



Newsletter for the month NOVEMBER

## **Administrative NEWS**

### **HCE-RDA team has made a trip to Svenska Kyrkan, Helsingborg for official meeting**

**The** HCE-RDA team has travelled to Svenska Kyrkan in Helsingborg for official meetings with partners. The team had conversations with leaders, priests, and other interested parties to explore various aspects of the Church of Sweden's initiatives. During the conversation, participants asked clarifying questions, and the team highlighted the progress and outcomes of the many different interventions.

Similarly, discussions were held with young people who visited the organisation's a couple of activities in Addis Ababa. The young people noticed how what they witnessed in the lives of kindergarten children and boys and girls living in shelters had a significant impact on their lives. They also claimed that they would have a tremendous desire to visit Addis Ababa.

The surrounding congregations also held fundraising activities to assist the children's families prepare for the impending holiday. The members of the various churches have a tremendous desire and compassion to collaborate with the organisation in assisting many more struggling women, children, and young people.

The executive director and co-founder of HCE conveyed his heartfelt gratitude to the Church of Sweden's leaders and other members for their unwavering commitment, dedication, and hospitality to the entire team. He is also grateful for the ongoing relationship with the Church of Sweden.



Meeting with the Sweden Partners at Svenska Kyrkan in Helsingborg

## NEW LIFE Program

### The story of Ehetwa Ababu

I encountered an assortment of obstacles from an early age. I am Ehetwa Ababu, sixteen years old. I dropped out of school when I reached grade nine. I was born and raised in the Amhara Region's Sekota town. I have 14 siblings. My father had children from several spouses since he was wealthy and earned an adequate amount of money. He died a year prior, leaving all of us and our mothers without an income. My mother has worked on other people's farms, removing weeds for getting income. When circumstances got severe, I was pressured to comply with undesirable things due to the worry and nervousness in my thoughts, I refused to stay with my birthplace with a sever financial constraints and instead asked my uncle to take me to Addis to work as a domestic servant. He accepted me and allowed me to live with him in his home. I left my birthplace to live with my uncle, but after a few months, things changed dramatically. I worked all day without taking a break or receiving compensation. However, wife

his wife intimidated me in a variety of ways, including insulting me, frequently hitting me to create pain, and harassing me. I had planned to leave the house and live on the street, but with the organisation's help, I am now able to stay at the NEW LIFE girl's home. They rescued my life from ending up on the street and exposed to awful circumstances. I have already begun vocational training in food preparation, and I want to help my mother and siblings after I complete my training. I wish I could leave here for better education and income. I'm grateful to Hope for Children and the other partners that helped



**I am all the time fighting to win the battle of challenges encountered me.”**



**The story of Ehetwa Ababu**

## **AYNI Fund Project**

**Terminal evaluation has been carried out with donors at the operational area of the project**

**D**espite being concluded six months earlier, the AYNI Fund project had an immense impact on the lives of the women who participated. As previously mentioned, the initiative provided several resources for women to empower them socioeconomically in order to counteract the effects of poverty in their own lives as well as the lives of their families.

The project operations were evaluated by the donors' finance experts who travelled to the operational location. Adequate time had been invested with recipients, observing the resources provided to women. According to the Kenyan finance expert, she is able to observe the beneficial influence of their assistance, and they are extremely pleased with how the project activities were carried out.

Furthermore, the project's program coordinator attended a Zoom conference with donors and partners that addressed the project's impact on the socioeconomic conditions of women who engaged in the project , as well as the activities carried out during the project term. According to the coordinator, the Zoom conference was useful for discussing the project's issues and lessons learnt as well as good opportunity to share experiences with other implementing partners.



**Terminal evaluation at the operational area with finance expert from donors**

## **NIGAT Project**

### **Workshop was carried out to promote the formal education enrollment of CDWs**

**Hope** for Children in Ethiopia-RDA conducted a workshop with the intention of encouraging formal education enrolment while keeping Child Domestic Workers' (CDWs) conditions in mind. During the workshop, the NIGAT project's program coordinator presented participants an overview of the newly implemented NIGAT project as well as the workshop agenda.

The event was attended by experts in education from the city administration education office, the Gulele Sub-city Adaptive Learning Program (ALP) organiser, ALP facilitators, and curriculum experts who contributed to clarifying the opportunities for CDW enrolments in schools.

The workshop also focused on the problems CDWs face while attempting to engage in formal education, particularly those related to late registration. The experts have highlighted the numerous enrolment periods for CDWs, as well as potential solutions for CDWs who are unable to obtain an education.

The experts were responding to workshop participants' reflections and questions. According to experts, there are several potential alternatives for enrolling CDWs in official and informal education at the sub-city level. They also recommended that collaborating with the offices would render their enrolment process smoother.

### **CoEs have completed curriculum based training**

CoEs have undertaken curriculum-based training on the rights along with the security of child domestic workers. The training has been provided for the past eight weeks to help increase the awareness of employers' children about the rights and protection of children.

The purpose of the training is to notify employers' children concerning children's rights so that they may advocate for CDWs' rights at their houses and in school. The training has been extensively emphasised and focused on reshaping CoEs' attitudes and behaviours in order to influence their families to consider CDWs as members of their families and bring considerable change in the household.



**CoEs who completed the curriculum based training  
received certificate of recognition**

## **NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND PROJECT**

### **Child right day was celebrated for the 20<sup>th</sup> time in Ethiopia**

**Child** Rights Day was celebrated in Leku City Administration on November 20th, coinciding with the global World Children's Day, to commemorate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, with events led by organizations such as the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) and UNICEF Ethiopia concentrating on child participation, protection, and welfare via campaigns, advocacy, and community engagement. The day emphasizes listening to children's voices and addressing their needs, with annual themes such as "Listen to the Future" or "Child Protection and the Right to Play".

The intention of celebrating the day is to raise community awareness about children's rights and their ability to play with their peers. Children with various slogans were the main players of the day. More than 500 students and five local government officials took part in the campaign. Students performed poetry, monologues, and dramas for the audience. The campaign was commemorated for half a day.

Since the area is well known for violations of children's rights and a lack of protection, such events are deemed meaningful for the purpose to raise awareness in the community about the importance of protecting children's rights.



**Campaign on child right day at Leku City Administration**

## **The Women Empowerment program**

Selam Asmare, an 18-year-old girl, dropped out of school in eighth grade due to an extensive financial crisis. She has a half-sister, who is seven years old. She lives with her mother and has no memories of her father. Her mother is a disabled woman; one of her legs and eyes are abnormal. Her mother married the second person, but he impregnated my mother, abandoned us with a sister, and married another woman. Her mother stands in street begging to support her two daughters. Selam opted to drop out of school and provide for her mother by selling chewing gum, tobacco, and napkins on the streets. During the summer, she worked as a day labourer to

help with the house rent, which they paid at 4.5k per month, as well as to fund her own academic expenses. One day, she met girls who were supported by Hope for Children in Ethiopia-RDA who were employed in modest businesses. They told her what she needed to do to participate in the organisation's project, specifically vocational training. Then she came to the organisation and explained her problem to the program coordinators. They accepted her and allowed her to pursue short-term vocational training, something she was extremely interested in. She is currently undergoing hairdressing and beauty training. She wants to be a professional hairdresser and designer. After completing the program, she may be able to find employment and helping her mother. She learnt a lot from her mother's life and aspires to be strong enough to improve her own.

**“  
I learned a lot from  
my mother’s life. I  
realise that I should  
work hard to change  
my life!**”



# Second Chance Project

## Field visit has been carried out at Konso Zone and Chencha Woreda

**A five-day** visit was carried out in the Konso Zone, Chencha, and neighbouring districts. The purpose is to assess student performance, to observe relevant documents, and classroom conditions in accordance with the funding organisation quality standards.

The assessment was conducted in 10 second-chance classes in Konso Zone and five in Chencha and the area adjacent to it. The primary intent of monitoring is to analyse the program's success early on and provide feedback to facilitators, supervisors, and program coordinators in order to improve educational accomplishment and performance.

According to the observations, students, particularly those in Konso Zone, require considerably more than just education. Considering that many of the children have experienced severe poverty, a comprehensive approach is required to improve children's educational performance. Students enrolled in the program are frequently subjected to malnutrition and a lack of hygiene, which has a detrimental effect on their academic performance.

Most students merely eat once a day and consume traditional beverages, which causes dizziness and makes it difficult for them to learn well and efficiently. Furthermore, many children walk a considerable way back home in search of food and do not attend afternoon sessions owing to hunger and exhaustion. Despite having been through such a dreadful scenario, they continue to fight to attend classes. An attempt has been made to mobilise the community and self-help groups in various locations to highlight the value of the program, reduce dropout rates and absenteeism, and raise awareness of the role and obligations of every stakeholder.

Furthermore, all second-chance students were assessed for numeracy and literacy in order to assess their performance participated in the project's first phase. The evaluation was carried out both internally and externally by Luminos Fund monitoring and evaluation team. The assessment feedback indicated that students' numeracy and literacy skills were getting better. In addition, all students who participated in the Second Chance programme received phase two academic resources.



**Second Chance students while taking first phase examination**



**Meetings with stakeholders and members of the self-help-group**