

Hope Enterprises

Quarterly Report

July, August, September 2009

Headquarters

During this quarter the office of the General Secretary rendered services to Ladders of HOPE and HUC on decisive issues in areas of management. During July, Dr. Alemu and HQ staff, namely the monitoring and evaluation officer, institutional development officer, human resource officer and information and communication technology officer, participated in an organizational capacity assessment (OCA) workshop organized by Ladders of Hope & Woord and Daad.

The Office of General Secretary in collaboration with Ladders of Hope prepared the bylaws of Hope Enterprises for re-registration at Charities and Societies Agency for licenses in accordance with the new proclamation of the NGOs.

The General Secretary chaired a meeting in the Addis Ababa branch for all Hope School teachers and managers, to update them on the revised Manual of Policy and Procedure of Hope Enterprises. At this meeting, the General Secretary, Executive Director of Ladders of Hope and the Director of Finance took turns to elaborate the manual and interacted with the employees of Hope Enterprises

During this quarter the HQ and Ladders of Hope were busy recruiting staff for the new academic year. The General Secretary, the Executive Director of Ladders of Hope and the Director of Finance made a visit to Dessie, Assosa and Gambella to participate in the requirement of staff. For Dessie branch Manager, and seven teachers and three instructors for VTC, for HQ an internal auditor and for Ladder of Hope Vocational sector specialist and for Gambella a finance manager and for Assosa one child care officer and accountant were recruited.

Ladders of Hope

The office of Ladders of Hope carried out numerous activities in its six projects operational areas during this third quarter of 2009. This quarter also marked the graduation of 85 vocational school trainees, after successful completion of training in four different fields of training given at three different levels in the Addis Ababa and Dessie branches. The graduation ceremony was attended in both branch offices by board members General Secretary, the executive management staff of Hope, parents, invited guests and government officials.

Woord en Daad and its partners have decided to work on forming regional alliances and a global alliance, and also decided on certain criteria that organizations need to fulfill in order to be able to join these alliances. The OCA is a tool to help determine whether or not

organizations can join these alliances; and also serves as a base for a plan for capacity development: looking for the strengths and weaknesses in an organization, and making suggestions to remedy the weaknesses. Dicky Nieuwenhuis from Woord and Daad and Mr Niek Bakker from MDF in the Netherlands conducted the Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) from July 9 to 11 in Addis. Hope's top management staff, branch managers, finance department staff and project-related officers participated. It involved many categories and criteria. In the final outcome of the assessment process, Hope scored an average score of 3.35 out of 4.

Hope Enterprises' teacher training conference was held from July 20 to 24 on the topic of "Active learning and cultivating hearts and minds". This training was organized and sponsored by Menlo Park Presbyterian Church and was held in the Addis Ababa branch. In total, 150 teachers from all Hope Schools, Hope VTC instructors, and Government school teachers from Bole & Kolfe Keranio Sub – cities took part in the training. The training was tremendously helpful in building the capacity of teachers, instructors and heads of the schools and vocational training centers.

Students who sat for the tenth grade regional examination scored outstanding grade point averages. This was good news for Hope. The result of the tenth grade students in the Addis Ababa branch showed that 9 students scored straight A's, 67 students got above a 3.00 grade point average and 27 scored above 2.4. All (103) students passed to preparatory classes. This achievement has enabled the school to be named the top school among other schools in the sub city.

The Ethio-German Technical and Financial Corporation donated machines and reference books worth birr 650,000.00 to Hope vocational training center. This contribution advances quality training by augmenting the practical as well as the theoretical parts of the training.

Addis Ababa Branch

Full Family Based Child Care

502 children (272 of them female) continued to get assistance in this program. 50 children were recruited and enlisted in this program in collaboration with the kebeles, concerned government offices and the community. A food allowance of birr 65 was given to the parents for July and August since school was closed for vacation. The child care officer and the social worker regularly checked the proper distribution and utilization of stipends.

On September 14 the school opened and the cafeteria provided breakfast for 501 students and lunch for 630 students. The food committee regularly follows up the quality and quantity of food. The office purchased food supplies such as sugar, tea, and bananas for the preparation of breakfast and lunch. School uniforms were distributed for 501 students.

In addition, there were three monthly parent meetings, in which parents discussed their children's performance and behavior with teachers, the child care officer, the social worker and

the guidance councilor coordinator. 29 students received letters from their foster parents and 47 children wrote letters to their sponsors. Some sponsors sent gifts like sweets, markers, colored pencils, pen marker cards and others.

The child care officer updated each child's personal file of and prepared bio-data files for the newly recruited children. These files were then sent to Woord en Daad. In this quarter 21 children got medical treatment. The branch office covered the expenses.

Partial Family Based Child Care

Under this program, 264 children (116 female) continued their education. 91 of the students attended the Hope school, 37 youngsters attended the Hope vocational training center, and the remaining 136 students attended government schools. On July 2009, 6 students graduated from VTC with good grades. School stationery materials and uniforms were distributed to all the students.

Feeding Center

The daily provision of lunch to 1000 needy people in the two centers continued everyday, except Sundays throughout the quarter. A total of 79,000 people visited the two soup kitchens. Of the total 35,919 were female. Twice a week before lunch, Pastor Mathewos advised the people on issues related to HIV/Aids, bad habits, strong self discipline and faith in God.

Street Children's Breakfast

This program continued to provide a breakfast of two buns of bread, a banana and a hot mug of tea with milk for 730 children. Of the total, 250 were females. Every morning the children enjoyed their breakfast and began the day with fresh energy and a bright hope. Volunteer teacher, taught the children basic education and guided and counseled the children with words from scripture every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. As a result of continued support and advice 12 street children were reunited with their families in this quarter.

Hope School, Addis Ababa

A total of 756 children attended Hope School this quarter, of which 410 were girls. In the beginning of July, report cards were handed out to children on parents' day. Students who ranked on the top three positions in their classes were rewarded with books. The school director presented the annual progress report of the school to parents and teachers. Parents selected members of Parent and Teachers Association (PTAs) which works with the school administration.

The results of the regional and national exams for grade 8 and 10 students were released at the end of July. 105 out of 106 students successfully passed the eighth grade national examination. All 103 students who sat for the national examination for grade ten passed the examination with excellent scores. Nine students had a grade point average of 4.0 (all A's) and 67 students scored

between 3.00 and 3.80 grade point average (B to B+). The remaining students' scores ranged between 2.4 and 2.8 grade point averages. Such outstanding performance of the students made Hope School stand above other schools in the same sub city.

After two months of vacation, Hope school opened on September 14. School stationery materials were distributed to all the students; and teachers began classroom instruction according to their weekly lesson plan in correspondence with their annual plan. Various school clubs such as the language and literature club, sports club, girls' club, among others, began their activities according to their annual plans.

Repairs and maintenances of class room desks, chairs and blackboards were carried out during the quarter; and classroom walls were painted.

Community Based Educational Support

i) Street Children

450 children, of whom 193 were girls, continued to get assistance in the program. The children continued their education in 50 government and public schools. The social worker regularly monitored the students' performance, visiting the schools and consulting teachers. He also advised and counseled the children on self discipline and hard work. School stationery materials were distributed to all children. A student performance report for the ended school year showed that out of 450 students enrolled in the program, 435 students successfully passed to the next grade.

ii) Other Children

100 new children in Bole sub city were recruited for the program. This brought the total number of children assisted in this program up to 600. Of the total, 343 were girls. All the children were provided with school stationery materials and uniforms. In the parent's meeting, issues related to discipline, student's academic performance, HIV, family planning and personal hygiene were addressed. Ten teachers from five schools in Bole sub-city took part in the teachers' training conference held in Addis Ababa branch.

School of Home Workers, Addis Ababa

300 home workers (women who work as domestic workers during the day) continued their night-school education from level one up to level three, equivalent to grades 1-4 (known as first cycle education). In the quarter, 50 students completed level three education and joined grade 5 in government schools. The Kolfe Keranio sub- city office donated exercise books and pens to all home workers. There were 121 home workers in level one, 100 in level two and 79 in level three.

Scholarships for University Students

19 students, of whom 3 were females, were assisted in the program. 11 successfully completed their studies and graduated from 6 universities; and 8 are continuing their education. All the graduates were placed on Job by the government.

Hope Vocational Training Center, Addis Ababa

On July 4, 55 trainees graduated in the three fields of industrial electrical machines and drives technology, carpentry and joinery, and international hotel and catering. On this day various guests, graduates' families, employing companies, donors, Hope staff and government officials were present. In his congratulatory speech, Ato Zenebe Ayele, executive director of the Ladders of Hope, gave an overall performance report regarding the vocational center. The general secretary, Dr. Alemu G/wold, gave a message to the graduates to be the best in any job opportunities they have. The closing speech was given by Ato Desalegne Agegnehu, deputy of Kolfe Keranio sub-city education bureau and guest of honor of the day, who emphasized the role Hope is playing in training skilled human power for the country.

Outstanding graduates from each field of specialization received their prize from the chairperson of the board, Ato Negash Kebede. Representing the graduates, Biniyam Beyene gave a speech expressing gratitude for what Hope had done for them and promised to be productive citizens and ambassadors of HOPE. Project work by the graduates was exhibited. Among the many projects were electric *mitads* (for making *injera*), electric stoves, candle stands, shoe racks, a salon buffet, veranda chair and circular flower stands.

Trainees in the second year program were assigned to different companies for an apprenticeship program lasting for 312 consecutive working days from July 6 to September 5. The business and job planning career manager, head of the VTC and all the section heads, visited the trainees and talked with supervisors and managers of companies while conducting check ups. Issues related to punctuality, work ethics, discipline, skill, obedience and the skill gap of the trainees were discussed in depth. The comments given by the supervisors were constructive, encouraging and served as input in improving Hope's training program.

Mr. Han Euijen and Mrs. Eugenie Euijen, from Hoornbeek College in The Netherlands, visited the center from July 28 to 31. During their stay they presented the revised BEST (Business Entrepreneurial Skills Training) curriculum of the first and second year training program for review, comment and discussion among the instructors of Hope vocational training. They also gave training on lesson planning and financial management.

The head of the Addis Ababa vocational training center, Ato Daniel Teshome, attended a workshop organized by Edukans in the Netherlands from September 22 to 25. The workshop focused on experience-sharing with partner organizations on BEST programs and access to technical vocational education training improvement. The vocational head visited Hoornbeek College.

82 (42 male and 40 female) new trainees were recruited for the first year program in the four fields. They were selected from the neighboring three Kebeles. All of them attended an orientation and then were assigned to one of the four training programs. Most of them were assigned according to their first choice.

Second year and third year trainees began their training on September 14, 2009. It started with a meeting of the branch manager and all trainees to discuss discipline, punctuality, occupational testing offered by the government and other related issues. The manager stressed the code of conduct and advised the students to adhere to them strictly.

Job and Business Mediation

The manager of job and business mediation was busy visiting potential recruiting companies in Addis. As a result, of the total 55 graduates of the July 2009, 19 were placed in jobs while 4 were working as freelancers.

Dessie Branch

Full Family Based Child Care

There were a total of 783 children who continued to receive assistance in this program. Of the total, 381 of them were girls. These were children in the Hope school and youngsters in different universities. School was closed for summer vacation, so children stayed in their homes with the provision of a stipend of birr 65. The allowance helped to meet their basic needs while they are staying at home. An important outcome this quarter was the recruitment of 50 children from the community, in collaboration with the government officials and community members. All the children had a medical exam and their bio data were sent to Woord en Daad.

During the two months vacation lunch was provided every Thursday at the school compound. This helped the social workers to check on students' health and advise children to take good care of themselves. When school resumed on September 13, regular provision of breakfast and lunch began. 1197 meters of cloth was purchased in bulk for school uniforms, and they were sewn by the bid-winning tailor and distributed to all students.

48 children received medical assistance in the school clinic and Dessie Referral Hospital. All their expenses were covered by Hope. 25 children wrote letters to their sponsors while 38 children received letters from their sponsors. 20 recent photos were sent to Woord and Daad in the quarter.

Repair and maintenance work on baking stoves, the cafeteria room, tables and chairs was carried out during the quarter.

Hope School, Dessie

A total of 637 children, of whom 322 were girls, attended the Hope school. In the final semester examination, 624 successfully passed to the next grade. A school party was held to mark the closing of the academic year on July 12, with students, parents, teachers and special guests present. The school director read the annual report for the school. The school club's entertaining presentations of short plays, circus, poems and songs shine a bright spot light on the day. Prizes and certificates were handed out to students who showed outstanding scholastic performance and good participation in school clubs. Teachers were also given awards for best performance in school clubs. Parents discussed their children's performance with their teachers.

All the school teachers attended a national workshop on the quality of education from September 14 to September 22. Students ranking from 1 to 20 in grades 8, 9, and 10 attended a civic education workshop organized by the district education bureau, from July 27 to August 14.

The school hired seven new teachers holding educational accreditation ranging from certificate level to first degree level in different subject areas. An orientation on Hope's strategies and values was given to the teachers by school administrators.

School opened on September 13 in a colorful celebration welcoming the new academic year in the presence of parents, students and teachers. Grade 10 students held a torch of fire and ran around the compound, finally passing the torch to the newly recruited students of kindergarten who also made a run around the school carrying the torch. The new teachers were introduced to the school community, and school materials were distributed to all students in all grade levels.

Community Based Educational Support

A total of 600 children, of whom 305 female, continued in the program, attending eight different schools. Tutorial classes continued to be given to the students on Saturdays. All the students sat for their final examination in their respective schools in July, where 90% students passing to the next grade. School stationery materials and school uniforms. Three students who were ill were medically treated with all costs covered by Hope.

School of Home Workers

250 home workers continued their night-school lessons during the quarter. Of the total, 133 home workers took second semester examinations and all passed to the next level. 31 home workers who completed the level three education received certificates. Most of them joined formal schools. Thus, there are 122 home workers in level one, 68 in level 2, and 60 in level three. Stationery materials were distributed to all. Recruitment of home workers was in process during the reporting quarter.

Scholarships for University Students

21 students who were studying in 12 different universities successfully graduated during the reporting quarter. 4 students scored a great distinction grade point average (all A's) and all of them were assigned as graduate assistant at various universities namely Axum, Jijiga, Tepi, Mezan teferi and Jimma Universities.

92 students continued their studies in various universities. Hope provided blankets, sanitary materials, towels and school stationery materials. In addition, a transport allowance of birr 100.00 and a pocket allowance of birr 95.00 were given to the students. The students together with Hope took the initiative to form an alumni group.

Hope Vocational Training Center, Dessie

113 youngsters, of whom 62 girls, continued to attend training in the four fields of Masonry, Industrial Electrical Machine Drive Technology, General Metal Fabrication and Assembly Secretarial Science and office Administration . The training center successfully graduated 30 students in the training fields of masonry and Industrial Electrical Machine Drive Technology on August 7. Delegates from the zone administrative zone, Executive Director of Ladders of Hope, General Secretary, Management team of Hope, parents of graduates and the school community were present at the graduation ceremony. Miss Woineshet Asmare, a former graduate who had lost her parents at an early age, took the stage and proudly recounted and praised the assistance she had received from Hope since she was a young child. Weyeneshet told how Hope's help and training had transformed her miserable life and enabled her to become self –supporting. She is now employed in Wollo University. Her story touched the hearts of the audience. Ato Abay Fisseha, delegate of the administrative zone of South Wollo, awarded prizes to top students. In his closing speech, Ato Abay expressed appreciation for the role Hope is playing in the development of the country and affirmed that they stood by Hope.

Recruitment of youngsters from the community began with a written letter requesting the kebeles and the district office to send a list of names of youngsters who qualify for the training program according to HOPE and government requirements. As a result 18 from HOPE and 39 students from the community were enrolled in the four training departments. The center laid out the annual plan and began the training with complete training modules and course outlines. The Dessie branch, collaborating with headquarters, recruited three instructors for the training programs .

Job and Business Mediation

16 graduates of the masonry department formed an association called Tesfa Minas Building Contractor Association with a legal license to operate as a grade 9 construction associations. They began operation by subcontracting construction work from big companies. 14 graduates of the industrial and electrical drive technology department are in the process of forming an association to start their own business.

Gambella Branch

Full Family Based Child Care

The program supported 536 children with food, a family stipend and medical care during the quarter. Of the total, 283 were female. The recruitment of 40 children took place following the organization's procedure beginning on September 9. The usual provision of breakfast and lunch continued as of September 25 with regular checkups and frequent monitoring of the quality of food by the child care officer and teachers. A committee of ten students was formed to maintain order and assist serving food in the cafeteria. Two students took turns everyday to keep order and monitor the quality of food.

The bulk purchase of cloth needed to prepare school uniforms for the new school year was carried out by headquarters. Upon receiving the cloth, the branch office facilitated the selection of tailors to sew the uniforms.

18 children visited the local health center for minor illnesses with their medical expenses totally covered by Hope. The number of medical cases has been reduced significantly in the quarter due to consistent health education and medical advice given by a nurse.

Community Based Child Care

34 children continued to get assistance in this program with the provision of a pocket allowance of birr 45.00 and stationery materials. Of the total, 16 were girls. School uniforms were sewn and distributed.

Hope School, Gambella

A total of 518 children were supported in this program in the reporting quarter. Of the total, 265 were girls. The final semester examination report showed that 459 students (89%) successfully passed to the next grade. A school meeting was held before school opening to discuss problems faced during the previous year, in order to set strategies to improve students' achievement and overall performance.

The school department and school clubs were reformed to improve the learning process in the school. Therefore, three departments namely language and literature, natural science and social science were formed. Moreover, seven clubs were organized and chairpersons appointed. The departments and clubs will deliver activity reports to the principal every month. In a meeting held with the students, the school principal strongly advised strict adherence to school rules and regulations.

The primary school and secondary school were separated with a fence so as to give enough room and space for the elementary students. A volleyball playground was constructed to accelerate sportsmanship in the students. Repair and maintenance of school chairs, tables and

walls were done during the school break. Necessary school materials were also purchased and distributed to students and teachers.

A union comprising students, parents and teachers was formed to actively engage assisting the school in cultivating good behavior and discipline in the school. Parents took part in cleaning and pulling out weeds in the compound.

Vocational Training Center, Gambella

There were 56 trainees enrolled in the two training programs: masonry and the office management and secretarial technology department. Of the total 11 were female. All the trainees received an allowance of birr 40.00 per month. 14 trainees enrolled in the masonry department had a twenty day apprenticeship program in construction companies.

All trainees in both departments completed their first year program with good performance and thus joined the second year program. Recruitment of new trainees for the first year program is awaiting the regional ministry of education's grade point average requirement.

All the necessary stationery materials were acquired from headquarters and were ready for distribution, while some resources for the training program are in process. In order to solve the shortage of instructors for the two programs, part- time instructors from similar centers were employed

Day Care Project and Community Based Education Support

i. Day Care

The branch office succeeded in placing all the 160 children supported in this program in four government schools, and the children began their formal education. In place of those children, another 160 children were recruited in collaboration with government officials and community members. These children were admitted to the program on September 9, and were provided with breakfast, lunch and basic literacy and numeric lessons. Of the total, 90 of them were females.

ii. Community Based Education Support

320 (164 male and 151 female) children attended four government schools with continued support from this program. The branch office paid the registration fee requested for the schools and all the children began their classes. Exercise books and writing materials were distributed to all students. The branch office was making arrangements with the schools to begin tutorial classes for the low achievers to improve their school performance.

During the quarter only 5 children visited the local clinic. The child care officer did frequent visits traveling on his bicycle to ensure the children's well being.

Assosa Area Project

Family Based Child Care

A total of 300 children (153 girls and 147 boys) were supported in this program. The children received their allowance regularly. During the vacation (July and August) every Thursday students come for health check up and during this time they get break fast and lunch

The Area project office recruited 50 children in collaboration with the local government office and communities. In due process the office compiled and sent the bio data and photograph of the newly recruited children to Woord en Daad. In addition during this quarter 250 children wrote greeting letters to their sponsors and 11 received from their sponsors.

A basic needs officer and an accountant were recruited for the Assosa area project office. The general secretary, CEO of LOH and the director of finance were present to interview and evaluate the candidates.

During the reporting period 14 students were sent for medical check up and treatment the branch office covering the medical expenses.

Hope School, Assosa

All 300 students sat for the final semester examination and successfully passed to the next grade. School day was celebrated on July 7 to mark the end of the school year in the presence of parents and children. On that day students recited poems, staged entertaining plays and drama and sang songs. The top three students in each grade were awarded books. Club leaders as well as students who won interclass competitions also received an award.

A general meeting was held to evaluate the overall performance of the just-ended school year. Various issues were raised to implement the lessons gained from the teachers' training conference held in Addis Ababa. School clubs were also formed and leaders were nominated.

During the school opening meeting, the branch office informed parents to send their children to school on time and to look seriously after their children's hygiene. 1900 exercise books, 300 pens and 300 pencils were distributed to students in the quarter. Parents planted 100 mango seedlings around the fence.

The Construction Project

The general secretary, CEO of LOH and director of finance of Hope visited the area project on August 31 to discuss construction matters. In their discussion with the region's urban works and development office, it was learned that the legal handover of the construction from the contractor should be the primary focus in order to continue construction.

Rift Valley Area Project

The Roggie Child Care and Training Center

Family Based Child Care

The program continued supporting 300 of which 250 were supported by Menlo Park Presbyterian church and 50 newly recruited children were supported by Wood and Daad. The recruitment of the 50 children was carried out in collaboration in the local government office and the community. The 50 newly recruited children joined the kindergarten class.

During the reporting period 20 students got medical treatment from near by clinic and the project covered all their expenses.

Hope School, Roggie

All 300 of the children in the Family Based Child Care program attended school. Parents' day was held to mark the end of the school year and discuss the children's' performance results with parents. Report cards were given out to all students. In the overall students' performance analysis, 150 children got excellent scores. The remaining scored between 55% and 74 % average scores. Outstanding students who ranked in the top three from each class were awarded books in recognition of their performance.

An educational quality training program, organized by the district education bureau, was attended by all teachers of the school for five days. This training gave an in depth focus on school directing, students' performance improvement, and an induction course for new teachers.

After two months of vacation, school opened on September 14. Stationery materials and school uniforms were distributed to all the students.

The Roggie child care and training center and the community water project were officially inaugurated on August 2, 2004. A team consisting of 25 members from Menlo Park Presbyterian Church (MPPC) led by Mr. Todd Johnson took part in the event. Inauguration was attended by community members, parents, children and invited guests. In appreciation and gratitude to the visitors, the parents of the children presented gifts of traditional cloth representing their culture.

The Herrera Child Care and Training Center

Family Based Child Care

300 children, of whom 145 girls, were supported in this program. As usual, the provision of breakfast, lunch and medical care continued in the quarter. 50 children were recruited from the community in collaboration with the local government office and the community. These

children are between the ages of 5 to 6 and have either single or no parents. Biodata and photos of the children were prepared and sent to Venture Christian Church USA.

A team of five people from Venture Christian Church led by Mr. Jack Elwell visited the school from June 28 to July 4, 2009. They camped in the school compound and spent quality time with the children. During their stay they taught English the story from the Bible aided with pictures, songs, dramas and sport activities. The visitors gave school bags, bed sheets, and color crayon sets to all the children.

During this quarter 31 children got medical treatment from a nearby clinic and their medical expenses were covered by Hope. The teachers advised children and parents to use mosquito nets in order to prevent malaria.

Hope School, Herrera

All 300 students in the Family Based Child Care program, from kindergarten to grade 3, received their report cards for the second semester from their teachers on parents' day. All the parents had the opportunity to discuss their children's performance with teachers. The good news was that 92% of the children scored excellent grades ranging from 81 to 100% average. The school gave awards to students who ranked in the top three positions in each class. Tutorial classes were held after class hours for children who showed low performance.

After two months of vacation, regular classes began on September 14. Teachers submitted their weekly and yearly annual plans to the school. Stationery materials were distributed to the children. In their periodical visit, the management committee held discussions with the school staff. The discussion focused broadly on issues like the quality of education, hygiene of students, teaching aids, and continuance of adult education and others.

Respectfully Submitted,

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