

BRAVE HEARTS

ETHIOPIA

Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)



January - March 31 2021

April 2021

www.braveheartsethiopia.org

Director's Forward

I am filled with pride as Tigist, another youth and bright young woman in our program graduates with a BA Degree in Construction Management Engineering. She is a shining example to our younger children and youth that hard work and dedication are the ways to reaching their potential.

I am also very proud of Lemma, Faven and Sebie who are graduating from 12th grade this quarter. As Lemma is a young man with special needs his journey has been long and challenging. Despite hardships, he has been able to overcome and earn scholarship at a private school. He has also participated in contests and won prizes for his school. Empowering those who are vulnerable and helping them reach their potential is the key aspect of our program.

Our social work team has been working hard to ensure each child and youth receives adequate counseling and guidance keeping them on track in their education. We have also put effort in strengthening our psychosocial support through our Saturday sessions to build the children and youth's life skills.

We are now providing nutrition and health support to ten vulnerable elders. With little or no means of income and no one to support them, our elders live in extremely difficult conditions. I believe it is our responsibility to support our elders who have contributed to raising the next generation and now have no means to fulfil their basic needs.

In line with our commitment to keeping our children and community safe, we continue to implement COVID-19 protection as we provide our services. We have also provided exercise books to our local district education office in order to support children in public schools.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Dean Hanson and the Hanson Family Foundation for their ongoing and invaluable support to orphaned and vulnerable children and their families through our program. I also extend my warm gratitude 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)

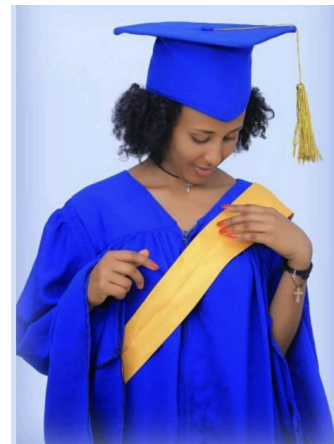
*Konjit Yimer
Managing Director
Brave Hearts Ethiopia (BHE)*

Educational and Tutorial Services

BHE is currently supporting 20 students in primary, 11 in secondary, 6 in higher education. This quarter we provided 245 hours of tutorial service and conducted 54 school visits. Tigist graduated from university earning her BA in Construction Management Engineering. Lemma, Faven and Sebie graduated from high school completing their 12th grade exams. [Read their stories in our recent GlobalGiving report.](#)



Tigist - BA in Construction Management Engineering



Lemma, Faven and Sebie - High School Graduates

This quarter two students were elected by the students in our program to support student lead activities. Zemzem in 11th grade and Elias in 10th grade will learn leadership skills while working with our social workers. They help guide the other students in developing awareness, hygiene, discipline, peer support and creativity.



Nutrition and Health Services

During this quarter, BHE provided 81 soaps and 21 sanitary pads to the children and families over the quarter. Four children have received assistance to get effective medical care. BHE also distributed 77 masks and 45 hand sanitizers this quarter to keep up COVID-19 protection.



This quarter we provided 74 after school meals for the students to refresh and nourish them before they start daily tutorials at our drop in center. After having their meals kids wash their hands, place their masks and start their after school tutorials to support them in succeeding in their education.



Thanks to Reg Hankey and the Pittards UK team the kids received a lego set and operation game for indoor recreation. The kids are encouraged to do different indoor and outdoor activities including games, table tennis, coloring and gardening. The children and youth regularly participate in environmental hygiene and cleaning so they learn the importance of maintaining their environment. [Read about the children's participation here.](#)

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 12 Saturday Sessions regarding different topics of responsibility, positive thinking, motivation and creativity among others.



One of the sessions focused on how to redefine negative thoughts, resolve guilt and learn forgiveness. The youth had a lively discussion on practicing positive thinking, self talk, encouragement to help shift negative self talk, improve their decisions in life and reconnect with others. Another discussion focused on discussion about how they can improve their perception when facing tough times.



This quarter, BHE's Social Worker conducted 60 individual sessions and 7 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. One guardian received a loan this quarter. Others like Medina work hard to strengthen their small business. Medina is growing her small business preparing and selling 'Berbere' (chili powder), incense and charcoal with the loan she received.



Our Vulnerable Elders Program

This quarter we expanded our support to eight elders in addition to the two we were previously supporting. These vulnerable elders have little means of income and support to fulfill their basic needs.



Wro. Nigatua and Wro. Yebelay are two of the elders in our program receiving nutrition and health support. They live alone, have difficulty earning income due to their age and health. Some have chronic illnesses that require medication and health care. BHE provides them support to ensure they have the care and nutrition they need.

BHE's Community Engagement

This quarter, BHE donated 192 exercise books for Woreda 07 Education Office to provide support for children in public school. As part of our commitment to improved practice and collaboration, BHE's Social Workers attended a forum hosted by the Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs held in January and March 2021.

The forum served to raise awareness and share knowledge about common challenges and best practices in helping support women and children in Ethiopia. Attendees agreed on establishing an NGO forum that will work to continue to improve services such as child safety, recreation, creating safe environments.



BHE's Digital Content Manager also attended the tour and launch of Orange Digital Center Ethiopia in February 2021. The center will provide free and open programs, training and accelerators for young students and entrepreneurs in Ethiopia. The center is supported by GIZ, Orange as well as the Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopian Investment Commission and the Industrial Parks Development Cooperation. BHE appreciated programs that support youth in Ethiopia in thriving and reaching their potential.



New Year and Ethiopian Christmas

As our BHE family celebrated the holidays, we provided the families in our program with holiday support for chicken and eggs so they enjoy 'doro wot' a traditional Ethiopian holiday dish.



BHE developed different posts using the hashtag #StaySafe to raise awareness on COVID-19 protection. BHE now has over 2,800 followers on Facebook, 270 on Instagram and 95 on Twitter. We celebrated International Women's Day spotlighting our female graduates and marked International Day of Happiness with bright smiles from the children.





Brave Hearts Ethiopian Residents' Charity Organization

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Professional photos by Mekbib Tadesse

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