



Newsletter for the month August [adapted and abridged]

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

THE CHENCHA COMMUNITY TRAPPED BY PRECARIOUS FEAR

The rainy season normally occur in the Chenchha and surrounding districts from May to August. There is a wider climatically change observed in the areas that left the community with fear and disastrous situation due to lack of rain that enables them to cultivate seeds, vegetables and even false banana trees which is the source of food in the dry season.

The weather is dry and sunny all the day through which hinders the community to engage in different farming activities. It will be difficult to ensure food security, and cover the wider areas with indigenous trees. There would be a possibility that many community members would be exposed to severe low productivity, and high inflation.

The rain will sometimes come unexpectedly which bring a serious damage in the lives of the community as it was happening recently which costs the lives of community members due to land degradation and land slide. The covering of lands with seeds, planting different seedlings like apple and vegetables has already gone. The community requested for collaborative prayer the God wills revers the catastrophic climate change.

EDUCATION AND SPONSORSHIP

REGISTRATION HAS BEEN STARTED

Entoto Hope Kindergarten has begun the registration process for new underprivileged students in collaboration with relevant organisations for the upcoming academic year. Each year, as students graduate, children from the most impoverished families will have the opportunity to enrol in pre-school education. For the upcoming academic year, thirty children have been identified and registered for the nursery.

A total of 65 to 70 children attend preschool annually. This program offers essential educational resources and focuses on creating a supportive environment that nurtures learning and development. Its goal is to break the cycle of poverty and empower families within the community by investing in the futures of these children.

FORMER VOCATIONAL GRADUATE FROM DEPENDENCY TO SELF-RELIANT

Selenat Damte is one of many girls striving to overcome poverty and life's distractions. She completed grade twelve and had a strong desire to continue her education but was unable to do so initially due to severe poverty affecting her family. Selenat has no memory of her father, and her mother has struggled greatly, engaging in begging, washing clothes, and baking injera in various homes to send Selenat to school and cover their house rent. During a particularly difficult period when her mother was seriously ill, they faced food shortages and were unable to pay rent for a month.

To support her mother and generate income, Selenat began selling "Tuaf," a product made from organic cotton and wax blends, in churches at the age of ten. She also washed bed sheets in hotels to increase her earnings. Selenat heard about the Hope for Children organization through an older friend who had participated in vocational training and gained employment. Motivated by this, she approached Hope for Children Ethiopia (HCE) and met with Ato Yonas Tesfaye, sharing her difficult circumstances. He accepted her into the leather goods production training program.

With guidance and financial support from Ato Yonas, Selenat was able to continue her education at diploma level and graduated in clinical nursing in 2026. She expresses deep gratitude for the support she received, not only for herself but also for others helped by the organisation. She values the anonymity and kindness she experiences at the organisation, where recipients and staff interact in a friendly and loving environment.

LIGHT HOUSE PROGRAM THE NARRATION OF BINYAM DAWIT



The provision of vocational training has been changing the lives of teens and youth vulnerable to street life, despaired boys and girls, and children exposed to forced labour. Binyam Dawit is one of the boys. The provision of vocational training has been changing the lives of teens and youth vulnerable to street life, despaired boys and girls, and children exposed to forced labor. Binyam Dawit is one of the boys who was exposed to labour. He lives with his little and old brother and his mother in Addis. and migrated from the rural area. He dropped out of his education from grade nine due to the loss of his father. He has been trying to support

his poor mother by engaging in different activities that did not align with his age. He was working as a day labourer when he was fifteen years old; he gave up engaging when things became over his age. Then, he started working as a taxi supporter called "Redate/ Weyalla" in Amharic for a year and a half. The disagreement with the driver and the owner of the taxi forced him to work as "Woyalla." He was attending school in the daytime and engaging in vendor trading in the evening and on weekends. He was trying to support his mother financially and also send his little brother to school. When he went through this situation, he met young friends who were trained in vocational training at the Hope for Children in Ethiopia training centre and started their own business as well as employed in

small enterprises. They advised him to join in the training centre and encouraged him to come and talk to the program coordinator at HCE. Finally, he decided to go to the organisation and explained his problem to the program coordinator. He permitted me to take training in leather goods production. He would believe that the vocational training he engaged in provides options to start his own business or an employment opportunity. He wishes to work with his leather goods production and sustain his family income.

NIGAT PROJECT

PROVISION OF SAFE SPACE FOR CDWs



CDWS while spending their time at the safe-space

HCE provides a safe and welcoming space for child domestic workers (CDWs) who often lack places to spend their leisure time outside of their employers' homes. This safe space offers a conducive environment where the children can engage in activities such as reading, playing games, and sharing experiences with their peers. Many CDWs do not take leave from their employers because they have nowhere else to go, leading them to continue working without rest. This situation exposes them to risks of exploitation, labor abuse, and mistreatment. By creating this refuge, HCE nurtures a sense of community and support among the workers. The initiative aims to empower these children by offering structured activities

and opportunities that promote personal growth and encourage them to advocate for their rights.

Additionally, the safe space provides emotional support, helping to reduce feelings of isolation and stress. It encourages a positive environment where children can build self-confidence and develop social skills. The space also serves as a platform for education and awareness on their rights and well-being, which can improve their overall mental health and resilience.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT (CHURCH OF SWEDEN)

WOMEN INVOLVED IN NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

Targeted women actively involved in natural resource protection by planting indigenous trees in areas affected by land degradation and deforestation. The primary goals of their involvement are to protect the soil from erosion, promote sustainable agricultural practices, and increase women's participation in natural conservation efforts.

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN'S FAMILY

Vulnerable families of children received livelihood support aimed at improving productivity and sustaining household consumption. This initiative included 70 women who have experienced poverty.

Its goal is to enhance their economic stability while empowering these women to become active contributors to their communities. the programme fosters resilience and promotes a brighter future for their families by providing resources and training

THE NARRATION OF TADELECH TESFAYE

Tadelech Tesfaye is among the many women involved in the self-help groups as a member whose lives have been affected by their spouse due to addiction. She is thirty years old and a mother of two boys and two girls. She was unable to continue her education because of her marriage. She got married at an early age and was forced to live a life she does not want. Her husband does not even support her agricultural activities; instead, he spends his time drinking traditional alcohol. She has been forced to take care of her children as well as engage in farming activity. She said that she gave birth to her children one after the other, which made her sit and look for a job to cover the household consumption. She remembered the time she had gone through a difficult situation with her children, even lacking food. This situation created tension for her children. Although she engaged in farming activities, she was unable to achieve sufficient production from them. She was trying to start a small business to obtain income, but she could not succeed in it. Even the house they lived in was old enough and created a problem during summertime. Last summer, a flood got into my house and damaged my property seriously. She was unable to repair her house. When she went through such a despairing time, she obtained the opportunity to be a member of the SHGs. Then, she took a 2000-birr loan from the SHGs to engage in income generation activity. She bought poultry that provided 15 eggs per day, and she earns 250 to 300 birr daily. She was participating in different training that was positively changing her attitude and perception. She is grateful for being a member of the SHGs.



Tadelech with her children