

ETHIOPIAID CANADA

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18



ETHIOPIAID

UNLOCKING THE POWER
OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



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Dear Ethiopiapaid Supporter,

A huge thank you for the support you have demonstrated to Ethiopiapaid Canada this year! We are proud that so many of you believe in our vision and work. Your solidarity and commitment have enabled us to provide life-changing opportunities to women, children, and communities across Ethiopia.

2017 brought changes to the Ethiopiapaid staff and board. Four new Board Directors have joined our Board, and I was newly appointed as Ethiopiapaid Canada's new Board Chair. The former Executive Director, Olivier Bonnet, also departed for a new role. I am proud to take on the enormous responsibility bestowed on us by you, our supporters, to ensure that your donations are spent where they are most needed and have truly sustainable long-term benefits.

We are pleased to announce significant progress and achievements across our programs in 2017. Just a few of our key achievements this year include:

- 213 women were provided with obstetric fistula repair surgery and holistic support
- 140 people with disabilities accessed business skills training and seed capital funding to start their small businesses
- 104 new women and girls who had survived violence, and their children, were housed in safe houses, receiving security, counselling, and vocational training
- 6660 individuals benefited from access to three new earthen dams, increasing their resilience in the face of a devastating drought

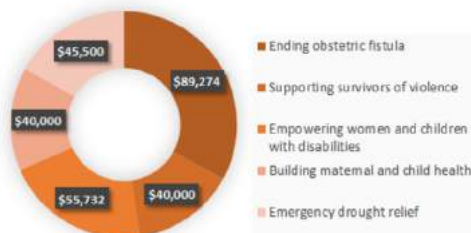
Empowerment starts at the grass roots, and Ethiopiapaid Canada is proud to continue to drive change through our embedded, expert, local partners. We believe that sustainable progress can be most effectively achieved alongside our network of partners assisting the most vulnerable and marginalized communities. Ethiopiapaid builds partnerships with organizations who demonstrate a track record of accountability and a strong commitment to results, as well as an embeddedness in their communities. Through the long relationships we have built with these partners, we will continue to invest in women, children and communities.

With your support, we are confident that we will reach these goals.

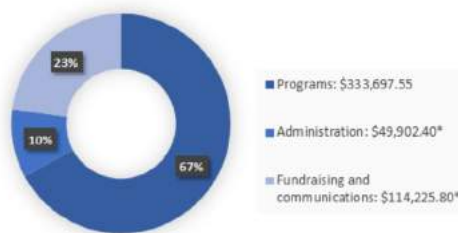
With sincere gratitude,

Mahlet Seifu
Board Chair, Ethiopiapaid Canada

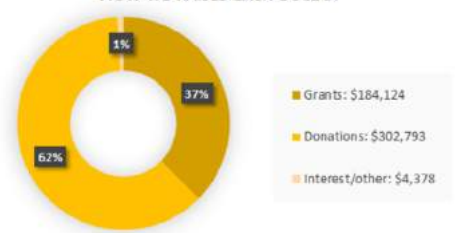
THE PROGRAMS YOUR DONATIONS SUPPORTED



HOW WE SPENT EACH DOLLAR



HOW WE RAISED EACH DOLLAR



*Administration, fundraising and communications costs were offset by a grant contribution of \$184,124 from Ethiopiapaid UK

At Ethiopiaid Canada, we believe sustainable change is inclusive and locally sourced.

Ethiopiaid Canada is a charitable international development organization committed to empowering vulnerable people in Ethiopia to live healthy and productive lives. We seek lasting change by supporting interventions driven by local partners. At the core of our work is a desire to reduce poverty and improve the lives of those living in poverty by increasing the opportunities and resources available to them. Our programming focuses on increasing access to maternal health services, reducing barriers to education, and supporting women's and girls' empowerment through access to education and employment.

©TREVOR COLE



VISION & MISSION

Our vision is an Ethiopia free from poverty in which every person has access to quality education, healthcare and a life of dignity. Our mission is to break the cycle of poverty by enabling local communities to realize their potential. We aim to contribute to Ethiopia achieving its target of becoming a middle-income country no longer reliant on foreign aid.

PROGRAM FOCUS

Maternal Healthcare

With our community partners, we provide free obstetric fistula repair surgeries to marginalized women, as well as postoperative care and community reintegration. We also train midwives in some of the most disadvantaged rural communities to challenge negative social norms and provide essential healthcare.

Women's Empowerment

We support four shelters in Addis Ababa and Oromia for victims of sexual violence, providing counselling, educational support, and self-defense classes. Our partners also provide loans, business training, and vocational skills (such as tailoring) to marginalized disabled women and single mothers.

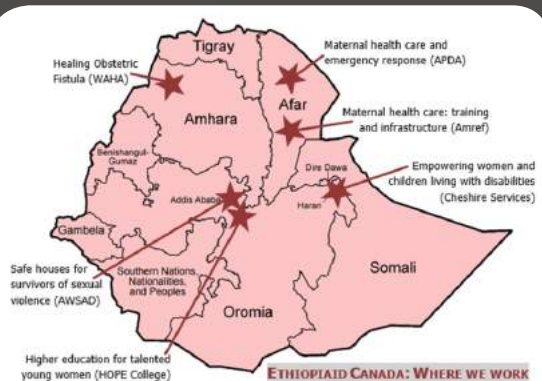
Education For All

We work with partners to provide educational opportunities for the most marginalized children and women in Ethiopia. Our partner in Harar expands the limited educational opportunities and access for children living with disabilities, providing mobility aids, subsidies, and extra educational support. We also sponsor talented young women to attend higher education.

Disaster relief

Our partners work closely with local communities to respond to disasters and to ensure a sustainable recovery and the prevention of future disasters. This includes supplying vital water and food to the most affected regions, resupplying destitute families with breeding goats, and constructing dams to increase sustainable water supplies.

PROGRAM UPDATES



EthiopiaAid Canada believes that we can have a greater and more sustainable impact on Ethiopia's development by working directly with Ethiopian partner organizations who know their communities best. We form long-lasting partnerships with local Ethiopian organisations who have experience and expertise, and who demonstrate a track record of accountability and results. In 2017, our work took place across diverse regions and communities in Ethiopia.

ENDING OBSTETRIC FISTULA

EthiopiaAid Canada's partnership with Women and Health Alliance (WAHA) for women suffering from obstetric fistula in Gondar continued into 2017. Overall, holistic fistula repair surgery and treatment was provided to 213 women admitted to WAHA's fistula centre in the Gondar University Hospital in 2017. Care and treatment services were provided by WAHA's senior fistula surgeon, with the team including a gynaecologist, gynaecology residents, anaesthetists, nurses and physiotherapists. Where required, patients were supplied with physiotherapy support to respond to disabilities acquired as a consequence of fistula. To support their psychological

"No words can describe what these people have done for me. Now I am healed, with hope for tomorrow."

Lemlem, 15 years old, obstetric fistula survivor

wellbeing, all fistula patients that were admitted attended group counselling during admission and discharge. Those patients who required special attention also received individual counselling. Overall, 14 patients received individual counselling and 20 group counselling sessions were provided.

In 2017, 46 women previously treated for fistula participated in the reintegration

program at Dabat handicraft production centre, producing weaving materials (scarves, cloth), baskets, and other items which were sold in Gondar town and at Dabat production centre. Some 33 of these women also received accommodation allowance while they took part in the program.



Basket weaving, Dabat Centre



Carpet weaving, Dabat Centre



Basket weaving, Dabat Centre





Maternal health advocate



Baskets on display, Dabat Centre

Ethiopiaid Canada and WAHA are committed to increasing the capacity and ability of health service providers in Ethiopia to respond to obstetric fistula. To this end, WAHA's senior fistula surgeon conducted a four-hour lecture on surgical techniques and pre- and post-operative fistula care for 31 health professionals (one consultant, nine residents, twelve interns and nine nurses), as well as several medical students. Other trainings for senior doctors, residents, and interns included training on infection prevention techniques, pre- and post-operation follow-up care, and hands-on training inside the operation theatre.

IMPROVING MATERNAL HEALTH CARE

2017 marked the second year of a four-year comprehensive maternal and child health care program in the Afar region with our partner Amref. The project is funded in part by the Canadian government, in collaboration with Ethiopiaid Canada and other donors. The project is working towards improving reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) among mothers, newborns and children in the Afar region through a collaborative approach to address gaps in both the supply and demand of RMNCH services in communities and health facilities. The aim is to build capacity and infrastructure,

"Before, I didn't have the skills or the knowledge to use the life-saving drugs and medical equipment we had in the health centre. Now, after the training, I am able to manage complicated deliveries, and use the necessary drugs and equipment to help the mothers and newborns that need my support."

- Adenech, a midwife who participated in Basic Emergency Obstetric Care training as part of the project.

improve delivery, engage communities, encourage usage and increase consumption of crucial health services. The project's aims are for more women to give birth in the presence of a skilled attendant,

more community members to receive gender-sensitive care, and more children to be treated for malnutrition, tuberculosis, malaria and HIV while employing best practices in sanitation and hygiene.

Ethiopiaid Canada funds 15% of the project outcomes. In 2017, key highlights of the overall project's outcomes included:

- 102 health workers were trained on the provision of gender-sensitive RMNCH services and best practices in sanitation and hygiene. Topics included basic emergency obstetric care, prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and family planning.
- 16 Ethiopiaid-funded midwives are currently in their second year of a three-year midwifery level IV diploma program.
- Construction has begun to improve RMNCH and WASH infrastructure at 11 health facilities in Afar. Activities include installing solar panels, providing much-needed electricity to power lights and refrigerators for vaccine storage. Other construction work will improve water supplies and build specialist or waiting rooms.
- 20 health facilities received portable solar suitcases, used to power lights, allow health workers to charge mobile phones for essential referrals, and power small medical equipment. 12 health facilities received medical equipment (such as ultrasound machines, blood count machines, delivery beds, wheelchairs).
- 12 local and district-level health officials were trained in planning and management of gender-sensitive RMNCH, WASH and nutrition services.
- 136 solar LED flashlights were provided to allow HEWs (community-level Health Extension Workers) to work at night and charge phones. 49 HEWs were trained on nutrition and clean and safe delivery, and 40 HEWs and kebele leaders were trained on participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation.

- Male peer groups were established and trained on gender issues, women's empowerment, and male involvement in RMNCH.
- 77 practical cooking and hygiene demonstrations were held, reaching 806 mothers with increased awareness of nutritious foods. Cooking materials (such as pots, teapots, and utensils) were also distributed to participants.



left: Tikklua and Lelabo, midwifery students
above: midwifery students celebrate

FACILITATING GIRLS TO ACCESS HIGHER EDUCATION

Ethiopiaid is continuing to support ten female students through the full duration of their course of higher education at the Hope College of Business, Science and Technology. Our support covers full tuition and any other necessary financial assistance required, including registration fees, daily meals, and stationary costs. Some students also have access to a 'work on campus' project, providing them with work at the university for a maximum of 40 hours per month.

"I think that the learning atmosphere at Hope College is very nice, and that the learning and teaching process is very good. There are good relationships with lecturers and a family atmosphere."

- Selam, a sponsored student taking Information Systems at Hope College



A student studies at Hope College



Hope College of Business
Science and Technology

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Ethiopiaid Canada's partner Cheshire Services has been actively promoting social inclusion and acceptance for children, youth and women living with disabilities for over 50 years. In 2017, Ethiopiaid

supported Cheshire to empower women and girls with disabilities to escape the poverty trap. Overall, 140 women with disabilities accessed business skills training and seed capital to invest in their small businesses. The objective of the project was to empower women with disabilities to create self-employment opportunities to work and earn money both in rural areas and in towns.

"Now I can take care of my mother and myself and meet our basic needs."

- Fetiya, a woman living with multiple physical and hearing disabilities who took part in a livelihood support collaborative and received a loan of 4,500 Ethiopian Birr (about \$215 Canadian dollars) to start her small shop.

- As part of this activity, 4 savings and credit cooperatives were created - in Eastern Harghe Zone of Oromia Region at Gursum, Kombolcha, and Kersa districts. The cooperatives members include women with disabilities, families of children with disabilities, and families of elders with disabilities.
- Before providing seed capital, participants got three days of business entrepreneurship training including what is a savings and credit cooperative, how to search local markets, and how to record transactions, bookkeeping, and resolving conflicts.
- Subsequently, individuals submitted business plans to access seed capital, and now the participants are engaging in activities including small trade businesses and improved animal husbandry.

195 women with disabilities, girls with disabilities and parents of youth with disabilities accessed enhanced awareness and knowledge of disability-sensitive reproductive and maternal health care. The aim of this activity was to raise awareness about maternal health care, provide information on the benefits of family planning, and prevent unwanted pregnancies. Topics included adolescent reproductive health, family planning,

nutrition, immunization, antenatal and postnatal care. Participants particularly learned about women's health during pregnancy, during childbirth and postpartum. The activity was tailored for women with disabilities, including those with intellectual disabilities.

42 female students (aged 5 to 12) with disabilities accessed educational support. This included motivation (a monetary

reward covering transport, exercise and text books, uniforms and appliances) for outstanding students (top ten percent in their classes) and a monthly transport allowance for students with mobility problems. Finally, 13 girls/women students accessed spectacles and white canes.



*left: A girl receives spectacles, helping her to pursue education
above: Savings and Credit Cooperative training, Kombolcha town*

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread violations of human rights, with 35% of women worldwide experiencing violence in their lifetime. There are high rates of violence against women across Ethiopia, including intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, trafficking, female genital mutilation (FGM) and early and forced marriage. 48.7% of Ethiopian women aged 15-79 report experiencing physical intimate partner violence in their lifetime, 59% reported sexual partner violence, and 19% of girls are married by the age of 15. In addition, 74% of women aged 15-49 in Ethiopia have undergone some form of FGM. Despite this, there are limited services for survivors of violence and the implementation of policies and laws is weak.

Ethiopiaid's local partner, the Association for Women's Sanctuary and Development (AWSAD) runs four of the estimated twelve shelters for survivors of violence across the whole of Ethiopia. The majority of clients who come to AWSAD have experienced sexual violence, including rape and attempted rape. Other forms of violence experienced by clients at the shelter include coercive control (particularly economic violence), intimate partner violence, trafficking, attempted murder, and child abuse. New forms of violence, including acid attacks and gang rapes, are also increasingly being seen by AWSAD.

From July to December 2017, 67 new women and girls who had survived violence were newly admitted to AWSAD's safe houses, along with 37 of their children. AWSAD provided medical services (such as vaccinations, antenatal and postnatal care, delivery, and minor surgery) for 64 survivors. 28 survivors were supported during their court cases, both civil and criminal, against their perpetrators. Individual and group counselling was provided for all survivors. 25 survivors were provided with vocational training skills, learning hairdressing, embroidery, food preparation or bamboo crafting. Some graduating survivors received employment at Kombolcha Garment Factory, and one survivor graduated in accounting from university.

"Currently I am feeling safe and secure thanks to AWSAD's support. I gave birth safely. When I think of what happened to me staying on the street, I could have died of starvation and without any support. I wish that all girls and women who have been like me could get the support I got."

B, a survivor staying in an AWSAD safe house, 2017



Survivors take part in a hairdressing course



Survivors learn new embroidery skills

DISASTER RESPONSE IN THE AFAR REGION

Following a severe 2016 drought, Ethiopaid Canada, alongside Ethiopaid UK and Ethiopaid Australia, supported the Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA) to restock 750

drought-destitute families with goats. The re-stocking assistance was applauded by local government and the community.

A further desperate drought struck regions in Afar the following year, in April-July 2017. With sustainability in mind, in 2017 Ethiopaid Canada supported APDA to construct three strategic earthen dams to boost sustainability for drought-affected communities in the Afar community.

The three dams were constructed in Buldugum in southern Eli Daar, in Su'ula in northern Eli Daar and Galablu in western Eli Daar. All targeted communities are pastoralist and have endured repeated droughts over the past 15 years.

The dams were 7,200 metres cubed (2 to 3 metres deep, 40 metres wide and 60 metres long). APDA used its own front-wheel loader to undertake the construction, with each dam taking 15 to 25 days to construct. All of the dams became full of rainwater by May or September 2017, allowing communities to utilize the water for their herds and households. Despite a late rainy season, the effect of the three new ponds is highly

visible. Indigenous seeds quickly showed germination, and within two kilometers of the dams, there is now sufficient water for animals and humans. The dams will also help develop forest rejuvenation.

As a result of Ethiopaid Canada's contribution, the communities surrounding the dams no longer undertook migration in November 2017 as in previous years, since water was available to their herds up to late January. The roll-on effect allowed households to have healthy, milk-producing herds which can be sold at the market. Therefore this project provided not only immediate assistance but also an opportunity for herd recovery and increased household strength.

In total, 6,660 individuals benefited from the dams (1680 in Su'ula, 2340 in Buldugum, and 2640 in Galablu). Around 22,200 animals also benefited. In addition, following Afar tradition, any herdsman travelling through the area with their herd may utilize the dam. This could be upwards of another 1800 beneficiaries per year.

The benefit is most strongly felt for women, as in the Afar pastoralist society, females traditionally collect water, walking up to 12 and 16 hours to do so in the dry season. In each community surrounding the dam, a committee of 7 leading community members (clan elders, religious



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A girl plays while collecting water

leaders, leading women and youth) was selected as directly responsible for the management of the dam usage and to take care of simple maintenance such as removal of silt by hand. Memoranda of understanding were signed between APDA and the communities to hand over these dams.



● ● ●
Afar pastoralists walk with their camels to collect water

OUR SUPPORTERS IN FACTS & FIGURES

Thank you to all our individual donors, foundations and corporations!

In 2017, you donated a total of \$302,793 for critical and life-saving programs. Over the past 5 years, this is an increase in annual donations from an average of \$262,322 per year. Thank You!

These donations included \$152,813 in major gifts (gifts over \$500) from 23 donors!

*"Thank you for your amazing work. I am a retired midwife so I know how important this service is. Well done."
Mary Buie, RN CHN, from Ontario*

*"Sending a cheque to help the girls and women who suffer with obstetric fistula. It makes me realize how fortunate we are. My hope and prayers are that these young girls will not be married at such a young age and have children when they are children themselves. That this practice will change. Thank you for what you are doing to relieve their suffering."
A donor from Nova Scotia*



A Special Legacy for Ethiopiaid



"When I travelled to Ethiopia on business in the late '90s, I knew little about the country. It wasn't long before I fell in love with the people, the culture, the scenery and the history – everything, I thought, but not so. The plight of many Ethiopians, who lack sufficient resources in food, clean water, health care, employment, is hard to watch, as is the damage done to many from war wounds or stepping on discarded land mines. After I retired, I volunteered at the new Ethiopiaid Canada office in Ottawa and learnt about the great need for treating fistula in women and training local doctors to perform the surgery. So, Ethiopiaid became one of the organizations to which I am leaving a legacy, which I am confident will be used to make a lasting difference to these women and perhaps also be used for other much-needed assistance."

Theodora Newton

STAFF

Celine Delacroix **Executive Director**

joined the Ethiopiaid team as Executive Director in March 2018, replacing the outgoing executive director, Olivier Bonnet, who departed at the end of 2017. Céline is a PhD Candidate in Population Health at the University of Ottawa, specializing in reproductive health and sustainability. She has over 9 years of experience working with international and provincial non-profit organizations. Passionate about global health justice, women's empowerment and environmental sustainability, she is motivated by Ethiopiaid Canada's on-the-ground, result-oriented approach.

Tessa Bolton **Fundraising and Communications Officer**

joined the Ethiopiaid Canada staff as Fundraising and Communications Officer in May 2018. Tessa's background is in international development and non-profits in the UK, Canada and internationally. Her passions include sustainable, locally led development and women's empowerment in humanitarian and international development projects.



Some of Ethiopiaid Canada's staff and board attend an event in 2018.
L-R: David Kilgour, Celine Delacroix, Mahlet Seifu, Betty Hope-Gittens, Erica Dorvault, Patty Carson, Tessa Bolton

We Moved!

Ethiopiaid Canada have recently moved offices to a space which is larger and saves on overhead costs. We are still in downtown Ottawa - our new address is: 484 Gladstone Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K1R 5N8.

Volunteers

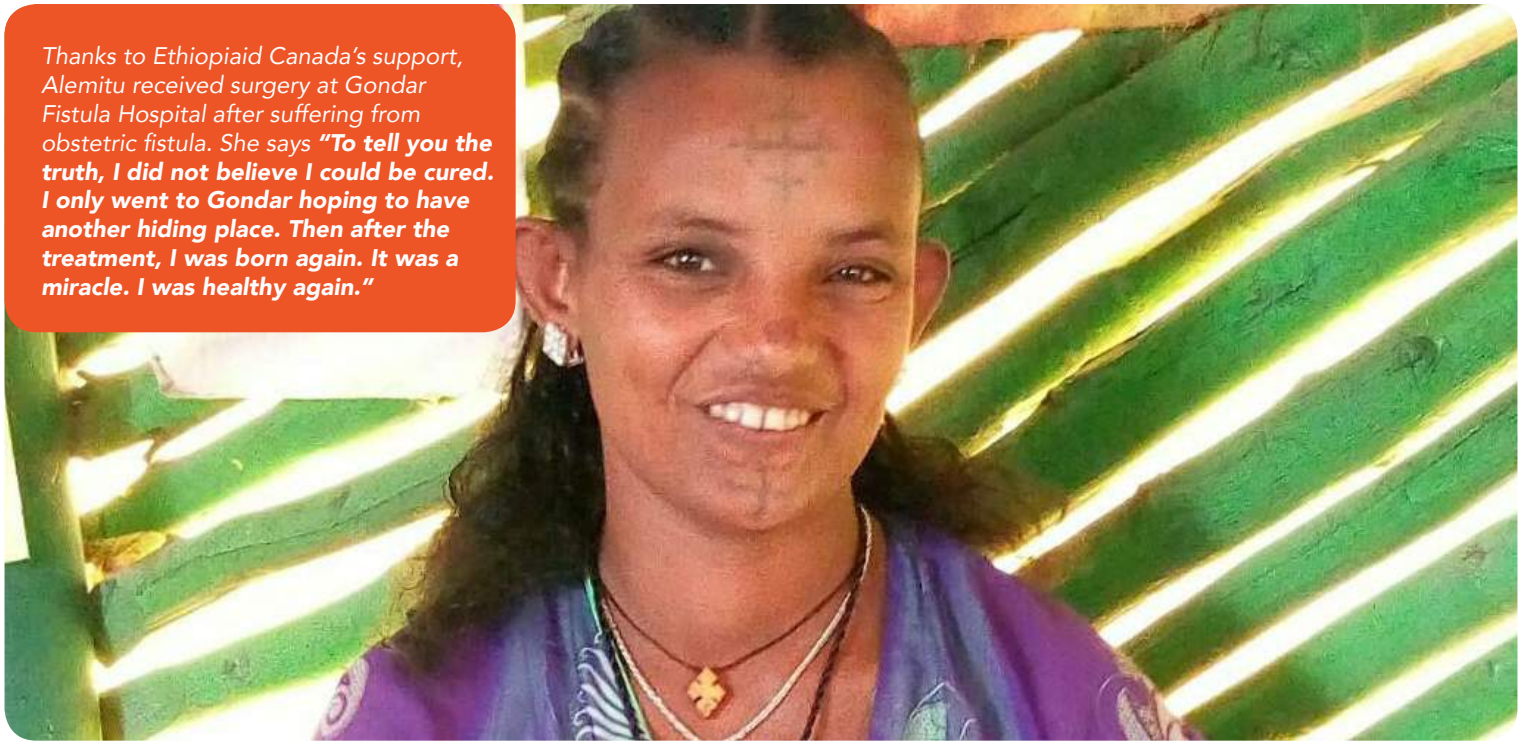
Thank you so much to all of our dedicated volunteers who spent many hours last year supporting Ethiopiaid's work. As such a small staff with limited overheads, we really rely on volunteers to provide vital contributions to our work.

Last but not least, an enormous thanks to our volunteer Board of Directors!

Board of Directors

Mahlet Seifu - Board Chair
Pierre Barbeau - Director
Patricia Carson - Director
Alexandra Chapman - Director
Erica Dorvault - Director
Ruth Foster - Director
Betty Hope-Gittens - Director
David Kilgour - Director
Daniel Sahleyesus - Director

Thanks to Ethiopiaid Canada's support, Alemitu received surgery at Gondar Fistula Hospital after suffering from obstetric fistula. She says **"To tell you the truth, I did not believe I could be cured. I only went to Gondar hoping to have another hiding place. Then after the treatment, I was born again. It was a miracle. I was healthy again."**



ETHIOPIAID PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Ethiopiaid Canada is part of an international network of Ethiopiaid charities with offices in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Australia. Together, we have 30 years of experience in creating lasting change through collaboration with Ethiopian partner organisations. This year, all Ethiopiaid countries will come together to produce a new Global strategic plan 2020, aiming to bring together a coherent and effective global plan for the years ahead. Stay tuned for more information!

Diversifying our funding streams

As part of Ethiopiaid Canada's Strategic Plan 2017-2020, Ethiopiaid Canada are committed to continuing to diversify funding sources and streams to ensure we can grow sustainably over the coming years. In 2018 and beyond, this includes:

- The launch of the Ambassador Program, focusing on peer-to-peer fundraising and enhanced donor stewardship in collaboration with a network of Ambassadors across Canada.
- An increased focus on fundraising from foundations, institutions, and grant-making organisations, including the Government of Canada, as well as private and family funds.
- A move away from cold mailings, instead moving focus towards donor stewardship and building a long-term relationship with our donors.

In 2017, Ethiopiaid Canada reported an excess of expenses over revenue. Like all charities, Ethiopiaid maintains a reserve fund which was partially used in this case to meet increased programming obligations, enabling us to transfer more much-needed funds to our partners. This is detailed in our audited financial statements that are available on our website. For more information, please contact Ethiopiaid Canada.