

FRIENDS OF PAAV

PROJECT ADOPT A VILLAGE
BRINGING CHANGE THAT LASTS



SENDAFA, ETHIOPIA





DR. FREW

Ethiopian medical doctor and founder of NGO, Yenoh Merkeb.



ESHETE

Financial administrator of PAAV with a master's degree in finance.



SALEM

Health officer who provides in-home care and public health education.



SEBLE

Community health worker who provides compassionate care to the beneficiaries.



BIRHANU

Provides logistical support for the PAAV team.



DAWIT

Ethiopian lawyer serving with the PAAV team in various roles and aspects.



BEKELE

Key volunteer supporter of PAAV.



DR. ED NELSON

American family doctor and founder of Friends of PAAV with global medical missions experience.

“The PAAV team are in this because it is their mission. These Ethiopians have sacrificed so much for the good of the community—it’s truly amazing.” –Dr. Ed Nelson

CONTINENT OF AFRICA



**Population of Ethiopia:
115 million**

**2nd most populated
country in Africa**

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA STATISTICS



PHYSICIAN DENSITY:
11/100,000 population
(U.S.=549/100,000)



LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS:
622,000 people



**HIGH BURDEN OF CHRONIC ILLNESSES
AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES**



LITERACY (Ages 15+ who can read and write):

♂ Male: 59.4% ♀ Female: 44.42%

NUMBER OF YEARS IN SCHOOL (Primary to tertiary education):

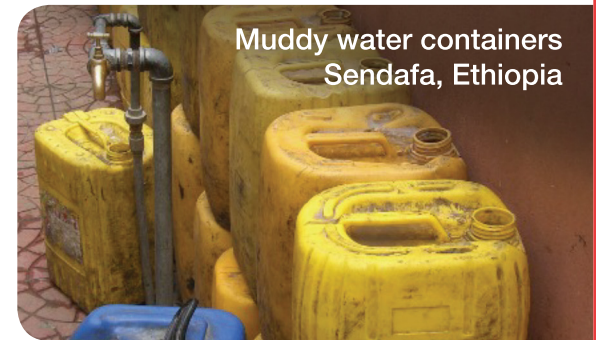
♂ Male: 9 years ♀ Female: 8 years



FOODBORNE & WATERBORNE DISEASES:
Causing bacterial, viral, and parasite-related illnesses

POOR ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

LACK OF SANITATION ACCESS



AVERAGE INCOME PER PERSON:
\$1.50 USD / day







EMPOWERING NATIONALS

PAAV is committed to avoiding ethnocentricity. We cherish the richness of Ethiopian culture and the dignity of its people. We encourage and resource nationals to lead their communities toward a brighter future.



DEMONSTRATING COMPASSION

PAAV cultivates trust through serving those in need with gentleness and respect. We establish long-term, caring relationships with individuals and their families.



FOSTERING RESPONSIBILITY

PAAV believes in imparting skills and offering experiences to help nationals take ownership of the progress in their communities.

PAAV

Project Adopt a Village

Established: 2006

Purpose: Provide leadership and vision, while addressing daily medical and public health needs for individuals and families. PAAV is committed to demonstrating uplifting, compassionate care and fostering responsibility in order to empower Ethiopians to participate in and embrace these efforts.

Friends of PAAV

Established: 2018

Purpose: Connect global partners with the Ethiopian nationals of the PAAV team and the people of Sendafa. Our efforts are to support, serve, and partner in each area of the 5-Part Focus.

Yenoh Merkeb

Non-government organization, translated *Noah's Ark*

Established: 2003 by Ethiopian nationals

Location: Addis Ababa and Sendafa, Ethiopia

Purpose: Educate about the dangers of HIV/AIDS, provide medical care and treatment to patients with HIV/AIDS and other medical problems, provide job opportunities to under-resourced people, and rescue victims of commercial sex trade. Yenoh Merkeb is the government-recognized NGO under which PAAV works.



4-PART FOCUS



..... Improve Medical Care



..... Improve Public Health



..... Improve Education



..... Improve Economic Well-Being



My name is Demeku. Not long ago, I was confined to my bed due to HIV/AIDS. I lost mobility in one leg and one arm. The most painful reality of all, however, was that I was quickly becoming too ill to care for my son and daughter. I feared what would happen to them. When the local clinic said they could not help me, I felt all hope was lost. As they carried me out of the clinic, a man named Dr. Frew saw me and had great compassion. He and his team rented a room for my family. They provided food and clothes, and cared for us when I couldn't. After trying a few different medicines, I really began to improve! The next blessing I received was income generating funds from PAAV. I used those funds to start my business selling lentils at the market. Today, I have earned enough to build two homes, and I'm working on a third! I will rent two of the homes to others in my community. Before PAAV came into our lives, my children had no clothes, no way to attend school, and no hope. Now they are both fantastic students with a very bright future! I'm self-sufficient all because of the help we received from PAAV.



UPDATE: While Demeku's business grew, her children, Meseret and Solomon, have received school supplies and scholarship funding from the PAAV team in order to make it into the 8th grade. They both have been exemplary students and are in the top 10 in their class. Recently, they both excelled in the national exam, which is needed to enter high school. Meseret wants to become a medical doctor and Solomon wants to become a pilot.

Since 2006, 12,000 infants and toddlers between 6 months and 2 years old have been given nutritional support with food fortified with vitamins, minerals and iron to fight malnutrition.



My name is Zenabee. I found out that I had HIV/AIDS while I was pregnant. Hearing the news, my husband abandoned me, leaving me to care for our newborn daughter alone. The disease was transmitted to her as well, and I feared the two of us had a lonely road of suffering ahead.

My whole life changed for the better, however, when I met Dr. Frew. He offered me medicine, which allows me to live an active life and provide for my daughter. I'm part of a team of women who have received income-generating funds from PAAV to conduct the shower business at the bottle-houses. We also wash clothes and have started a small restaurant. I sell peppers too. I have so much hope now!

My greatest joy is the happiness I see in my daughter. Her young eyes see that women can put their minds and hands to productive work in the marketplace—a priceless life lesson, all thanks to PAAV.

Bottles filled with mud are the durable, low-cost construction material of choice for some buildings in Sendafa. The structures are as sturdy as those built with brick.



Since 2006, 600+ individuals, including HIV/AIDS patients, people living in extreme poverty, and former female sex workers were able to start their own small businesses through the Income Generating Activities (IGA), with oversight and accountability provided by the PAAV team.



My name is Dereje. A few years ago, HIV/AIDS began to ravage my body. I tried to stay active—to keep going for the sake of my family—but I grew weaker and weaker. Soon, it was clear that I was near death. My wife, Bezalum, would be a widow, my children would be fatherless, and my heart was gripped with anguish at those thoughts.

But when PAAV stepped into our lives, everything turned around. Dr. Frew gave me medicine and his team cared for me. As my strength returned, my wife and I were thrilled, but also very eager to begin working. We received income-generating funds through PAAV, allowing us to begin our injera-making business. A local hotel became our customer, and we began to provide 200 injera for them regularly. We received additional funds through PAAV to expand our business to include a tea room, where we also sell bread and crackers.

Today, our hard work is a positive example to our community. Our neighbors call us “the smiley family,” and it’s no wonder! Through the life-changing help we received from PAAV, our family has gone from hopeless to self-sufficient.

Since 2006, PAAV has had over 65,000 office visits offering medical aid, health services, and treatments for HIV/AIDS and many other illnesses.



This sourdough-risen flatbread called *injera* is the most fundamental piece of any meal in Ethiopia. Stews and salads are served on top.



My name is Tayech. My daughter, Mesay, and I have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS for over a decade. When I first met Dr. Frew, I was on my deathbed. My mother and sister had already given up on Mesay and me, and kicked us out of the main house to live in the barn with the animals. The PAAV team helped me get cleaned up and literally back on my feet, supplying me and my daughter with food, medication, and a roof over our heads. Even with this initial help, things didn't turn around overnight. At school, Mesay had difficulty keeping up with her classes due to her medical condition. When I confided in her teacher about Mesay's illness, the teacher told others of the girl's condition, causing Mesay to be ostracized by her fellow students and looked at like she was the disease herself. Hearing of these challenges with the girl's education, Dr. Frew and team were able to provide support for an alternative school where Mesay could learn and thrive. The PAAV team has continued to walk alongside my family throughout the last year as COVID has decimated the Sendafa region. After initially regaining my health, I had been supporting Mesay and myself by fattening and selling cows. Due to a lack of water in the region, that job is no longer an option, so PAAV helped me with an investment to begin a business selling clothes at the local market. Despite all of these challenges, we remain upbeat and happy. Mesay is excited to continue her schooling, with a focus on history and the performing arts, and I am grateful to be able to provide hope and a future for her.



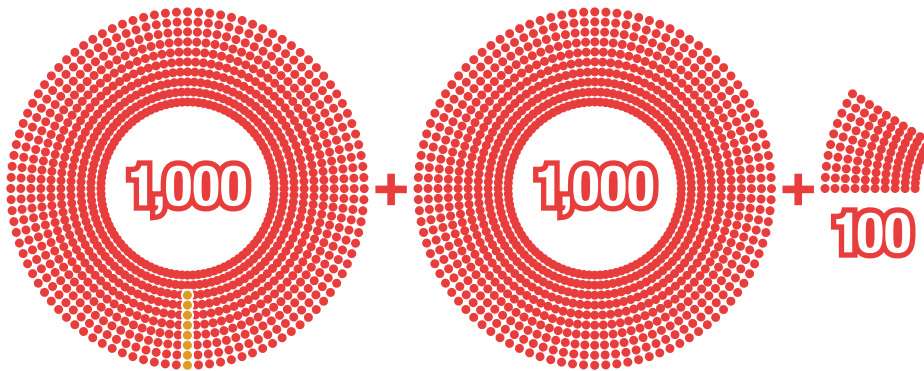
Children of HIV positive parents received school supplies during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Find more testimonials at FriendsofPAAV.org/testimonials.php

PROGRESS THROUGH PAAV

SINCE 2006

Patients diagnosed & treated for HIV/AIDS



8 recorded in 2006. **2,100** to date.

600+

HIV/AIDS patients, people living in extreme poverty, and former female sex workers were able to start their own small businesses through the income-generating activities (IGAs), with oversight and accountability provided by the PAAV team.





65,000+

patient visits offering medical aid, health services, and treatments

Adult & pediatric medical care



Treatments for acute & chronic illnesses & preventative health care

Cataract surgeries



Dental treatments

General surgeries



Gynecological treatments

Medical eye care, including the provision of eyeglasses



Nutritional Support



Since 2006, 12,000

infants and toddlers between 6 months and 2 years old have been given nutritional support with food fortified with vitamins, minerals, and iron to fight malnutrition.

Health Education



2,560+ children and adults each year received health education regarding HIV/AIDS, hygiene, hand washing, nutrition, pregnancy, breastfeeding, and prevention of infectious diseases.

Education

- Educational support: more students at all levels. More educational materials
- Build additional classrooms and provide teaching materials (e.g. computers, whiteboards)
- Special teaching programs for students (English, extra classes for those with poor grades)
- Expand IEC (Information, Education and Communication) to include projectors, minimedia centers
- Strengthen existing vocational schools through training and materials
- Develop more vocational schools
- Enhance library and develop reading centers



Education

Economic Well-Being

- Increase number of income-generating activities (IGAs), leading to more new jobs (e.g., toilets and shower services, shops in town and at market, book shops, car wash, garbage collection, various aspects of farming.)
- Provide economic opportunities and employment for beneficiaries through Noah's Ark/PAAV business enterprises



Economic Well-Being

Public Health

- Increase nutritional services to more children
- Provide in-home support and education for daily health-care needs
 - Provide more public toilets
 - Continue clean Water project



Public Health

VISION FOR THE
FUTURE

(in addition to continuing current programs)

Medical Care



Medical Care

- Provide more primary care and preventative services to healthy and sick individuals
- More funding available for medications and supplies for more patients
- Enhance and develop home health care teams and system
- Increase the medical campaigns
- Improvements to Sendafa Health Center and Sendafa Hospital
 - Further develop outreach and care to HIV/AIDS patients and families
 - Enhance services currently available (e.g. labor and delivery, surgery)
 - Develop dental and eye center
 - Provide latrines and enhanced sanitation
 - Provide needed instruments and equipment (e.g. x-ray, lab services, ultrasound)

PARTNER WITH US

SERVE



JOIN US ON A SHORT-TERM TRIP TO ETHIOPIA

Our teams serve in a variety of ways through medical clinics, construction projects, public health education, and by spending quality time with people who are in treatment for HIV/AIDS.

LEARN MORE

Please visit FriendsofPAAV.org/trip

PRAY



WE WELCOME PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS OF PAAV, as we rely on God's favor and provision in order to do what we do.

Consider using this booklet as a guide as you lift up this ministry and the people we serve. We are grateful!

To receive regular prayer prompts for Friends of PAAV and Sendafa, please email contact@FriendsofPAAV.org

DONATE



TWO WAYS TO GIVE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION:

- Give online at FriendsofPAAV.org/give
- Write a check, payable to Friends of PAAV. Mail checks to:

Friends of PAAV
3301 Church Road
East Berlin, PA 17316

LEARN MORE

Please visit FriendsofPAAV.org/donate

Friends of PAAV is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

ENDORSEMENTS

In our medical outreach efforts in Sendafa, we witness firsthand the work of PAAV team members in serving their fellow Ethiopians who are in great need. Our periodic presence and continuous financial support help to empower the PAAV team to make an impact where it is needed most in their “own back yard.” The vital relationships which the PAAV team shares with its partners are essential to the success of its work. The friendships which have evolved through these partnerships are priceless.

Andrew T. Delp, M.D.
Associate Director, Family Medicine
Residency • York Hospital

A deviation from the one-time free health care missions, Project Adopt A Village (PAAV) is a long-term relationship with the people of Sendafa. It is an ongoing investment in community-based primary health care. This is what public health should be.

Joseph Uwazota, M.D., MPH
Department of Health Policy and Management • Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

The PAAV team has changed the lives of thousands of Ethiopians medically, economically, educationally, and spiritually. The public health issues that they have successfully tackled include HIV/AIDS, resulting in HIV-infected women birthing HIV-negative babies. Strategies employed include education, free medications, regular testing, and check-ups. Additionally, assistance to start income-generating activities have been given to men and women to create sustainable businesses. After 40 years of professional nursing and health care, I find this absolutely amazing!

Valerie Hardy-Sprenkle, MPH, RN
Vice President Patient Care Services, Wellspan Health • York Hospital (retired)

The PAAV team delivers on its goals to enhance the quality of life of the people it serves through medical care, public health projects, education, income-generating opportunities, job training, and support for the local church. The Ethiopian team has been extremely stable, imaginative and dedicated. I know that contribution to PAAV is having a maximal impact and that fellowship, peace, and understanding is being built in a world so desperate for it.

Chris Echterling, M.D.
Medical Director for Vulnerable Populations • Wellspan Health

Having seen PAAV's work from the beginning, the impact on this village is nothing short of spectacular. AIDS patients who are now productive people with hope; the children who are not orphans; the school which now has text books; the additional students going to college; the churches that are thriving; and the water well that faithfully serves the village's needs, have all made a lasting difference and changed the future trajectory of Sendafa's people.

Steve Almquist
Founding Pastor of
Living Word Community Church

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