

# BRAVE HEARTS

ETHIOPIA

## *Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)*



*October - December 31 2020*

*December 2020*

*[www.braveheartsethiopia.org](http://www.braveheartsethiopia.org)*

## *Director's Forward*

As this quarter and year rounds to an end, we find ourselves grateful for our health, the people we support, what we have been able to achieve thus far and people who continue to support us. We are once again providing our students with daily meals and tutorial sessions after school while keeping them safe with masks, hand washing, distancing and face shields.

I am overjoyed as all five of the kids in our program pass their eight grade national exam. Congratulations to Yisak, Yihun, Yibeltal, Jemal and Christian who studied hard and are now examples for the younger children that hard work leads to success. I am also very proud of Faven and Tenaye, two young women are also graduating from our program. Both have come a long way from young girls to independent bright women.

On a sad note, we lovingly remember the life of one of our guardians who passed away this quarter. Wro. Amelework was the strong and kind single mother of Teneil, a bright young woman who previously graduated from our program as a self reliant young adult.

My heart was full of joy and pride as the BHE family had a send off for my two daughters, Adonna and Elshaddai, who have volunteered at BHE for 8 years since its establishment, putting their hearts and minds into supporting the children and improving the program.

We are filled with excitement as we plan for 2021, with the children safely back in school and receiving holistic support. Our new community outreach program seeks to support vulnerable children in the community with educational support. Moreover, we will also be supporting vulnerable elders in the community. We are expanding our staff to strengthen and improve our high quality and professional service delivery so that we continue to improve vulnerable children's lives.

As always, I wish to deeply thank Dean Hanson and the Hanson Family Foundation for their continued commitment and generous support to orphaned and vulnerable children and their families through BHE. I am immensely grateful to all our donors, board members, partners, volunteers and staff. We keep you close to our hearts for your invaluable support to our program during this both challenging and rewarding year.



*(Signed)*

*Konjit Yimer  
Managing Director  
Brave Hearts Ethiopia (BHE)*

## *Educational and Tutorial Services*

BHE is currently supporting 20 students in primary, 8 in secondary, 6 in higher education, 2 in vocational training and 1 in special skills training. Out of these children and youth, BHE supports three youth with special needs; one in secondary, one in higher education and one in skills training. BHE is supporting children to keep up with their studies so they don't fall behind. Due to COVID-19 BHE has put in place masks, face shields, sanitizers and distancing to ensure children's safety.



This quarter five students took and all passed their 8th grade national exam. This was a notable success as it achieves the goals of our tutorial sessions in helping students succeed. Three students are waiting to take their 12th grade national exam soon.



We are proud of Yisak, Yihun, Yibeltal, Jemal (first picture) and Christian for passing their exams and wish the best of luck to Lemma, Sebi (second picture) and Faven in their upcoming exam.



## *Nutrition and Health Services*

During this quarter, BHE provided 95 soaps and 30 sanitary pads to the children and families over the quarter. BHE restarted its after school meal program ensuring hygiene and distancing for the students before their tutorial sessions



A bright shade was constructed outside where the children could have their meals distanced from each other and in open air. The children wash their hands before starting their meal and wash after their meal putting their masks back on.



BHE hired additional kitchen staff to support in the preparation of meals, sanitization of surfaces and cleaning tutorial and office rooms.

## *Psychosocial Activities and Counseling*

BHE has also restarted its in person counseling sessions as students come for other services in the drop in center. We added one social worker to the team to maintain and improve our psychosocial support to every child in the program. Our social workers have conducted 27 individual counseling sessions this quarter with the aim or reassessing the psychosocial needs of the children.



BHE's social workers have also conducted 22 home visits and 3 group sessions. The home visits were aimed at assessing the status and needs of the children and guardians at home. The group sessions focused on building positive self confidence discussing self actualization, ideas of success, commitment and fulfillment.



This quarter, 20 visits were also conducted to expand BHE's program supporting vulnerable elders. BHE seeks to support about 10 elders in the next quarter. The visit assessments were conducted with the kebele to learn the status of elders in need in the community and conduct a needs based selection of elders into the program.



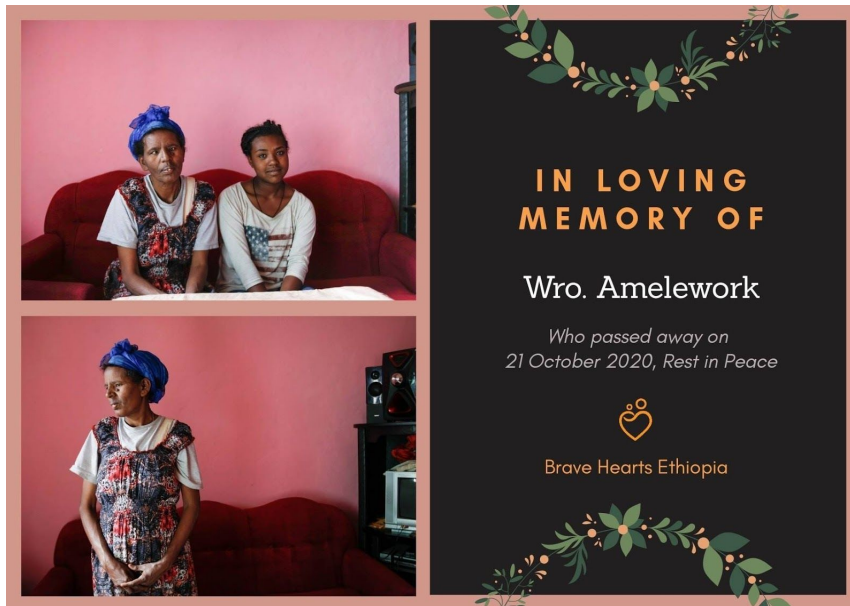
## *Two Young Women Graduate from Our Program*

[Two young women are also graduating from our program](#) this year, well on their way to success and self reliance. We are proud of Faven and Tenaye both have come a long way from young girls to independent bright women.



## *In Loving Memory of Amelework*

We lovingly remember the life of one of our guardians, Wro. Amelework, who passed October 21, 2020. She will be remembered fondly and dearly missed.



Wro. Amelework was the strong single mother of Teneil, a bright young woman who previously graduated from our program as a self reliant young adult. Wro. Alemework was a kind hearted woman filled with gratitude. Read about [two of our elders we are supporting](#).

## *Measures to Keep Children Safe from COVID-19*

We have provided each child and their family members with masks and soap this quarter. The children are able to sanitize and wash their hands as they enter the compound, hang their bags separately, have their meals in a distanced sheltered area outside then put on their face shields as they attend their tutorial sessions. Read more about [our effort to keep children learning](#).



Extra hand washing taps were constructed along with widening the hand basins to enable the children to wash their hands distanced regularly. There are now 5 taps where children and youth can easily wash their hands.

A wood hanger was constructed for hanging the students bags separately to decrease contact and surface exposure for COVID-19. The hanger is made at different heights so that older and taller students can hang their bags at the top and smaller students at the bottom. They can easily access their exercise books and only take what they need into the tutorial room.





## *Celebrating Christmas & Volunteer Send Off*

BHE joyously celebrated Christmas with the children, youth, guardians, staff and BHE Board in attendance. Ethiopian traditional coffee, bread, popcorn, cake and sweets were provided to the children, families, staff and guests.

Children and youth in the program spoke about the impact the project has had on their educational and psychosocial progress. One youth, Dagnachew, who is skilled in photography and graduated from the program took professional images of the event. Other youth expressed how the program supported them on their journey and advised the younger students to focus on their education to succeed.



The warm gathering was also an appreciation and send off for its two youth volunteers, Adonna and Elshaddai. Both young girls have significantly contributed to the program by helping establish our library, leading our youth volunteers, tutoring and organising fun activities for our children at BHE.

Their exemplary mentorship, guidance and friendship has impacted the vulnerable children at Brave Hearts for the past 8 years, and we have no doubt that it will continue to do so. The BHE family wished them luck as they pursue their studies abroad.



The BHE Board attended the celebrations and provided cloth gifts for two vulnerable elders BHE supports. Children and youth were excited to receive Christmas gifts which were cloth donations for all ages.





**Brave Hearts Ethiopian Residents' Charity  
Organization**

**Address**

Queen Elizabeth II Street, Next to St. Matthews  
Anglican Church Arada Sub City, Woreda 07  
P.O. Box: 34542  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Professional photos by Mekbib Tadesse

© Brave Hearts Ethiopia (BHE), August 2020. This document may be quoted with permission from and acknowledgment of Brave Hearts Ethiopia (BHE).

**Contact**

Tel: (+251) 118 695050

Mobile: (+251) 930 481536

Email: [info@braveheartsethiopia.org](mailto:info@braveheartsethiopia.org)

Website: [www.braveheartsethiopia.org](http://www.braveheartsethiopia.org)

Follow us on

Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

**@braveheartset**