

## HOPE CENTER



Through the character training at the Hope Center, the current batch of boys is showing remarkable growth and progress. A few of them have requested vocational training since they have no job experience as yet. Six of the boys have been going out to polish shoes in their free time, and they have earned the equivalent of \$150 to date. They plan to pour the money back into the children living on the streets, feeding them and helping them begin their own shoe-polishing ventures.



A group of Hope Center graduates, who call themselves Fruitful Brothers, are meeting together to strengthen their brotherhood, social relations, and spiritual growth. They also support each other, socially and economically, when they face different trials in life. For example, this association is mobilizing funds to finance dialysis expenses for Getasew Mose [a graduate from the 11th batch, who is suffering from kidney failure]. In recent months, the Fruitful Brothers saved their money and traveled to Sodere Resort for a retreat. Youth Impact provided the van for their trip and covered fuel expenses. On the retreat, they learned about managing and saving money.



An Easter Celebration was held at Hope Center with current residents, as well as graduates of the program. A total of 26 people were in attendance. A half-day program was planned with time for scripture reading, prayer, worship, exchange of gifts, and lunch.

## SHALOM CENTER AND YOUTH IMPACT LIBRARY



The students at Shalom Center and Impact Library are showing good academic growth as a result of the tutoring they are receiving. Good news! Forty-seven children from Shalom Center recently went on a field trip to Entoto Park and Gulele Botany Sanctuary. Other events held in the centers include a sports competition at Shalom Center and a Spelling Bee at Impact Library. The Spelling Bee competition ran for more than two months, and there were four winners in the end.

The partnership continues with Love and Care, a faith-based network that supports ministries like Youth Impact. The network provides weekly counseling and discussion groups for children, material supports when available, and life skills training. Two months ago, Love and Care hosted an art exhibition, where the children sold their artwork to visitors. They also hosted a life skills training program for 45 children from Shalom Center. Currently, they are working on buying clothes and shoes for the children. We appreciate all they do for the Youth Impact kids!



A new staff member has joined Shalom Center as librarian! **Darik Abate** was himself mentored at Shalom Center for over five years. After completing his college education, he volunteered at the center for more than a year and has now been hired as the full-time librarian! He runs the library and provides different services whenever necessary.

## UPDATE FROM MEKLIT CENTRE

The Meklit Development Association for Women and Children is still unable to gather in person due to the Covid-19 restrictions. However, they continue to serve their children by providing groceries, such as oil, flour, macaroni, rice, and soap. They also pay school tuition for the children whose mothers have found themselves out of work due to the pandemic and the civil war in Ethiopia.

The former Youth Impact director, Ermias Zeleke, left his share of his family home as an inheritance to Meklit. He left specific instructions on what was to be done with the proceeds from the sale: he indicated he wanted two apartments to be bought for two families in the program. He directed the rest of the money to be used to run the program. As the sale has recently been finalized, the purchase of the apartments is impending. The Meklit staff asks for prayer for wisdom and clarity during this process.

Pictured here is one of the Meklit children, nine-year-old Biruk Elias, and his mother. They have been with Meklit for six years. Biruk's mother lost use of one of her legs in a car wreck. She lived on the streets of Addis when she became pregnant with Biruk. Since joining Meklit, she has been able to provide a stable home, food, and education for her son. Meklit recently helped her open a small coffee shop in her neighborhood. Biruk is making excellent progress in school and wants to be a policeman when he grows up!



## STAFF NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS



We are rejoicing with our Youth Impact director, **Hiwotu Kassaw**, over his family's move to a new home. Hiwotu said, "My wife and our children are delighted. Our children now have space to play.

Having a house means a lot here in Addis Ababa. We didn't expect this to happen, but God did it!"

- Please continue to pray for the needs of the people in Ethiopia. The civil war is affecting the people greatly, and many lives have been lost. Hundreds of thousands more have been displaced. Pray for peace to be restored to the country.
- Ethiopian Impact is planning another trip to Addis Ababa in 2022 or 2023, and we hope you will join us! Please let us know if you would like to receive info about the trip.

- The staff at Youth Impact has asked for prayer for one of the boys in the program. His name is Daniel, and he is exhibiting withdrawn, aggressive behaviors within the house. They believe Daniel has been brought to them for a reason and want to make a lasting impact in his life. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.



When considering your giving during this unusual time of worldwide upheaval, please remember Ethiopian Impact. Your support, no matter the amount, makes a difference in the lives of young people in Ethiopia, and is needed now more than ever.

[ethiopianimpact.org](http://ethiopianimpact.org)

Please find us and follow us on:

 **Ethiopian Impact**

 **@ethiopianimpact**

for more information of our ministry