



Hope for Rural Children and Orphans (HORCO)

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Spring Newsletter 2012

As a supporter and friend of HORCO, I thought you might like to receive a brief update of what has been happening so far in 2012. Donations received in 2011 allowed us to partner with a group of rural villages in the Gimbichu District of Ethiopia, who asked us to help them establish a safe water facility and effective practices for sanitation and personal hygiene.

I am pleased to report that we visited Ethiopia in April, and were able to see first-hand the progress on this work (see photos on reverse side). Community workers, under the guidance of Project Directors from the Development Office of the Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church, were finalizing work on a 27,000 L reservoir which will be connected to a major Government-built water pipeline traversing the area, thus allowing virtually unlimited, 24/7 water access to at least three villages, by the time they complete the work later this month. Women and children in this area have routinely walked for over an hour to get water from a polluted river source! With up to 5 or 6 water distribution points in the new system, the walk time will be about 10- 15 minutes, and the water is clean, spring water from the mountains of Ethiopia, located many kms away.

It was a joy to see what is being accomplished by these communities with resources provided by our donors. They were excited to show us how they worked together digging and laying many kms of pipeline to the water distribution points. What remains to be done during the rest of the year, is to teach families about sanitation and hygiene. They will be taught how to build their own sanitary pit latrine in an effort to eliminate the common practice of "open defecation". Together with clean water, this will be a major step toward an improvement in community health, school attendance and productivity. Thank you for partnering with us, as *Canadians empowering Ethiopians to improve the quality of life in rural Ethiopia - one community at a time!*

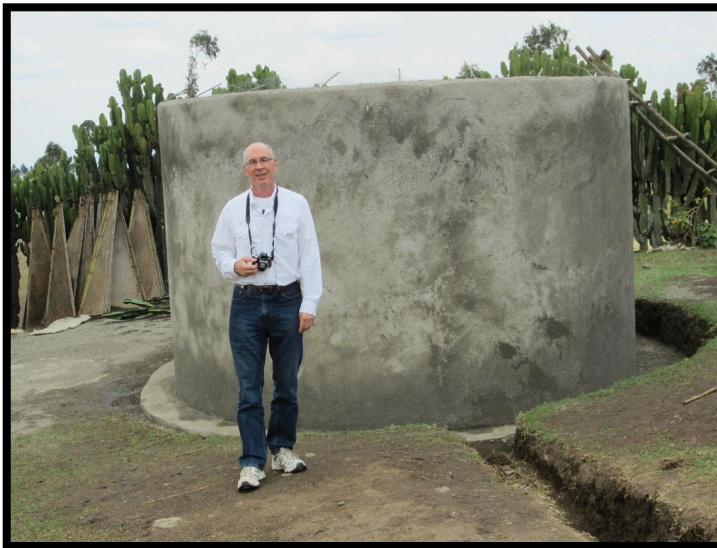
Have a great summer - and drink lots of water!

Sincerely,


Dagim Almaw


Bob Kline

Check out some additional photos from our trip at www.facebook.com/horcocanada. You do not have to be a member of Facebook to access the page.



Left: Bob standing by the 27,000 L reservoir which will be connected to the Government pipeline.

Right: Ezra, project coordinator, and Mulo (woman at left), sanitation and hygiene coordinator, stand by the first of 5 or 6 water distribution points that will be connected to the reservoir.



Left: Yohannes, the water engineer, handing out candy we brought for the kids and local folks.

Right: Dagim helping to fill water cans from the water line, which is connected to the Government pipeline and eventually will connect to the reservoir.

Mark your calendar, Saturday, Nov 17th, for the 5th Annual Ethiopian Dinner "In Celebration of Clean Water" to raise money for HORCO's 2013 Water and Sanitation Project