

## Newsletter: Spring 2025



**Save the  
Date!**



### **Ethiopian Impact Gala - June 26, 2025**

Join us on June 26, 2025, for the 2nd Annual Ethiopian Impact Gala—an evening dedicated to celebrating stories of transformation and ministry impact. Experience the rich flavors of Ethiopia and enjoy a special visit with successful architect, Berhilu, one of the first boys in the program, along with founder, Abraham Fiseha and his wife Salem. Stay tuned for a detailed invitation coming soon!

### **VISION TRIP 2.0**

We're thrilled to announce a second vision trip this September, offering another opportunity to experience the incredible work of Youth Impact firsthand. Board member Roni Perry and her husband, Wes, will be leading this meaningful journey, tentatively scheduled for September 17th-21st, 2025.

If you're interested in joining, simply click on the link below, and we'll be happy to send you more details. Don't miss this chance to connect and be part of something truly impactful!

[I'm Interested!!](#)



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### New Starts at the Hope Center

The Hope Center continues to make a profound impact on the lives of young street boys, offering them a path filled with hope and opportunity. This year, 10 new boys have joined the center, where they are learning essential life skills, receiving an education, and discovering the values of Jesus. Meeting each of them, hearing their names and stories, and embracing them was a deeply moving experience for our group during February's vision trip. Their humility and strength were truly inspiring—a powerful reminder of the incredible work being done to transform lives.



Hope Center's Director,  
Dereje with his sweet family

Three boys who recently  
joined the Hope Center



### Updates from the Youth Impact Center

The Youth Impact Center in Addis Ababa continues to flourish, providing vital support to more than 100 children and 60 families through the dedication of Youth Impact staff and volunteers. Every day, these children and families receive nourishing meals, after-school tutoring, mentorship, and the joy of playing together. Beyond academics, the Center prioritizes teaching the values of Jesus and essential life skills, fostering hope and resilience in their lives.

This past February, a group of twelve of us from the U.S. had the privilege of witnessing this transformative ministry in action. We were embraced with warmth and hospitality, and the children shared their talents through vibrant cultural dances, heartfelt skits, music, and art—showcasing all they've been working on throughout the year. It was a beautiful and inspiring experience that reinforced the incredible impact of this mission. Check out these pictures of our sweet friends...





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### Spring Feature - Gize's Journey: From Hardship to Hope

#### Empowering Women with Self-Help Groups at The Youth Impact Center

Gize, a single mother of two young children, found herself struggling to navigate life after her husband left her for another woman. Overwhelmed by despair and financial hardship, she often battled frustration, which sometimes affected her relationship with her children. In the midst of this turmoil, the opportunity arose for her to join Youth Impact's Family Strengthening Program.

The program provided her with mentorship, counseling, and capacity-building training, helping her find a safe space where she could connect with other women who shared similar challenges. Through these weekly meetings, Gize realized she was not alone—there were others who understood her pain and uplifted one another through shared experiences.

With time, she began to gain fresh perspectives. She started to believe that her future was still in her hands and that small, meaningful changes could shape a better life for herself and her children. The one-on-one counseling sessions and home visits deepened her self-awareness, and she embarked on a spiritual journey. Embracing Jesus as her Lord and Savior, Gize found peace that she had never known before. Her anger gradually melted away, replaced by renewed hope and a sense of purpose.

One of the most empowering aspects of the program was its savings and credit association, which enabled members to access financial support. Gize took her first loan to launch a small vegetable business, selling fresh produce in her neighborhood. As her confidence grew, she took out additional loans, expanding her business step by step. What had started as survival has transformed into prosperity.

Today, Gize thrives—not just as a businesswoman but as a role model in her community. She continues attending group meetings, encouraging others to embrace their potential. Actively involved in Bible study and church programs, she shares her testimony of resilience, faith, and determination.

Her journey stands as a powerful reminder that, with the right support, no struggle is insurmountable, and hope can light even the darkest paths.



#### Pray with us

1. Continue to pray for the people of Ethiopia, ramifications of the recent civil war affect the economy and the opportunity for work.

2. Pray for the leaders and mentors of youth IMPACT - courage, strength, and energy

#### Ways YOU can help



#### Monetary Donations

Our budget continues to grow as we add more children and families to the programs and ministry in Addis Ababa. You can help by making a monetary donation click [HERE](#) to donate online