

# BRAVE HEARTS

ETHIOPIA

## *Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)*



*April - June 30 2021*

*July 2021*

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

## *Director's Forward*

This quarter we warmly welcome 24 children and youth joining our program from highly vulnerable households in Yeka Sub City. We extend our support to provide them with nutrition provision. The children come from households with guardians that have little or no income to fulfill their basic needs.

We have had much joy as many of our students excelled in their academic results. Four students ranked 1st in their class while another five ranked in the top ten of our class. As education is the core focus of our holistic care program, seeing vulnerable children succeed and thrive in school achieves our mission of supporting OVC.

It was heartwarming to see Lemma, a student with special needs in our program, graduate with outstanding grades from high school. His graduation ceremony marked his accomplishment of overcoming his past trauma, challenges and hardship he faced at a young age. He successfully joined university and BHE supported him in changing his placement to Addis Ababa University to improve his accessibility given his physical impairment.

Our social workers provide children who come to our drop in center with life skill building sessions and activities to ensure each child has psychosocial support including individual counseling. This quarter we have implemented different exercises for the children and youth to be engaged and raise their awareness of essential skills such as communication, self awareness and confidence.

Our guardians are supported by our income generation program where they have access to loans to support their small business and improve their shelter among other needs. This is aimed at providing them support to build sustainable livelihoods. We continue to provide nutrition support to vulnerable elders in our program who have little means of support. We also continue to implement COVID-19 protection as we provide our services, in line with our commitment to keeping our children and community safe.

Lastly, my deep gratitude goes to Dean Hanson and the Hanson Family Foundation for their unwavering support to the vulnerable children and families we support. I further extend my warm appreciation to all our donors, partners, volunteers and staff that strengthen our program and help us reach our mission of improving children's and communities' lives.



*(Signed)*

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





## *24 New Children Join Our Program*

This quarter 24 children joined our program from Yeka Sub City. We now support a total 61 orphan and vulnerable children (OVC) in our program. Following our recruitment policy, we conducted an assessment on a list of OVC provided by the local administration including home visits to each child.



The children that joined our program are now receiving nutrition support. Their guardians struggle to fulfill their basic needs as they have little or no income. Some of the children are special needs children who need extra care and support.





## *Educational and Tutorial Services*

BHE is currently supporting 30 students in primary, 17 in secondary, 5 in higher education. This quarter we provided 320 hours of tutorial service and conducted 40 school visits.

Lemma, our student with special needs, scored outstanding grades in his national exam and passed to university. Our social workers supported him in getting accessible classes and getting about campus on his first day.



We joyfully awarded the excelling students in our program with certificates and gifts on Saturday, 5 June 2021. We were extremely proud that four of our students ranked 1st and five ranked up to 10th in their class.



They were provided with certificates and educational notebooks gifts with colored pens to encourage their performance. These children and youth are an inspiration to the other students in our program as they have passed hardship and challenges in their young age.

## *Nutrition and Health Services*

During this quarter, BHE provided 87 soaps and 24 sanitary pads to the children and families over the quarter. One child received assistance to get effective medical care. BHE also distributed 29 hand sanitizers this quarter to keep up COVID-19 protection.



This quarter we also provided 70 after school meals at our drop in center. As part of our holistic care program, we provide children and youth with daily meals at our drop in center. Students take their healthy after school meals before their tutorial lessons on weekdays.

This helps them stay energized after a day of school so they can do their studies and homework with support from their tutors at our drop in center. On Saturdays we provide children and youth who attend our life skills sessions lunch after their group discussion.





## *Psychosocial Activities and Counseling*

Children or youth receive counseling support and life skills group sessions regularly at our drop in center. This quarter BHE Social Workers conducted 23 group sessions regarding different topics that help them find healthy ways of communication, build their speaking and writing skills as well as their confidence. The children had fun working on word crossword puzzles and learning the meaning of different English words. This was to build up their vocabulary through active learning.



In our recent Saturday session, we practiced sharing feelings and why that is important. The children and youth in our program participated in an exercise of writing down when they feel excited, worried, angry, scared, frustrated and sad. The youth also had a lively discussion on the six virtues of positive psychology, the benefits of listening to their strength and how they can use their strength to solve problems they encounter.



This quarter, BHE's Social Worker conducted 9 individual sessions and 33 home visits. The individual sessions and home visits ensure in providing the children with guidance and counseling as well as follow up at home.

## *Income Generation Activities Program*

BHE's Income Generation Program supports guardians' small business association with 41 members. Four guardians received a loan this quarter. One of the women who received a loan is Hareg, she is the guardian of Simon, a smart young boy in our program. Hareg and her husband worked as daily laborers and found it difficult to support their three children including Simon.



Now Hareg is improving her shop where she sells socks and undergarments in her community. This supports her in having a sustainable livelihood by which she can support her family long term.

Sitota is another guardian who received a second loan to improve her small business selling veggies. Her son Yibetal is also a bright young boy in our program. He recently ranked 4th in his 9th grade class. She successfully returned her first loan and will use the second to improve the shelter where she sells veggies for the rainy season.



BHE provides guardians with loans to improve their business, renovate their shelter and work places which are in poor condition as well as support them in their time of need.



## *Our Vulnerable Elders Program*

We celebrated Mothers Day on May 9 by sharing the story of Wro. Bekelech. We shared our appreciation of our elders who are mothers, grandmothers and strong women. BHE provides nutrition support to ten elders who have little means to fulfil their basic needs.



Wro. Bekelech is a 78 years old woman living with her daughter. Her daughter suffers from high blood pressure and nerve problems making her bed ridden for years unable to work.

As a mother, Wro. Bekelech takes care of her daughter through her illness. They live in a small house and make little income to fulfill their basic needs. BHE provides them nutrition and health support.

## *BHE's Community Engagement*

BHE participated in the roles of NGOs on peace building activities hosted by Addis Ababa Women and Children Office at Friendship international hotel.

The meeting covered how to empower the vulnerable community in sustainable development. Discussion was made on how NGOs and the state can complement each other in the development process.

We are committed to supporting sustainable development and empowering vulnerable communities through our program. BHE's Social Media following has reached over 3,000 likes on Facebook, 300 Instagram followers and 100 Twitter followers.







**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), 2021. This document may be quoted with permission from and acknowledgement 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**