

PARTNERS *with* ETHIOPIA



In 2006 Desalegn Daka started our partner organization, FOVC, by helping three orphaned children in the village of Shanto, Ethiopia (the three are pictured above with him in March 2018). In twelve years FOVC has grown and today has 44 staff, five project sites, and 750 profiled children. FOVC has helped over 250 widows with income generating projects and is completing the first community development project! **Lives are being changed in Ethiopia!** It is also a huge responsibility for us since Partners With Ethiopia is their main financial supporter. When you to give to Partners With Ethiopia the impact is significant! In an effort to continue to grow we are thrilled to announce

a **NEW \$20/month sponsorship level!**

Instead of being matched with a specific child this level matches new sponsors with a project site. FOVC's new Hawassa Center of H.O.P.E. is first on our list! As a new

Hope Sponsor you will receive updates during the year about the 150 children in Hawassa. Sponsors can donate any amount per month starting at just \$20. Learn more at

www.hopesponsorship.org or contact us at info@partnerswithethiopia.org

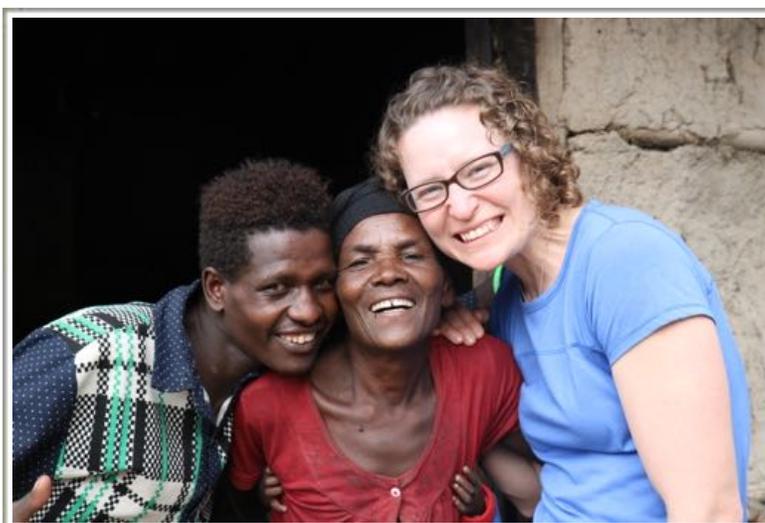


Empowering Families in Southern

2018 Trip Highlights

We had a fantastic trip to Ethiopia in March. We visited all five of FOVC's project sites. We also visited Kamfourd School in Shanto, Ethiopia which Partners With Ethiopia supports. We were very pleased with the implementation and on-going success of everything your donations are supporting. **You are changing lives through your generosity!** Thank you!

- Ingrid Olson & Renee Stauffer

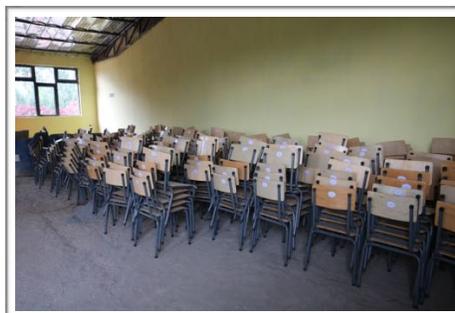
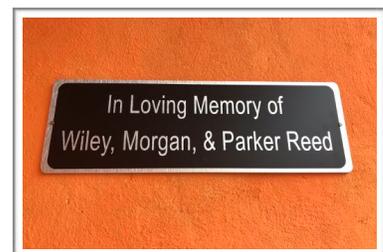


We were joined by Renee's sister-in-law, Karen Stauffer. Karen writes, "When Ermias, the teenage boy we sponsor, realized who I was, his reaction was to raise his arms in celebration, turn and embrace me with an intensity and appreciation that spoke profoundly to me. His embrace was immediate and tight and very similar to the hugs I receive from my own five-year-old son. I was so grateful to spend time with Ermias, and meet his mother, who is incredibly strong and joyful. I fell in love with this family. It was an honor to hear their story. Ermias is graduating from high school this May and hopes to become a doctor. The opportunity to complete high school, continue his education and support his family would not be possible without this sponsorship program. Meeting Ermias confirmed my belief that supporting and caring for our 'kids' *absolutely* makes a difference, transforms their lives and gives them hope and a future."

Shanto Community Library & Learning Center



A highlight of the trip was visiting the Shanto Community Library and Learning Center. The progress from April 2017 to March 2018 was amazing! We met with the local Superintendent of the Shanto School District (see photo below). He expressed that this library would have a significant impact on the 30,000 school age children and youth in the region. After we returned home we finished our fundraising for this project. The final funding was wired to Ethiopia on April 25th! We anticipate that this library and study center will be open to the public in June 2018. Ingrid Olson began discussing this project with FOVC in 2014. It has been a long process but worth all the hard work! On our next trip to Ethiopia, spring 2019, we are excited to see the library in use. **A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this community library a reality through your prayers, financial donations, and encouragement!** We hope to do more projects like this in the future!



May 2018