



**HOPE**  
for **KORAH**

CELEBRATING  
**2024 Graduates**

◆ **Seizing the Opportunities**



At HFK, we know education is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty, and we strive to go further by offering diverse educational opportunities for all ages and family members we serve. This Summer News highlights the various ways we achieve this and how we're celebrating everyone's efforts.

One inspiring story of perseverance is that of Frehiwot, one of our mothers. We recently celebrated her graduation, along with four other women (above photo), from the Bosco Vocational Training Center, where she earned her certification in Leatherworking.

Seven months ago, after beginning her course, Frehiwot faced the tragic loss of her husband, the father of their two children, in a work accident. Despite her deep grief, she shared how God gave her the strength to continue her studies. After graduation, Frehiwot was further trained and hired by Carry 117, a social enterprise in Korah (L photo).

Frehiwot is very grateful for the support she received from HFK staff and social workers: "I passed through many hardships, but you listened to my heart and you understood. I must be strong because I am responsible for my children, that they attend to their education properly so they don't live the life that I lived in the past. This is what I understand now."

Reflecting on her journey and looking ahead, Frehiwot says, "I love my job! I am proud of all that is going on in my life! I am certified and working. I am able to provide for my children!"

## CELEBRATING OUR TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS



FIRKERTE BANTEYIRGA

### Post Secondary Celebration

On June 17th, we held a special celebration to honor HFK's post secondary graduates. The ceremony was filled with joy and hope as we reflected on each student's journey and encouraged them in their future goals and dreams. Fikerte Banteyirga's testimony was particularly inspiring!

Her journey with HFK began when she was just ten years old. Her family faced deep poverty, with her father falling ill and her mother begging on the streets



GRADUATES AND MOTHERS: AYALECH IN ACCOUNTING, TARIKE IN TOURISM AND FIRKERTE IN PUBLIC HEALTH.

to feed Fikerte and her siblings. Joining HFK's sponsorship program provided stability for her family, allowing Fikerte to focus on her schoolwork. Her ambition shone throughout high school, and after Grade 12 she applied for a post-secondary sponsorship through HFK. Over the next four years, she studied to become a Public Health Officer at Unity University in Addis Ababa and now works at a local clinic.

As Fikerte spoke, her humble attitude and grateful heart were evident. She attributed her success to "the help of God, and all of you – my sponsors, teachers, and social workers." Her mother, Rahel, shared that Fikerte had saved all her transportation money by walking to school, using the savings to pursue a second degree in Management through evening classes! Fikerte is truly a shining example of seizing the opportunities she was given, and her story is a source of motivation for all those following in her footsteps towards higher education.

### Grade 12 National Exams

WE HAVE 11 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES THIS YEAR!

In preparation for national exams, all grade 12 students participated in focused tutoring sessions and enjoyed an outing at the Gion Hotel in Addis. This event aimed to motivate and provide important information about the exam procedures. Additionally, two HFK university students shared valuable insights and study techniques to help ease exam anxieties. We are excited to see what the future holds for these students, as all have applied to HFK for post-secondary sponsorships.

# CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN

## Ending the Academic Year Strong

### YEAR-END PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

As the school year came to a close, our tutorial program hosted a special event to celebrate all of our students' hard work. The kids entertained us with a spelling bee, singing, and a lively Q&A session. During career presentations, several children enthusiastically shared their future visions, detailing their aspirations to become pilots, scientists, cardiologists, and more! After many hours of research, study, and interviews with their teachers and tutors, the kids were well-prepared and presented their dreams with confidence.

The year-end Awards Ceremony was another highly anticipated event, where we recognized top academic achievers, volunteer service, and students who showed significant improvement. Many families also held personal gatherings to celebrate their kindergarten graduates. With kindergarten spanning three years of school in Ethiopia, this is a huge accomplishment and a momentous occasion for both parents and children!

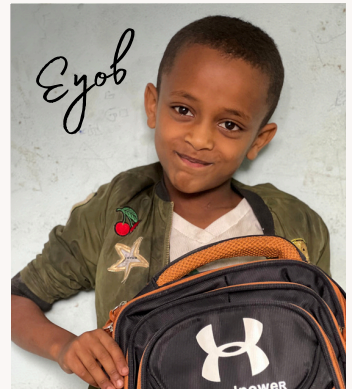
## SPONSOR A CHILD'S EDUCATION

EYOB HAS BEEN WAITING 335 DAYS FOR A SPONSOR!

Eyob is 8 years old and in Grade 2. He is a bright, energetic, and well-rounded student who has been eagerly waiting for a sponsor. Will you help support his educational journey? Visit [HOPEFORKORAH.ORG/SPONSOR](http://HOPEFORKORAH.ORG/SPONSOR) to learn more.



BETTY - KG GRADUATE



## Day Care Graduation

“WE’RE MOVING ON!”

This fall, these little ones pictured on the left, will be graduating and moving on to kindergarten! With nearly 50 children, including several with special needs, the HFK Daycare is always buzzing with excitement. A vital part of empowering Korah's families, our daycare has expanded into a new, spacious compound. We've tailored separate rooms to cater to different age groups and needs, and the kids absolutely love the new trampoline room!

## CELEBRATING TOGETHER



## Lifeskills Graduation

### HFK WOMENS' REFLECTIONS

In June, local government representatives joined us to celebrate the progress and completion of Life Skills Training by our newest families. Over seven months, they learned about communication, stress management, empowerment mindset, health, hygiene, and parenting. Many participants expressed gratitude for the training's significant impact on their lives:

- **Tigist:** "I am grateful. I am discovering myself, and I now have a vision."
- **Enat:** "I have faced many challenges and feared people. But now I have forgiveness instead of hatred. I am going to become self-sufficient. I can do it!"
- **Aregash:** "I am grateful for God's hand touching us. My kids had no food. I have put begging behind me and I'm moving forward. I started a small business."
- **Tiringo:** "In the past, I kept to myself. I was frustrated and worried about how I could support my family. But now I am not afraid. I will start a small business."
- **Hayat:** "I have 5 children and had a big fear of dying. I felt hopeless about my life. After counseling and training, I have learned to accept my situation. I never had a vision to reach for, but now I do. I am very grateful. I have hope."



*Save*  
**THE DATE!**

**OCT. 26.24**  
ABBOTSFORD, BC

**NOV. 23.24**  
MONTROSE, PA

## We're on the HOME STRETCH!

CAN YOU HELP US REACH OUR GOAL THIS SUMMER?

As our year-end deadline approaches, we need to raise \$226,000 by mid-October to honor our 2024 commitments to provide holistic family care, including education, health, psychosocial, spiritual and economic empowerment. Every gift, no matter the size, is deeply appreciated and will make a significant difference in continuing our work.



**DONATE HERE**

## Big Strides in Adult Literacy

We are thrilled our Adult Literacy classes are popular among HFK women, many of whom missed out on school growing up. Congratulations to Mulunesh, Werke, and Bethlehem for completing their Grade 8 national exams through distance education learning! Their hard work is inspiring and a testament to the power of education.