curricula, which included vision, mission, goals, academic plan, student life, governance, management, faculty and financial matters for the college. A consultation was planned for later in the year. With these developments, a project proposal for formal fund raising was completed by the president to be sent to our partners.

Respectfully Submitted,

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