

Hope for Korah News



Sawanet
Age 10

By God's Grace
Written By Eve Pohl R.S.W.

Alive and Thriving - Going Home

It is by God's grace that Sawanet is alive today. She was literally on death's doorstep. When I first saw her sitting quietly beside her mother on the edge of the dirt road in Korah, I had no idea how truly sick she was.



With only the clothes on her back, Sawanet's mother had left her children and home in the countryside to bring her very sick daughter to the city. As with others who end up in Korah, she was desperate to find help. One year earlier Sawanet was a healthy young girl, running and playing, and attending school until one day she fell, hurting her hip. Without access to medical care it was left untreated and became infected. Now Sawanet could barely walk, she

had developed abscesses on her arms and was weak, anemic and very underweight at only 17.8kg. The doctors who saw her that day were shocked by her grave condition. Thanks to their vigilance, we were alerted to her condition and decided that *Hope for Korah* (HFK) would do all that we could to save this child. She and her mother were immediately moved into our HFK Compound and cared for by our staff and nurses.

We brought Sawanet to The Cure Hospital in Addis Ababa for an assessment with Dr. Richard Gardner an orthopedic surgeon. She was diagnosed with Osteomyelitis in her hipbone. This infection had



destroyed her hip and upper femur, migrating from the original site to both upper arms. For weeks we had to prepare her physically by increasing her calories and nutrients in order to help build her reserve. She then underwent the first of five surgeries, including her hip, both arms, leg and growth plate. We are so grateful to Dr. Gardner and The Cure Hospital for providing these surgeries, x-rays, lab work, braces and hospital stays free of charge.

Sawanet and her mother lived with us for 14 months. HFK's Medical Coordinator Tammy Brandsma R.N. and our Ethiopian nurses & social workers were instrumental in the daily medical support and care needed for Sawanet's recovery and long rehabilitation. Hundreds of hours were invested in appointments, physiotherapy and home visits. Through their love and the support of our donors, we had the joy of seeing a life restored. Before our eyes we saw Sawanet develop, heal and return to an active, happy and gentle girl full of promise. In March she received the all-clear by Dr. Gardner and a few days later, she and her mother returned home to the countryside & were reunited with the rest of their family. Thanks to so many, this child has gone home a different girl – alive and thriving by the grace of God and the hope that working together brings!

As an epilogue – God's timing was perfect.... Two days after Sawanet left, we moved three orphaned siblings into her room, the youngest is very ill and they were desperate to find hope.... Thankfully we are in the care of a God that restores!



Taken nine months apart, these photos show the drastic change & growth. Left: Sawanet leaves for home a different girl.

HOPE for KORAH

Spring 2016

HFK RECEIVES 1ST PLACE AWARD



Hope For Korah recently received recognition by the Ethiopian government and was awarded 1st Place ranking for having a significant impact on the Korah community through family empowerment, adult literacy training and income generating activities. This award was given to the top 3 NGOs in the Woreda 6, Sub-city of Addis Ababa. It was a two day event and two of our HFK women, Harigwah Mesfin and Rahel Getachew shared about themselves and our programs, representing all of our women before the judges and government officials. This was an incredible experience for them! To be recognized for the very first time in their lives, in front of so many people and to be awarded this trophy was life changing! Their excitement was contagious and the impact that this has had on the confidence and self-esteem of all of our women is huge! We are so proud of our ladies and grateful to God that they were given this opportunity.

We are also, especially thankful for all of our dedicated and hard working Ethiopian Staff on the ground - this would not have happened without them!

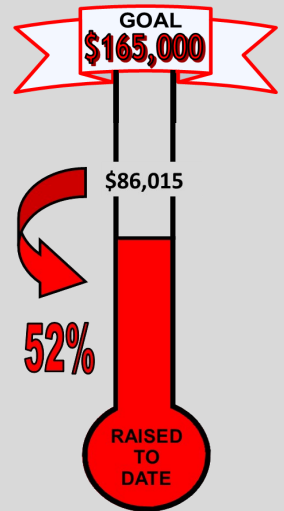


After-School Tutoring



One goal this year is to strengthen our After-School Tutoring Program. Dean and Glenni Tweedle, two Educators from B.C. recently spent one month in Korah researching and developing ways to improve our high-school program. We've since had upgrades in our classrooms and hired four new tutors to help our students improve their proficiency in chemistry, biology, physics, math and English. Our NEW 'Kids' Souk' (*Amharic for Store*) opens soon – students will shop with points they've earned from attending tutoring, good performance & improvement in school.

Thanks to many who are Standing with Korah, we have raised over half of what is required to ensure HFK's family and program needs are met for 2016. We hope to meet our goal by the end of October and are grateful for each person who joins us.



STAND WITH KORAH

Together we can make a difference...

Fighting Malnutrition: The Berta Breakfast Program

With the drought and famine conditions growing in Ethiopia, more and more people flee to the cities to find food and security. However without support or funds and with only limited education; many find themselves in the slums of Korah trapped in extreme urban poverty. This influx of people, combined with the recent shutting down of the Addis Ababa garbage dump which was a source of survival for many in Korah, raises even further the importance and need of HFK's Berta Breakfast Program. The extent to which this program can grow and impact the lives of more and more hungry children is significant.

The Berta Breakfast Crisis Intervention Program serves a nutrient enriched meal in the form of a pancake specifically designed for malnourished children, five days a week and for some it is their largest meal of the day. Many families in Korah eat only once a day and the quality of food is extremely poor. Most boys and girls living in Korah are underweight. It is common for these children to have poor participation (some actually fainting) in school because they have not eaten.

A child enrolled in our Berta Breakfast Program will receive a nutritious, life-changing meal everyday before school and also bi-weekly vitamins, bi-annual deworming medication and annual azithromycin for the prevention of blindness. All children are measured against the World Health Organization (WHO) standards twice per year. These measurements are tracked by HFK's medical staff and those identified as severely malnourished are placed under a prescribed *Plumpy Nut* regime through our First Aid Clinic.

What Difference Does Berta Make?

- BERTA CHANGES LIVES!
- Children gain weight & physical strength
- Healthier skin tone, hair texture & colour
- Increased attention & energy
- Visible relief & comfort to parents; often widowed or abandoned mothers struggling to survive & keep children fed.

BERTA is a source of Life & Hope!

Our Goal for 2016: 250 KIDS IN BERTA

We currently have just over 200 children in the program and our desire is to offer this to many others who are in desperate need of this intervention. Our goal is to have 250 children by the end of 2016.

As more sponsors commit to this program, additional children from the Korah community will have access to Berta and this will have an immediate impact on their lives.

What is the Cost?

\$12 Feeds ONE Child for ONE Month!

As food prices in Ethiopia rise, so does the cost of the Berta product which currently makes up 50% of the overall Breakfast Program costs. Additional direct costs: *sugar and tea, bread, firewood, kitchen supplies, feeding center, cooks and guards.*

100% of each Berta donation goes towards these direct program costs



How can you HELP?

Become a Berta Sponsor by making a monthly commitment to the Berta Breakfast Program or give a one-time donation and help bring immediate hope and change into the life of a child.

Your gift matters to that one!

- Just \$12 will feed one child Berta for one month!
- A gift of \$60 will feed 5 children for one month.
- Feed 100 children Berta for \$1200!

