



"... we must reaffirm these age-old truths about society: that when those with riches help those without, it enriches us all and ... when the strong help the weak, it makes us all stronger."

- UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown, March 3, 2009

Partners in the Horn of Africa works to improve the lives of Ethiopians, and follows two unique principles:

- 100% of all donations go directly into projects in Ethiopia. Our directors work voluntarily and cover all operating costs.
- Each project has an Ethiopian "partner" who contributes 15-20% of the project cost, usually in the form of labour.

It's about the people

Discussions about aid to the third world usually focus on statistics: how many schools were built; how many orphans were given shelter; the *per capita* annual income.

Such discussions often lose sight of who benefits from aid. It's people like us. Here are the faces of some of them.

Partners in the Horn of Africa works in Ethiopian prisons, building technical educational facilities, installing bio-gas digesters to provide cooking fuels and helping mothers care for their children...who accompany them to jail.

As in Canada, those in prison can be easily forgotten by the society around them. **Partners** is committed to helping the least fortunate in a country where there is already so much deprivation.



An inmate of Dessie Prison spinning cotton

Group Homes so orphan girls can attend school

Partners operates Group Homes where rural orphan girls live while attending high school. Each home has a House Mother, but the girls cook and care for themselves. In order to be eligible for university a grade point average of 2.1 out of 4 is necessary. That's a high standard but Ethiopian students are bright and hard-working. In 2007, Ayalnesh, a girl in one of our Group Homes, achieved a grade point average of 4.0!!! She is now finishing her first year of medical school. Zewditu, third from the left in the picture, finished 2nd in her graduating class of 450 and will be off to university in the fall.



Seven rural orphan girls in a Partners' Group Home

These girls have a chance to transcend the poverty of their lives. They are now able to dream of a bright future.

Did you say Bruschetta? In Ethiopia?

There are over a million HIV Orphans in Ethiopia, many living with their siblings...in real pov-

erty. **Partners** enrolls the eldest child in Skills Training programs which provide intense, one year courses that lead to good paying jobs. We subsidize the sibling group during that year; when the student graduates he/she then supports the family.

Partners has had great success teaching western style cooking and catering. If you can teach an Ethiopian how to cater to Western tastes, he/she is likely to end up working in a large international hotel earning a decent income.

This year, Allan Shewchuk,





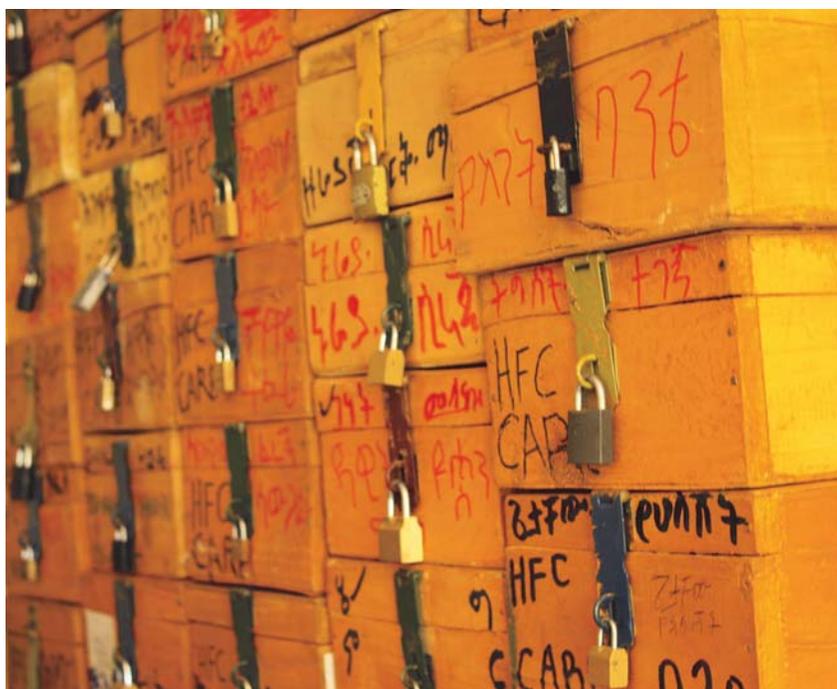
Allan Shewchuk (left) and the instructor

a skilled Italian chef (when he's not practicing law in Calgary) gave two guest lectures at our cooking school.

And why pasta? Because the Italians occupied Ethiopia for 5 years before World War II leaving behind a love for pasta... (and a lot of cool bridges). Pasta is popular everywhere. Allan was even more popular, receiving three marriage proposals from students who attended his first class!!



A Memory Box to stay connected



Memory boxes at Hope For Children

Partners in the Horn of Africa has extensive HIV projects, many run in partnership with Hope for Children (HFC), a wonderful Ethiopian charity.

When young HIV orphans, who have lost their parents to the pandemic, come to HFC to live in one of our group homes or are placed in foster care, information about their parents (pictures, identity cards, letters) is gathered and put into a Memory Box, providing a link to their past when the children are ready to deal with it.

Some Recent Projects:

Edmon-Ayu "High Level" Bridge - A 55 meter long footbridge over a treacherous piece of the Ayu river. The bridge will allow year round access to schools, hospitals and markets for 50,000 people...and, in the process, prevent up to 50 drownings a year. As the name suggests, this project was taken on by a group of Edmontonians who were enthused to commemorate the landmark Edmonton High Level Bridge.

Gubaya High School - A new high school, which will eventually have 2500 students, built in rural Ethiopia and sponsored by Club Penguin, the socially interactive & safe website for children. Club Penguin is a division of Disney Online and is headquartered in Kelowna.



Community Wells and Tree Planting - EBA Engineering Consultants and its employees are responsible for two great projects in rural Ethiopia. One will install 10 community wells in each of the next 7 years in a region where only 22% of the population has access to clean water; the other will plant 66,000 trees in barren land that has been seriously degraded.



Dino High School - Building and furnishing a 4 classroom block for 200 students in an especially impoverished area of Ethiopia. This project was sponsored by a small group of generous donors from Kelowna.

Micro Finance Loans - **Partners** has provided 400 new micro loans to marginalized women, some who are now making reusable sanitary pads (4,000 last month) for rural school girls in another **Partners'** project.

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Our mission is to improve the lives of Ethiopians. We listen to their needs and partner with them on projects that empower communities and individuals and contribute to their well being.

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Your donations are making a difference in the lives of many Ethiopians.
On their behalf we thank you.

We are a recognized Canadian charity and issue tax receipts for all donations.

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
- Margaret Mead*