### **Hope for Korah News**

Summer 2017



Fatuma has opened a small shop at a nearby marketplace. Recently our team purchased groceries from her and distributed them to families who were impacted by the Korah landslide. This was a beautiful picture of how the gift of transforming one life can have a ripple effect of blessings into the rest of the Korah community.

#### **New Business Entrepreneurs in Korah**

**Empowering Families & Changing Lives** 

This year Hope for Korah has placed a strong emphasis on equipping families to find gainful employment or launch small businesses. We are happy to say that many of our women are now taking this very important step towards independence. This milestone initiates their 12 month transition out-of-sponsorship phase



and has been made possible through each woman's personal savings, Self-Help Group loans, and HFK grants earned through regular assessments, business training and completing a S.M.A.R.T. Business plan.

While in Ethiopia last month, we visited numbers of these new entrepreneurs. The pride on their faces was unmistakable as they described how empowered they feel to be making their own money, and to be able to provide and plan for their family's future.

Visiting Aynalem at her hair business was quite inspiring! With support from HFK she completed beauty school and she is now using her skills and artistry to do incredibly intricate hairstyles for her clients. Another mother used a combination of her savings, loan and grant to purchase a washing machine so that she could open a clothes-washing business, someone else

a deep fryer, a few others an injera maker, and the list goes on. It is encouraging to see the growing innovation and confidence our women are displaying as they pursue these opportunities! We are also excited about a land proposal application that is in progress with the Ethiopian government and hope that numbers of our families will soon be able to conduct their businesses on this shared property.

We are very proud of each person who has launched their business! With the help of our newly hired Income Generation Specialist, we look forward to sharing more stories of success, as well as welcoming many new families into our Family Sponsorship Program. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Jacqueline Strating at <a href="mailto:jacqueline@hopeforkorah.com">jacqueline@hopeforkorah.com</a> for more details!



After purchasing a deep fryer, Tiruwork has been selling french-fries, samosas, and donuts at her small stand in Korah.



Several of our women have started making and selling injera to restaurants, stores & neighbours.



SAVE THE DATE!!



"An Evening for Korah"
Fundraising Dinner & Auction
OCTOBER 21st
Abbotsford, B.C.

### **Fighting Malnutrition**

The Berta Breakfast Program



Our Berta Breakfast Program continues to grow, and we are now serving 240 children Berta pancakes each morning before school. A few of our recent teams have worked tirelessly installing water tanks and sinks at the Berta compound. This will help

improve hygiene practices for our children & ensure consistent access to a clean water supply.



Many young men and teens from the community spent hours working in the hot sun alongside our staff and teams to help build and install the concrete structures needed. We are so appreciative of their hard work and willingness serve. A recent team from Texas also did a beautiful job painting the inside of our Youth Activities and Berta Feeding Centres and tutoring classrooms, making them much brighter and more welcoming for all those who access these crucial programs.

## After-School Tutoring Program ARTS & SCIENCE SHOW







A highlight from our recent trip was an 'Arts & Science Show' put on by our tutoring students. It was obvious that a great deal of planning and practice had gone into preparing for this big display and performance. There was so much excitement and anticipation in the crowd of children as they took turns going to the front of the room to sing, dance, and share poetry with one another. The room erupted with applause after each performance. It truly was a spectacular time of celebrating the talents and abilities of our students. There was also a visual display of artwork on one wall, and many of the grade 5 students waited patiently behind a row of desks to explain and demonstrate their innovative science projects. We were taken aback by the number of unique projects they had put together using scraps of metal, plastic, rubber, cardboard and electricity. There was an egg beater, refrigerator, incubator, clothes dryer, a fan, grain separator, sprinkler, generator and much more! It is truly inspiring to witness how many of these children have blossomed into strong learners and innovators because of the dedicated investment of our staff, tutors, and donors.

# CAN YOU HELP? We have 3 months to reach our goal!

### **Leadership Staff Retreat**

Vision, Purpose, Plan



In June, we held our annual Leadership Retreat with our Ethiopian staff. We were thankful that our new General Manager, Shewatrass Kebede could join us as it was a rich time of sharing and learning as we discussed our vision, purpose, plan and how to get there. All of our sessions were full of great discussions including social work best practices regarding time management and boundary setting. This was so valuable as staff shared the daily challenges they face in this work and together we brainstormed strategies for dealing with these. We also spent time praying for each other and seeking God for healing, especially in regards to the pain staff have experienced and carried during this dark time since Korah's landslide. We left unified and focused. Each of us experienced more of the love and hope we have in Christ both for ourselves and the community we serve.



The work that is being done through Hope for Korah could never be accomplished without our dedicated, hard-working Ethiopian staff. Cooks, guards, caregivers, social workers, nurses and more; it was a pleasure to acknowledge and thank each person at our Staff Appreciation Dinner.

### **STAND WITH KORAH**

Together we can make

A warm thank you to all of you who are Standing with Korah. Three quarters of what is required to ensure all HFK's family and program needs are met for 2017 has already been raised. We hope to raise the remainder of what is needed by the end of October, so we can begin to prepare for the upcoming year.

We are excited and hopeful for the people of Korah, and we are grateful for each person who joins us on our journey together — Standing with Korah. Every gift great or small will help to bring about positive change in the lives of the people living there.



## The Elders' Leprosy Home New Activities Coordinator

One of our goals this year was to hire an activities coordinator for our Elders Home. We are very happy that one of our social workers has taken this position and oversees social activities for these gentlemen. As seen in this photograph, the Elders now enjoying monthly field trips. In



this photo they are dancing up a storm to traditional Ethiopian music and enjoying a fabulous meal at the Lafto Guesthouse in Addis. Other weekly activities the Elders have appreciated include playing an Ethiopian version of mancala and learning how to knit. One father from our family sponsorship program has overcome his own challenges related to leprosy and has learned to knit beautiful scarves. Recently he taught this skill to the Elders. Some caught on very quickly, and are eager to continue with lessons! We are so encouraged to see how these new social activities are providing even more empowerment and self-worth to this wonderful group of men.