

# STRONG HEARTS ETHIOPIA

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APRIL 2014

## SOME NEWS FROM OUR PROGRAMS



We trust you all had a blessed, joyful Easter. He is risen! Before Easter weekend, the Family Care Center gave away 61 chickens (see picture above) for a special holiday meal. This was made possible through the generosity of Christ Church in Mequon, Wisconsin.

The Mercy House "Improve the Income of Poor Households" project is well underway! The hairdressing school had its orientation during the second week in April, and classes began on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The hairdressing school has a total of 16 students, 7 of whom are mothers with children at the daycare center. The students meet with an instructor in a rented condominium, Monday through Friday from 9am-12pm. All of the hairdressing equipment has been purchased, except for uniforms for

the students, which will come soon. The sewing school is running a little behind since it has been difficult to find qualified instructors. The supplies are ready and the venue is waiting. There are 15 students registered in the sewing program (including one mother from the daycare). We are hoping to hold this orientation during the first week in May. The students are eager to learn new skills and begin saving money for the future.

The Kore Christian Community Center's "Salvation Class" started meeting last month. There are 7 individuals in the class that have expressed the desire to be baptized. We praise God for working in the hearts of these people, and pray for His blessing upon them as they begin a new life in Christ. The Strong Hearts Choir - nearly 30 members already - also began

weekly practices last month.

Claire Brown, one of our new volunteers from Christian Missionary Fellowship, has begun a soccer program and Bible study with 21 boys from the Kore community (see picture on next page). Claire has a Biblical Studies major and a minor in Christian Ministries from Anderson University in Indiana. She has her hands full, as the boys range in age from 8 to 16 years old. They meet every Wednesday afternoon for soccer games followed by study of God's Word. The boys come from diverse religious backgrounds. Claire states, "I'm excited to be able to combine my love for Jesus with my love for soccer. I can't wait to see how God will use my unique gifts and education to share His love in tangible ways." Soon, Claire hopes to organize some competitive games with other NGO soccer teams in Addis.

"DEDICATED TO PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF ADDIS ABABA'S UNDERPRIVILEGED COMMUNITY THROUGH INSIDE-OUT TRANSFORMATION."

## PRaise-GIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE HOSPICE PROGRAM:

**Praise God** for the means to purchase a deep-fryer for our patients Abdi and Mulu, a husband and wife sambusa-making team! The machine will make the process much less labor-intensive, and increase productivity and profit. **Praise God** for 3 new volunteers over the past month (Hanna and Quidest from New Jersey, and Christine from Missouri), whose knowledge and compassion refreshed the program. Please **pray** for peace, mercy, and comfort to be granted to two of our cancer patients, Huluageresh and Sirkalem, who are in the final stages of their illness.

Interested in making a donation or sponsoring a child? Please visit [strongheartsethioopia.org/donate](http://strongheartsethioopia.org/donate) or [cmfi.org/whatwedo/childsponsorship](http://cmfi.org/whatwedo/childsponsorship). Thanks for your support!

## FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Dear family and friends,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your continual encouragement and generosity. I believe your powerful prayers are making a difference in the work that the Lord is doing through Strong Hearts here in Addis Ababa. We are so blessed to have the support of so many dedicated workers, volunteers, and partners, near and far.

I have been in the U.S. for about one month now, with three more months to go! It has been a busy time. I have been visiting and speaking at different churches throughout the States for ministry updates. I have also been working on forming a leadership team for the Strong Hearts International office in Arlington, VA.

This month we have launched an online campaign to help build a school in Kore. Currently, Strong Academy offers classes from nursery to grade two. For the next school season, our development plan involves adding grade three. The facilities that we are using are all rented, and the price has been going up every few months. Paying for this expense is becoming increasingly difficult for Strong Hearts, and also poses a challenge for the classroom, as resources are precious and limited. We would deeply appreciate if you could help us by being part of the online fundraising campaign

(<https://www.youcaring.com/nonprofit/s/own-a-brick/166596>) by donating \$50 or more. At the same time, try to spread the word and gain the support of at least five of your friends for this great cause!

Thank you and God bless!

-Getinet "Dundee" Teferi



CMF missionary Claire Brown with the Kore soccer team and Bible study group.



Thank you for your prayers for Brihanu! In the picture above, he is happily tucked into his new bed at the TB hospital. He was admitted with his Mom, Almaz, on March 31<sup>st</sup> and has now been in treatment for just over one month. After consulting with neurosurgeons, we have been told that he will not need spinal surgery. This is wonderful news! He has been doing well with the daily injections and is gaining strength. Please pray for continued medication effectiveness and healing. Please pray for patience and perseverance for Almaz as it is difficult to be away from her community and normal routines. Please pray for God's unconditional, abundant love to be poured out on the whole family!