



Greetings WHFC Friends!

Well, this summer for us New Englanders brought more sunshine than rain, and with that the good news about the hundreds of children making their way in the world through sponsorship. This is a special Quarterly Program Update to express our gratitude to sponsors and donors who have shined like stars for children and their families all over the world. Those who view this update without previous knowledge of Wide Horizons For Children's sponsorship programs in Moldova, Ethiopia, Guatemala, and India are in for a treat. In all the work WHFC funds, we strive to bring hope to impoverished people, as well as provide them the means to not only seek independence but to achieve it.

We hope you enjoy the following stories:

- Founder of A Better Life (ABL) visits Moldova
- Ethiopia Family sets an example and reaches for independence
- Lemon-Aid brings Leku Hospital much-needed funding
- Brothers in India turn their lives around
- Becoming painters in Guatemala

MOLDOVA CHILD SPONSORSHIP – *Founder of A Better Life visits Moldova...*



In 1998 Gus Demeo's eyes and heart opened wide to his new adopted son's birth country, Moldova. A few years after bringing his son home to the United States, Gus returned to Moldova, a nation in decline since the devolution of the USSR, with the hopes of getting to know the country and finding a way help. He started out by running a solo half marathon, followed by a "straight to heart" letter to friends and family with a plea for funds to support Moldovan orphans and subsidize adoptions for prospective parents struggling financially. Since 2001, Gus has endeavored on a bright path towards providing Moldovan children with "A Better Life" and so it became WHFC's partnering organization, known as ABL for short. Other adoptive parents

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involved in this good work include Gina Gill, co-founder, Michelle Gauthier, current WHFC employee, and several WHFC staff members.

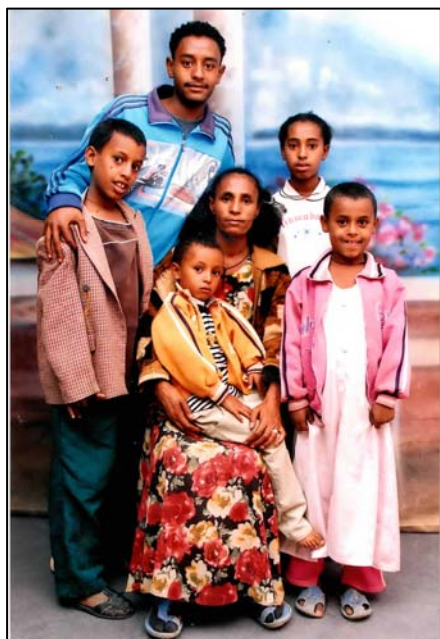
Over the spring this year, Gus and his fiancé, Kathy Elks, visited the beneficiaries of WHFC/ABL's funding efforts. Among the children they met were 10 students participating in a 9-month vocational training program in the areas of culinary arts, hair dressing, and computation.

These students come from challenging situations, either having recently aged out of an orphanage, struggled in impoverished families, or were victims of sex trafficking. This highly successful program is executed by Insula Sperantelor "Island of Hope," located in Chisinau. Not only do the students learn skills that are in high demand in Moldova, they also receive counseling from a psychologist who works with the teens to prepare them for society. WHFC/ABL has funded this program for the past two years and there has been a 100% employment rate. Over many years, Insula has established relationships with a network of employers and in-country organizations. Their support provides opportunities for children "at risk" of human trafficking, a major predator in this fragile country for quite some time.



You will soon see this fantastic program posted on our website and we hope you are compelled to sponsor the students who are getting started this month. Stay tuned!

ETHIOPIA CHILD SPONSORSHIP - *Family reaches for independence...*



The vast majority of families enrolled in the Ethiopia Sponsorship Program are well on their way to developing a small business or are already doing so. Families engage in businesses such as animal husbandry, small stores, craft making and selling, bee hives, room rental, and even photography! We are excited to share with you a success story about a family who has become a well-established entrepreneur.

Danait Tekle Haymanot and her family live in Mekelle. Through WHFC EMPOWERMENT an economist worked with her family to develop a small but profitable business with the long-term goal of reaching financial independence. They started out selling tea out of a "tea room" and rearing sheep. They recently transitioned to selling bread and injera (staple food in Ethiopia) to a restaurant they are currently under contract with. This

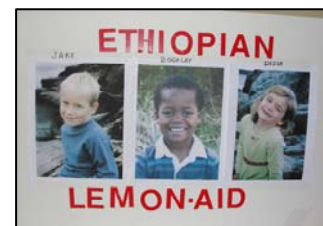
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family rose from an income level well below the poverty line to an average annual income of 11,000 birr, in comparison to the average annual income of 1,500 birr (about \$150).

LEMON-AID – brings Leku Hospital much needed funding!



One way our much-appreciated and supportive families get involved in WHFC's Humanitarian Aid effort is through holding hot chocolate and lemonade stands. Over the summer, three siblings fundraised by selling delicious lemonade and baked goods on behalf of the Leku Hospital, currently under construction in Southern Ethiopia. So far this event has raised \$900! It's amazing what young children, only ages 7 and 9, can pull off! We send our heart-felt appreciation



their way, and to others who have really stepped up to the plate to lend our projects a much-needed hand. Thank you Bogalay, Jake, and Dessa!!

INDIA CHILD SPONSORSHIP *Brothers in India turn their lives around...*



Sangam Ugale, a 15-year-old boy, and his brother have had to overcome many hurdles over the past several years. Their father abandoned their mother while she was pregnant with them, leaving her to work endless hours in order to make ends meet. Over time, the boys developed behavioral problems as they craved attention in a single parent home where their mother was rarely around. The situation became so hard for the mother that she handed the children over to an orphanage. Family Service Center stepped in to offer sponsorship as a way to alleviate the stress

and to give the boys a chance to turn their lives around.

Before FSC sponsorship, the brothers did not have a good relationship with each other and made little effort to succeed in school as their attendance was irregular and their behavior quite challenging. The children's social worker counseled the mother on how to work with the children so that they would become more disciplined and responsible around the home. Intervention also occurred at the school and in the community. Through consistent support and follow-up by FSC, the boys' and their mother's lives made a drastic turn for the best. Sangam

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and his brother have become responsible to their family, engaged in academics, and focused on their future. They are doing very well in school and have been admitted into the 10th grade.

GUATEMALA CHILD SPONSORSHIP – *becoming painters in Guatemala...*



Children in Guatemala recently completed a 3-month painting course, instructed by Filadelfo Ramirez, who taught them the techniques for mixing colors to paint sunsets, night scenes, a vase with flowers, and a fruit basket. The course consisted of 12 classes 3 times per week. Children were able to express their emotions through creating beautiful works of art and they are about to start yet another course in other painting techniques. Art therapy is just one of many benefits the children enjoy through sponsorship in Guatemala!



Please take a moment to share this newsletter with friends, family, and co-workers. Help us reach out to others who may feel compelled to sponsor a child in Moldova, Ethiopia, India, Guatemala, and the Philippines. There are so many children waiting for the opportunities sponsorship provides! To become a sponsor, please visit: <http://www.whfc.org/WHFFC/SponsorshipSignup.asp>

Together we change lives.

Julie Wilder Long
Senior Humanitarian Aid Coordinator
TEL: 781.419.0357
E-MAIL: jwilder@whfc.org

Maria White
Humanitarian Aid Assistant
TEL: 781.419.0342
E-MAIL: mwhite@whfc.org