

ETHIOPIAID

**2016: TOGETHER WE
ACHIEVED SO MUCH**



**PLEASE HELP US CONTINUE TO
CHANGE LIVES IN 2017**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



It has been a challenging year for many of our partners in Ethiopia. The protracted drought threatened lives and livelihoods in the arid areas in the east of the country. Although the rains have now come and are some of the best in 10 years there are still ongoing problems. Locust infestations are destroying grazing pastures and acute watery diarrhea is spreading rapidly, claiming lives in Afar.

Our emergency appeal was supported by so many of you and raised over £185,000. This enabled a speedy and direct response to the unfolding crisis, along with the provision of aid to remote families who were beyond the reach of the larger agencies. This simply would not have been possible without your prompt and generous support. There is still a long road to recovery ahead and we will continue to work in partnership with our partners, like the Afar Pastoralists' Development Agency, to save lives and rebuild livelihoods.

We are proud to have partnered with two new Ethiopian organisations this year: WAHA International, based at Gondar

University Hospital and Healing Hands of Joy in Mekelle. The Ethiopian surgeons at WAHA operate annually on over 60 fistula patients, and other patients injured in labour, as well as training medical students. This widens their geographic reach, enabling them to cure even more women with fistula. Healing Hands of Joy help rehabilitate former fistula patients and train them to be Safe Motherhood Ambassadors to encourage other women to give birth in health centres with a midwife. 'If a fistula does occur, it will be immediately identified and repaired. This will prevent women from suffering for years, hidden away and ashamed of their incontinence and foul smell.

Both organisations work closely with the Hamlin Fistula Hospital, and together aim to bring an end to fistula by 2020. By including these partners, we now have a holistic and far reaching approach to eradicating fistula through prevention, repair and rehabilitation. By funding these organisations, we hope to end fistula for good and transform the lives of the hundreds of thousands of women still at risk.

I would like to thank you for your continuing support throughout the year. I am always humbled by our supporters' loyalty and dedication to helping the people of Ethiopia. It is through long term partnerships that we can make the biggest difference. I wish you and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Alex Chapman

Alex Chapman - Chair of Trustees

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016

Over
300,000
breakfasts were served at
Hope Enterprises Street
Children's Breakfast

148
students graduated
from Hope College

Community radio set up to
raise awareness of FGM in
the Afar region, with the
potential to reach
1,390,273
people

Approximately
60
children have had facial
reconstruction surgery
curing them from Noma,
removing tumours and
repairing hyena bite
injuries.

AWSAD was able to
reach over
423

women and girl survivors of
violence and their children
through safe house services.

Nearly
15,000
children provided with
physiotherapy and
rehabilitation
services

BECAUSE THESE WOMEN SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN

Hamlin Fistula Hospital has been our partner for over 20 years. Two decades ago, the hospital in Addis Ababa was the only place where fistula injuries could be treated. Today, Hamlin have a number of treatment centres across Ethiopia and have been joined by other charities and hospitals in working to eradicate fistula.

Together with Hamlin and our two other fistula partners, Women and Health Alliance International (WAHA) and Healing Hands of Joy (HHOJ), we cover diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for a woman living with fistula. The three organisations provide fistula treatment across Ethiopia, as well as rehabilitation and training centres, and are all lead members of the Ethiopian government's fistula task force.

The task force has a very clear goal: to eradicate obstetric fistula from Ethiopia. To make this happen, these organisations are working with the Ethiopian government's National Polio Campaign in order to identify more fistula sufferers.

As part of the campaign, government healthcare workers go door to door to identify those in need of a polio vaccination. This year, the healthcare workers are also looking for women with an obstetric fistula. The workers use a survey, translated into local languages, to identify potential cases.

This support by the government has streamlined the logistics of finding patients who are socially isolated and previously unreachable. So far 2,420 women have already been identified.



WAHA

In 2010 WAHA partnered with three university teaching hospitals to provide fistula repair surgery and integrate fistula care into the training of postgraduate medical students, such as urologists and gynecologists.

Dr Mulu is an obstetrician and gynaecologist, who previously worked at Hamlin Fistula Hospital. Her father was a farmer, who worked hard to send her to school as he wanted her to fulfil her potential:

"[My father] was very aware of the importance of girls' education and overall of women's emancipation"

Despite this support, Dr Mulu was initially unsure as to whether she was capable: *"I didn't know that a girl could be a doctor, I thought I would be a nurse"*, but she was more than qualified. When she graduated from medical school at 23 years of age, Dr Mulu was the youngest doctor in the country's history. In 2009, Dr Mulu received an award from International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) in recognition of her lifetime services to women's health. It was at this time that Dr Mulu first heard about the work of WAHA:

"I like the efficacy, the imagination and the flexibility of an NGO like WAHA ... you see where each dollar is invested. What's the use of asking people for money for the underprivileged if they will not be the first ones to benefit from it? I didn't even have an office during my first two years and I had never felt so close to the patients"



Dr Mulu

Healing Hands of Joy

Healing Hands of Joy focus on four main activities: a Safe Motherhood Ambassador Programme, Community Engagement and Awareness, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Strategic Initiatives.

Since the inception of the Safe Motherhood programme in 2010, Healing Hands of Joy has trained over 300 fistula survivors to become The Safe Motherhood Ambassadors, preventing needless fistula injuries and stillborn babies. The SMA's have educated over 10,000 women in their communities in safe delivery practices.



Help us restore a woman's dignity, a gift of £300 will pay for fistula surgery



BECAUSE THESE CHILDREN SHOULD HAVE A GOOD EDUCATION

Hope Enterprises gives vulnerable children and young people a way out of poverty and the confidence for a better and brighter future.

Success this year:

- 819 students passed exams across all Hope secondary school sites
- 950 students provided with school lunches
- 850 beneficiaries of the daily street children's breakfasts were served over 300,000 meals
- 79,000 lunches served for destitute, children, teenagers and adults



Dining Hall Project

Thanks to our generous supporters, Hope Enterprises have been able to feed the minds and stomachs of thousands of children and young people. Children in their schools are receiving a quality education, helping them to build the foundations for a prosperous future.

Earlier this year, you enabled us to respond to an urgent request to replace a dangerous and dilapidated dining hall at Hope's school in Addis Ababa.

The buildings had originally been poultry sheds, before a lack of space meant their re-appropriation as dining halls for the children. The buildings were cramped, dirty and not fit for purpose – they needed replacing many years ago. Fortunately, Ethiopiaaid were able to provide the school with the funds for two new purpose built dining halls for the whole school to use. Building started while the students were on summer holidays and we are pleased to report that they are now complete. Having a nutritious lunch in safe surroundings enables students to concentrate and ultimately achieve more. We are delighted with the completion of this project.



£190 will run the street children's breakfast for one day, feeding over 850 children

Eyerusalem's story

Eyerusalem Yeshanew is 20 years old. She has one little sister and a brother.

At the time of joining Hope, Eyerusalem's mother was working as a house maid and caring for her father who was ill. Eyerusalem joined Hope school kindergarten in 1993, but tragically lost both of her parents in 1996 after a difficult period of sickness.

Since pre-school, Hope Enterprises has provided Eyerusalem with stationery, text books, and school uniform. In addition to that, they have taken care of her daily breakfast and lunch, shoes, medical support, monthly sponsorship allowance, and psychosocial support. This has all played a

significant role in easing the burden of care for Eyerusalem's foster parents.

Eyerusalem attended Hope School Kindergarten to grade 10, and after taking the national exam, she passed to join government preparatory school. After completing her preparatory education, she attended a Hotel and Tourism College and in June 2016 she graduated. She has worked hard and been successful throughout her academic life.

Now she is ready to start work and support her family.



"Hope Enterprises has been with me from the beginning to this graduation day. All the contributions they made helped me reach here. I would like to thank Hope, and, promise to support the children who live in difficult conditions in the future."

Hope College

Hope College of Business, Science and Technology supports poor students who wouldn't normally be able to access a higher education. This includes covering all academic costs, enabling young people to complete their chosen three-year course

and assisting them to find work. They also provide school meals for the most disadvantaged students.

- 148 students graduated from university
- 195 graduated from vocational training



BECAUSE THESE GIRLS SHOULD BE FREE FROM FEAR

Helping Survivors of Gender Based Violence

AWSAD is a holistic service for women and child survivors of violence. This service includes temporary shelter, meals, counselling, medical care, legal support and basic literacy and skills training.

In 2016, AWSAD was able to reach over 423 women and girl survivors and their children through the safe house services.

Empowerment sessions on gender, reproductive health, and life-skill training were provided for survivors living in the safe house. These are designed to develop the women's self-esteem.

Through the legal follow up service, survivors were able to track and finalise their cases, often resulting in conviction of the perpetrators.

Thanks to your support, AWSAD have been able to help 19 young girls (studying in primary, secondary and higher education) with costs to keep them in education. The girls had previously dropped out as a result of violence. The package of support includes: school registration fees, educational materials (such as textbooks, exercise books, pens, pencils, and uniforms), and safe transport to and from school.

Thanks to your support:

- Survivors of violence were able to rehabilitate from their traumatic experiences through the safe house services
- The empowerment sessions gave survivors knowledge about their rights and developed their self confidence
- Young survivors have been able to continue their education and successfully transfer to the next level of their education

For **£52** a survivor can attend a skills training workshop, setting her on course to a new life.

Key Successes

- Two students passed national exams and transferred to the next level (one at grade 8 and one at grade 12)
- Two students graduated from Higher Education: Bezawit Gebeyhu graduated in Teaching from Kotebe University College in Addis Ababa and after graduation was assigned as a teacher to a government primary school. Kalkidan Getu graduated in Marketing from Gondar University. After graduation she was able to find a job in a marketing company

Kalkidan said after graduating:

"The counselling I received at AWSAD contributed a lot to who I am today. I now to support the safe house service anyway I can after I leave."



Kalkidan Getu graduated in Marketing - AWSAD



Bezawit Gebeyhu graduated in Teaching - AWSAD

Ending Harmful Practices like FGM

The Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA)

APDA is our trusted partner working to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in the Afar region of Ethiopia. This year has seen APDA face some enormous challenges. Working in the most severely affected drought region of Ethiopia and providing emergency life-saving relief could have derailed one of their primary purposes: to end FGM. But the organisation is resilient, and despite drought, flooding, and disease outbreak, APDA's women extension workers gave the community capacity to cope with these difficulties. They were not deterred from continuing their work to raise awareness and encourage clan leaders to stop harmful practices.

The project objectives were not lost in the community disaster response.

Successes:

- In 2016, approximately 50,000 women were made aware of the risks of FGM and were supported and/or received counselling
- The number of female extension workers has now increased to 30, meaning an even wider area can be reached
- A new Community radio service was set up in the AFAR region with clear messages about the need to stop harmful practices, especially FGM and early marriage



BECAUSE THESE SURVIVORS SHOULD HAVE HOPE

Treating Noma

Ethiopiaid has worked in partnership with the charity Facing Africa to help the survivors of the gangrenous infection Noma.

You help us to fund Facing Africa's complex missions, particularly the costs of patient rehabilitation at our partner Cheshire Services' Menagesha site.

Noma survivors receive expert reconstructive surgery.

A team of medical professionals volunteer their time twice a year to travel to Ethiopia to undertake the missions. They also create learning and training opportunities for local health professionals in order to improve surgical capacity and nursing in Ethiopia.

Project Activities:

- Facial reconstruction surgery was carried out on 32 patients during the October 2016 mission
- Local medical staff (including nurses, anaesthetists and surgeons) were trained
- A pilot nurse training project was introduced, run by two experienced Irish nurses
- Outreach missions were run in order to find patients in remote, rural areas

Facial disfigurement surgery

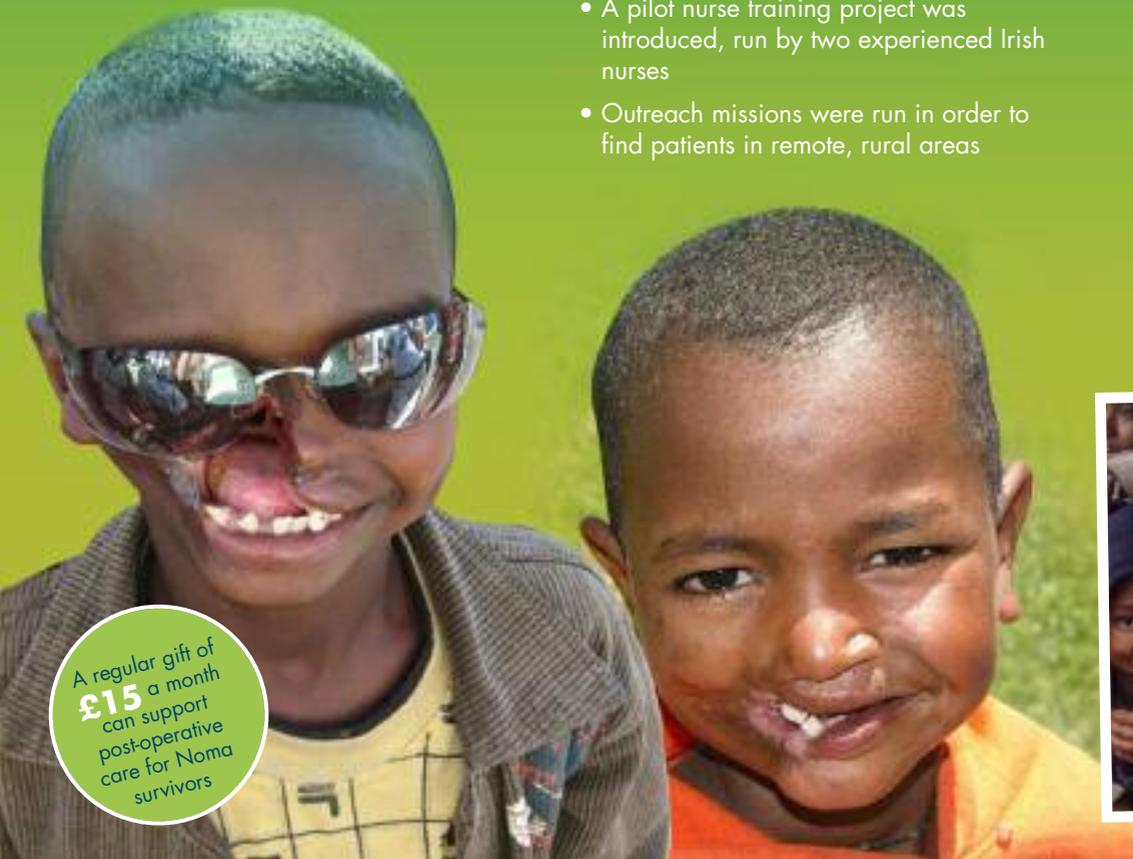
Your donations have helped our partners to organise further complex surgical missions. Many of these patients did not know that help was possible for them. These missions tackle surgery for complicated cases of facial disfigurement as result of tumours, animal attack, and other trauma.

Project Activities:

- 60 patients and their guardians were transported to a rehabilitation centre to be emotionally and physically prepared for surgery. 42 of those patients were deemed fit enough to receive surgery and

went on to benefit from rehabilitation and post-operative care. As a result of intervention, they are now able to eat, speak, and breathe properly once again

- Former patients acted as ambassadors and raised awareness in their communities to help encourage new potential patients to come forward
- Children were supported to go back to school with renewed confidence. Rejoining their classmates and continuing their education, they hope to build a better future for themselves



A regular gift of **£15** a month can support post-operative care for Noma survivors



Abel, who was disfigured by a hyena, with his father after the surgery



Abel with his brave mother and extension worker at home



BECAUSE FOR THESE CHILDREN, DISABILITY SHOULDN'T MEAN INABILITY

Supporting children with disabilities

Ethiopiaid has been working with Cheshire Services for over 21 years, providing orthopaedic and rehabilitation services, for children and young people with disabilities.

Cheshire Services' vision is a world where avoidable disability is prevented and where people with disabilities are treated equally in society. It was founded in 1962 to treat and rehabilitate children with disabilities, and pioneer innovative programmes. These included physiotherapy, a mobile outreach service, a holistic community-based approach, and the introduction of donkey assisted therapy. The latter was the first of its kind in the country.

In just the last three months, Cheshire has been able to provide vital support and treatment to 3,768 individuals.

Project Activities:

- Physiotherapy, rehabilitation services and pre/post-operative residential care
- Manufacturing of wheelchairs, tricycles, walking frames, crutches, as well as orthopaedic limbs and shoes
- Provision of vision and hearing devices, and basic sign language and braille training
- Direct educational support, including vocational training, for young people
- Livelihood support for the mothers of children with disabilities and self-help groups



£40 could go towards a wheelchair or a prosthetic limb for a disabled child

Ebise, Gemed and Mergitu's Story

Ebise (aged 15), Gemed (aged 13) and Mergitu (aged 10) come from the Oromia region. Their father Nemomsa Diriba passed away five years ago. After his death, the responsibility to take care of the children and the farm was left to their mother Jije. The money that they get from the land is the only means of income for this family.

Ebise and Mergitu were both born with clubfoot on both legs. Gemed was born with only one leg deformity. When their first child Ebise was born with club foot, Nemomsa and Jije took her to the nearest hospital for treatment. The doctors could not help Ebise. Frustrated, the parents gave up and chose not to take the rest of their children to hospital. They believed it was the result of bad luck, a curse from God, a view shared by their community. Despite this negative attitude towards their children's conditions, Nemomsa and Jije did not keep their children at home. They sent them to school, believing that education is a stepping stone for everything.

Cheshire Services' outreach team were introduced to the siblings when they attended their local outreach centre.

The team made their assessments and admitted all three siblings for corrective surgery. They received rehabilitative care that was not just physical, but also psychosocial.

When the siblings were first admitted they believed that they were the only children with such disabilities. Huddling together they hid themselves and were nervous about playing with other children.

But now, with the help of Cheshire's experienced team, the siblings have become more confident, and are keen to play with the rest of the children. They are eager to see their legs completely corrected, and no longer believe that they are the only people living with deformity. The education and training they receive at the centre gives them hope that they can learn like every other child in their community.

Gemed has had his leg and foot corrected, Ebise is fitted with a supportive crutch and Mergitu is about to face her final surgical procedure. The siblings are now so happy with everything that has been done for them. They are excited for the future: Ebise and Gemed want to become teachers and Mergitu wants to become a doctor.

"Thank you to Ethiopiaid supporters, we are so thankful!"



Before surgery and rehabilitation



Ebise, Gemed and Mergitu after rehabilitation

BECAUSE THE ELDERLY SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

Ethiopiaid are proud to support the **Destitute Elders Welfare and Development Association (DEWADA)**, which aims to improve the lives of the impoverished elderly in Addis Ababa.

In 2016, you helped us to increase the monthly pensions for 1071 elders, enabling them to provide at least two meals a day for themselves. This monthly increase to 135 Birr (equivalent of £5) is already making a significant impact on their wellbeing.

In last year's newsletter, we told you about Asegedch. She had a cataract and was in desperate need of surgery. We are delighted to inform you that Asegedch finally had sight saving surgery and can see once again.

Meet Asegedch Wendemu

Asegedch has been supported by DEWADA for eighteen years; she said her life before DEWADA stepped in to help was incredibly tough. She had previously worked as a domestic servant, but had to leave due to illness. This meant she was left with little to no money to support her family. Asegedch's husband and six of her seven children had all died, and she and her only surviving son were too unwell to work. Asegedch survived on eating just one meal a day of bread and water. Her health deteriorated rapidly and she developed hypertension due to malnutrition.

Although life is not easy for Asegedch, things are definitely improving. When we met Asegedch earlier in March, she had just returned from having cataract surgery. She had a bandage over her right eye, but was walking well when we helped her out of the car and to her house.

Before the cataract surgery, Asegedch spent over 5 years without any sight in her right eye. But now, her vision is expected to return completely to normal – something which has truly transformed her life.

The medical costs for Asegedch were £125. This includes initial assessment, cataract removal and aftercare costs. There are still many elders in DEWADA's care who need medical attention – some can be treated simply with eye drops, whilst others will require surgery. Making these elders comfortable is so important to us.

The total medical costs for Asegedch were
£125

Asegedch Wendemu recovering well following cataract surgery

LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

To be able to transform the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves is a very special legacy. A gift in your Will can achieve enormous change and transform so many lives for generations to come.

The people of Ethiopia are dynamic and determined to lift themselves out of poverty, if given the chance.

At Ethiopiaid, we are continuously humbled by the generosity of our donors. The support we receive makes such a tangible difference to the lives of the vulnerable in a country which still suffers greatly from poverty.

We hope that you will be inspired by the work that we do and, once you have looked after your family and friends, that you will consider including us in your Will.

"My involvement with Ethiopiaid started over 15 years ago and their focus on education has always been of particular interest. Having been a teacher myself I know how it can transform lives.

I have made two large gifts. Choosing to do so during my lifetime. Ethiopiaid listens to my requests and I feel connected to the partners they support. I have full confidence in their unique approach and plan to include them in my Will."

- One of Ethiopiaid's loyal supporters.

If you wish to give your legacy now so that you too can enjoy seeing the significance of your gift during your lifetime, please do get in touch. Eligible UK taxpayers can increase the value of their gift by 25% through the gift aid scheme. Similarly, if you would like a legacy pack with details on how to leave a gift in your Will, please contact us.

For more information contact us on 01225 476385 or email us at mylegacy@ethiopiaid.org.uk



Our promise to you: Ethiopiaid respects your privacy and the importance of ensuring your personal details are kept secure and private. **We will never share your details** with another charity or sell them to a commercial operation.

Tell us more: If you wish to change the quantity of mailings you receive, or opt out altogether, please contact us. You can also tell us your preferences for receiving post, emails or phone calls.

Major gifts enable significant change and are an opportunity to become more engaged with our work. If you are considering giving in this way please do get in touch with our Executive Director, Lisa Cousins, by calling the number below or email her at: lisa@ethiopiaid.org.uk

Fundraise for Ethiopiaid? We have lots of ideas, from asking for donations as wedding or birthday gifts or taking on a challenge you've always wanted to achieve. Take a look at the 'How you can help' section of our website

YOUR POUND



It's quick and simple to renew your gift aid declaration, simply get in touch with us.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Set up a **direct debit** to make a regular donation



Regular gifts are so important to us and simple to set up. Knowing that we have a guaranteed income each month helps us to plan ahead with confidence.



Send a **cheque** or postal order. Make a **credit or debit card** donation



Make a fast and secure **online** payment at www.ethiopiaid.org.uk



Donate over the **phone** on: 01225 476 385



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Please note names have been changed in the case studies and library images used, to protect anonymity.

In the unlikely event that all the donations from this appeal cannot be applied to the featured projects, they will, at the Trustees' discretion, be applied to the furtherance of the charity's aims.