

ADANA

ORPHANED & IMPOVERISHED CHILDREN

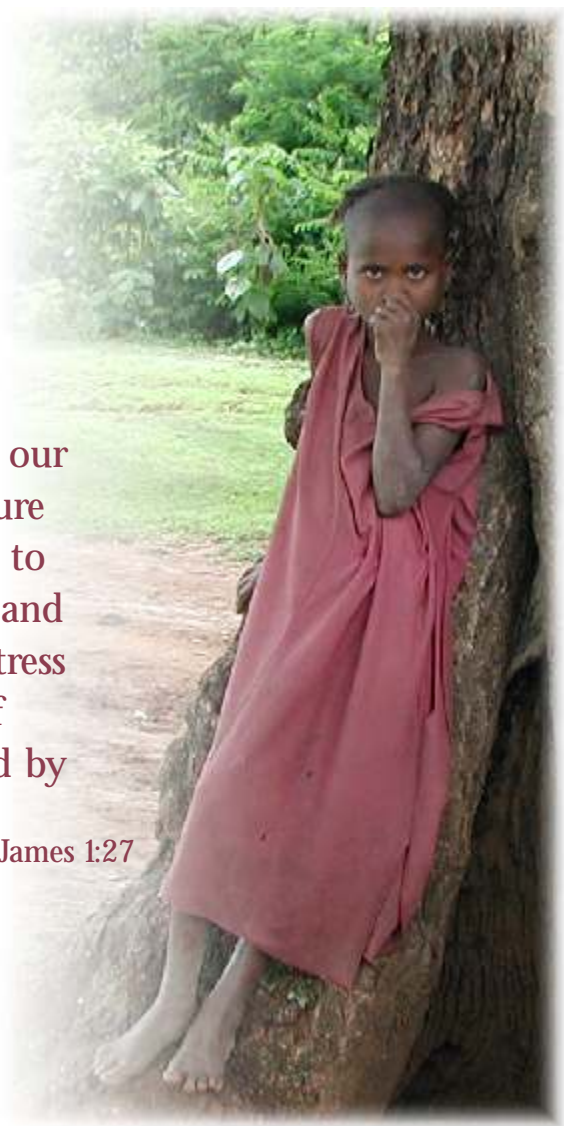


Child Information Booklet

ADANA CHILDREN CENTER

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”

James 1:27



CONTACT INFORMATION – USA

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Name Abel Hagos Zerihun

Accepted 02/05/2013

Boy Birthdate: 6/19/2009 **Age:** 3

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Hagos Zerihun Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Seble Terefe Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre

School **Grade**

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Abel is a shy little boy, until he sees his favorite animal, a cat, walk by. Then you see his face light up. BCI found Abel, his mother, two sisters and older brother in a very sad and desperate situation. His mother washes clothes to make ends meet but this still only affords her a one room home, just enough to keep the children off the streets. She struggles to find other work to provide food and clothing for the children, but it is difficult. Abel is generally a happy boy who loves going to church and listening to everyone sing. He loves playing with his twin sister, with whom he is very close. His favorite food is pasta and milk, when his mother can afford it.

Sponsors Needed: None (Abel Hagos Zerihun is fully sponsored)

Name Abel Moges Tesfaye

Accepted 04/22/2008

Boy Birthdate: 3/2/2000 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Moges Tesfaye Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Meaza Tariku Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara

School BCI Academy **Grade** 5

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Abel willing helps his mother around the house. He sweeps and does dishes for her but perhaps he only does his chores so his mother will allow him to play soccer with his friends? Abel attends the BCI Academy where he works hard at science with the goal of being a pilot when he is older. He appreciates when his mother makes pasta as it is his favorite food. He takes pleasure in watching cats as they are his favorite animal. He loves the color yellow and likes morning when the sun is coming up.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Abel Moges Tesfaye to be fully sponsored.

Name Abenezer Kasu

Accepted 05/29/2008

Boy Birthdate: 4/17/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Abenezer

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Kasu Kebede

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Aster Gizaw

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amharic

School Model School

Grade 10

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abenezer is a mischievous boy with lots of energy. He loves to go to church where he is involved in the singing and worship time. Abenezer and his younger brother have been moved to the BCI foster home due to unsafe living conditions. Abenezer helps the foster moms care for the younger children in the house. Abenezer is a good student who likes to ask "what if" questions. Abenezer longs for a father figure, you can see this in how he follows around the male missionaries that come, asking different questions of them.

Sponsors Needed: None (Abenezer Kasu is fully sponsored)

Name Abi Sisay

Accepted 03/08/2010

Boy Birthdate: 2/15/2004 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Abi

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Sisay Befekadu

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Mimi Wondimagn

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abi used to live in a village called Dere, before moving to Debre Zeyit with his mother, brother, and sister. They are very poor, living in a very small, one bedroom house. The children sleep on a straw mat on the floor. Abi has a chronic eye condition that causes him pain. He recently started school at BCI Academy and is excited for the new school year. Abi says when he grows up, he would like to be a Doctor so he can help other sick people. He says he doesn't know his favorite color but his favorite food is Injera (Ethiopian bread) and his favorite sport is soccer.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Abi Sisay to be fully sponsored.

Name Abigia Yirga

Accepted 05/29/2008

Girl Birthdate: 8/12/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Abigia

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Yirga Alemu

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Sisay Goshema

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 3

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Abigia is a high energy child who never fails to put on a show when you see her. She lives with her older sister, younger brother and mother. Her mom doesn't have a job right now, but Abigia helps her mom by doing the dishes. She enjoys the times her mom makes pasta for her as it is her favorite food. Abigia is a very good student, placing second in her class last year. Her favorite class is Amharic and she is fond of the color blue. After school she loves to play with her best friend Betty. Their favorite game to play is hide and seek. Her favorite day of the week is Saturday because there is no school. The job she is interested in right now is being a pilot so she can go look for her favorite animal --the lion.

Sponsors Needed: None (Abigia Yirga is fully sponsored)

Name Abonesh Dejene Kebede

Accepted 05/13/2011

Girl Birthdate: 10/16/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Abonesh

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Dejene Kebede

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Berke Shibru

Deceased



Sisters: 2

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade KG

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Abonesh is a shy girl who has grown up without much of her mothers involvement. Her mother is very ill and unable to care for Abonesh, so she is currently living with a gaurdian. Abonesh has not been attending school because her gaurdian cannot afford school fees, uniforms, supplies, etc. Abonesh spends most of her time at home helping her gaurdian by sweeping the floor, doing dishes and playing with her gaurdians baby. When time allows, Abonesh enjoys playing football with the neighborhood children. Abonesh only owns one pair of pants, one pair of old sandals, two shirts and no toys. So her and her friends have to borrow a ball to play. Abonesh loves the color red and loves to watch the baby lambs playing and frolicking.

Sponsors Needed: None (Abonesh Dejene Kebede is fully sponsored)

Name Abreham Gudu Mohammed**Accepted** 11/22/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 1/10/2005 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gudu Mohammed ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Stiwote Shrejo ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Pending E **Ethnicity** Pending Ethi**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Abreham is living in a dirt shack with his four siblings and his grandmother who is barely able to support herself, let alone five children. When Abreham's parents both passed away from the same unknown illness several years ago, his grandmother opened her home to them to keep them off the streets. They have been struggling ever since. Abreham is quickly becoming trilingual. His language by birth is Gurage but he is now learning Amharic and English at school. Abreham enjoys playing football with his siblings and friends and attending school. His favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is a cow.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Abreham Gudu Mohammed to be fully sponsored.

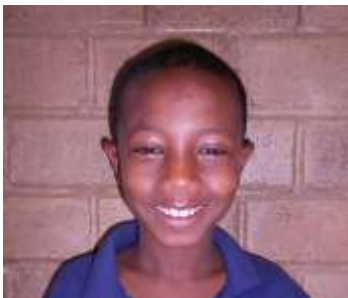
Name Abreham Tefera**Accepted** 10/22/2010**Boy Birthdate:** 9/3/2000 **Age:** 12**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Abraham**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tefera Megla ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Wollela Bekele ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Derara School **Grade** 5**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abreham is a shy young boy who has a lot of love to give. He lives with his mother and younger brother, who he clearly adores. Abreham has one small toy, a car, which he and his brother share. He shares most everything with his brother, very willingly. Abreham's mother doesn't have steady work. She makes baskets and small trinkets to sell to the BCI missionaries. Abreham attends school and says his favorite classes are math and English. After Abreham is done with school each day, he comes home to help around the house, cleaning up and making the bed. When he is finished, he enjoys playing school with his best friend, Zewdneh. He says his favorite animal to play with is a cat but his favorite animal to eat is the lamb.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Abreham Tefera to be fully sponsored.

Name Adana Kasu**Accepted** 05/01/2012**Boy Birthdate:** 10/23/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kasu Kebede*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Aster Gizaw*Deceased***Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Adana is a humble young man who has experienced much in his young life. Both of his parents passed away before his fifth birthday and he was sent to live with his aunt, while his brother and sister were sent to other family members. Adana's aunt passed away when he was nine so he and his brother reunited and were living together in a house with three other distant cousins, although there was no adult caring for them and Adana was picked on by the other children. Adana and his brother were taken out of that situation and placed in the BCI foster home. Regardless of the difficult life he has had, Adana is a bright, loving young man who enjoys helping out and praising God.

Sponsors Needed: None (Adana Kasu is fully sponsored)**Name** Adana Shisema**Accepted****Boy Birthdate:** 6/26/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Adana**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shisema G'tsadik*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Tigistu Yilma*Deceased***Sisters:** 3**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 4**Church** Emanuel Church

This remarkable young man takes everything in with his eyes. He is a very curious boy who has a keen mind for electronics. He really appreciates that missionaries that live close to his house have a playstation. He spends much of his free time at their house playing with his new friends. Before moving to Debre Zeit, Adana was being raised as a shepherd boy. His sister, Mekdes, who was already in the BCI program, asked that Adana be brought to Debre Zeit so BCI could give him an education. Adana is a very good student, receiving the second place rank in his class last year. Adana tears up the soccer field, where he often puts older kids to shame.

Sponsors Needed: None (Adana Shisema is fully sponsored)

Name Alemayehu Abera**Accepted** 11/22/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 6/22/2004 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abera Wolda ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Alemnesh Degefa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Alemayehu is a quiet child that has lived a hard life already. He is the youngest of four children who all live with their mother. Alemayehu's father passed away during a cave in on a house he was building. This left Alemayehu's mother to single handedly care for four children. His mother has a steady job but she is required to work 7 days a week. She doesn't make a lot of money so the support the family receives from BCI has been an answer to her prayers. Alemayehu used to suffer from major stomach illnesses but since his care has improved after being added to the BCI program, his health has dramatically improved.

Sponsors Needed: None (Alemayehu Abera is fully sponsored)**Name** Alemayehu Endeshaw**Accepted** 05/13/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 1/18/2008 **Age:** 5**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Alemayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endeshaw Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Tigist Chala ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** KG**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

After Alemayehu's father's death, the father's family chased Alemayehu's family away because they did not want his oldest brother to inherit the land his father owned. They came to Debre Zeyit and have been trying to survive ever since. During BCI's first visit to his house it was discovered that there was a new baby in the house. After further investigation we found Alemayehu's mother is also HIV positive and not very strong. Alemayehu has been unable to attend school in the past because of lack of money; but now with BCI's help he has started school. His favorite color is red and he enjoys pasta. His best friends are his brothers Solomon and Tekalign. His favorite animal is the chicken.

Sponsors Needed: None (Alemayehu Endeshaw is fully sponsored)

Name Asegid Dibaba

Accepted 11/16/2011

Boy Birthdate: 5/20/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Dibaba Hailu

Deceased

Brothers: 2

Mother Bezunesh Negussi

Deceased

Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 2

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Asegid lives with his mother and two younger brothers. Since joining the Blessing the Children program, Asegid has started attending school but the verdict is still out on whether or not he likes it. Asegid loves to play soccer. He lives next door to a BCI missionary and he loves to go to her house to play. She recently taught him how to throw an American football and he is so proud of himself. He says when he grows up, he would like to be a pilot. From the moment he first saw a plane, he says "I love it". Asegid helps his mom out by watching his two younger brothers.

Sponsors Needed: None (Asegid Dibaba is fully sponsored)

Name Ashenafi Gadissa

Accepted 03/17/2008

Boy Birthdate: 11/10/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Ashenafi

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Gadissa Debele

Deceased

Brothers:

Mother Yeshi Gurmu

Deceased

Sisters:

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 3

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Ashenafi is a spirited young boy that often gets into trouble while playing with his best friend, Bereket. They just can't seem to stay out of trouble! His elderly Aunt has raised him along with his cousin. Ashenafi's aunt is suffering from blood pressure problems and at times finds it difficult to chase after the children. Ashenafi's job is to collect water for the family and when his chores are finished he enjoys a rousing game of soccer with his friends. He has aspirations to become a church keyboardist when he is older. His favorite food is rice but he has to be careful of other things he eats as he has food allergies.

Sponsors Needed: None (Ashenafi Gadissa is fully sponsored)

Name Aster Lema

Accepted 11/22/2011

Girl Birthdate: 1/8/2004 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Lema Regasa Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Mesu Wolana Deceased ☒ **Sisters:** 2

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 1

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Aster is a shy little girl with a blossoming smile. It's not hard to see why she is shy considering her family gave her away to a distant relative when they could no longer afford to support her. Aster enjoys playing with her best friend Siyam and making coffee for her small family. Aster helps her guardian by watching her baby when she is able to find work as a daily laborer. In a good month, her guardian may bring in \$7. Because of their dire situation, Aster's guardian is not able to afford to send Aster to school. Aster is excited to be in the Adana Child Sponsorship program and receive a sponsor so she can attend school and become a teacher. What great potential little Aster has!

Sponsors Needed: None (Aster Lema is fully sponsored)

Name Aster Teferi

Accepted 02/29/2008

Girl Birthdate: 6/6/1995 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Aster

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Teferi Haile Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Zewde Neguse Deceased ☒ **Sisters:** 3

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara

School Model School **Grade** 10

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Who would think this young girl has known such loss in her few short years. She lost both her parents due to illness. She now lives with her aging grandmother and one brother. She has three older sisters all in their late twenties and another brother also in his late twenties. She looks forward to her favorite activities which are soccer and choir. She enjoys school and looks forward to her math class everyday which is her favorite subject. She also looks forward to having eggs for meals, whether it is morning or evening as they are her favorite food. Aster dreams of one day becoming a doctor, so she can help people who are very sick. Her favorite time is the morning where she watches the sun come up showing off her favorite color which is yellow.

Sponsors Needed: None (Aster Teferi is fully sponsored)

Name Ayu Megra Ede

Accepted 05/13/2011

Girl Birthdate: 2/23/2003 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Ayu

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Megra Ede

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Feyise Wordefa

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 1

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Ayu is a shy, sweet, sensitive girl. Both of her parents passed away, leaving her to live with her aunt. Ayu is a loving girl that snuggles up to the missionaries whenever they come to visit. She is a girly-girl that gets very excited when her sponsors send her clothes. She is a bright girl that is excited to be starting school at BCI Academy. Local, government schools are only half-days so she is very excited that she gets to go to school all day at BCI Academy.

Sponsors Needed: None (Ayu Megra Ede is fully sponsored)

Name Behailu Terefa Zike

Accepted 06/16/2008

Boy Birthdate: 7/22/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Behailu

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Terefa Zike

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Enani Zeke

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amharic

School BCI Academy

Grade 5

Church Emanuel Church

After the loss of both his parents, Behailu went to live with his grandma and grandpa. His grandpa has since passed away leaving his grandma with the full responsibility of his care. His grandma works during the day as a daily laborer and is very tired in the evenings but she still takes good care of Behailu. He looks forward to the time his grandma makes pasta for him, as that is his favorite food. He also enjoys eating injera (Ethiopian bread) with wot (stew). Behailu attends BCI Academy and anticipates his favorite subject, which is math, taught in Amharic. He enjoys going to church because he likes to hear about God. He enjoys a game of soccer with his best friend Nati. His favorite color is black. If he owned a piece of land he would build a house for his family. His goal is to someday become a doctor so that he can help the sick and suffering people around him.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Behailu Terefa Zike to be fully sponsored.

Name Belean Endale**Accepted** 12/04/2011**Girl Birthdate:** 8/16/2011 **Age:** 1

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endale Gizaw ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Tigist Waktola ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** **Grade****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Belean is a sweet baby but she is quite fussy. She has a birthmark on her left cheek that distinguishes her from her twin sister, Mestawet. She loves to have her hair washed and loves to take baths. Belean's mother feels overwhelmed with the task of raising three small children. She often asks God why he gave her twin babies. She has thought about giving them away because she had no way of caring for them. Her son Philemon constantly asks her not to give them away because he loves them. He helps feed and clothe the babies when he can. She started praying to God for help and to take the babies from her. God didn't take the babies, but He sent help and now she is relieved that God heard her cries.

Sponsors Needed: None (Belean Endale is fully sponsored)**Name** Bemnet Manaye**Accepted** 07/11/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 10/13/1998 **Age:** 14

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Bemnet**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Manaye Girma ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Muna Hailu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Bemnet is an only child who lives with his mother. Bemnet and his mother are both HIV positive. She feels guilty for him having HIV as she passed it to him while she was pregnant. Bemnet's health is very unstable. His mother works for the Airforce as a secretary. She used to practice at home being a secretary in hopes that she would get a job someday. That day has come and her practice paid off. Bemnet helps his mom out by hauling water home. He enjoys math because it is easy and the teacher's do a good job teaching it. His dream is to one day become a scientist. His favorite food is pasta, but for breakfast he usually eats bread. His favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is the giraffe. He loves to play soccer with the neighborhood children. If Bemnet owned his own land he would build a house to help out his mother. He enjoys learning about God at church.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Bemnet Manaye to be fully sponsored.

Name Bereket Abush**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 11/18/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Bereket**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abush Melese*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Worke Megersa*Deceased***Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 2**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Bereket is a rambunctious young boy that can often be seen doing squats at school for punishment for some mischief he has gotten into. His father abandoned him when he was small and his mother died of a sinus infection, possibly a result of HIV. Bereket, who has also been diagnosed as HIV positive, now lives with his grandmother. He helps out around the house by making the bed, doing the dishes and giving the house a general cleaning. His dream is to be a doctor where he can help sick people. He would also like to provide for his grandmother, who has no other source of income apart from the begging that she does. Bereket's best friend is Ashenafi and they enjoy playing hide and seek together. Bereket enjoys going to church, he especially likes the preaching on Sundays.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Bereket Abush to be fully sponsored.

Name Bereket Asechalew**Accepted** 1/28/2013**Girl Birthdate:** 8/7/2009 **Age:** 3

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asechalew Welebo*Deceased***Brothers:****Mother** Emebet Getachew*Deceased***Sisters:****Language****Ethnicity****School****Grade****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Bereket is a very shy little girl who was born into a desperate situation. Bereket has never known her father because he abandoned her mother when he found out she was pregnant. With the responsibility of taking care of her aging mother and a new baby and no other options of survival, Bereket's mother turned to a life of prostitution. Bereket is currently living in a bar with her grandmother, mother and her mother's co-worker. Until joining the BCI Program, Bereket's mother had not given Bereket a name because it is customary for parents to not name children they don't plan to keep. Since joining the program, Bereket and her mother have hope for the future and a better life.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Bereket Asechalew to be fully sponsored.

Name Bereket Fasil Tamirat

Accepted 02/04/2008

Boy Birthdate: 5/14/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Bereket

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Fasil Tamirat Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Bekelech Benaru Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 4

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Bereket lives with his mother and two sisters. Bereket's mother is a cleaner making 300 birr (\$22 dollars) a month. He helps his mother by washing the dishes. Bereket looks forward to the nights his mom makes pasta for him as this is his favorite food. He attends BCI Academy where he is considered to be an average student. His favorite subject is English because he wants to speak it well. He enjoys the teaching process and the challenge of learning another language. His best friends, Abel and Ephrem, enjoy playing soccer with him, which is Bereket's favorite game. He likes cats, the color yellow and hopes to one day be a doctor. His favorite day of the week is Sunday when he gets to hear the choir at church.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Bereket Fasil Tamirat to be fully sponsored.

Name Bereket Gebre

Accepted 05/13/2011

Boy Birthdate: 11/25/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Bereket

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Gebre Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Tsedale Moshe Deceased ☒ **Sisters:** 2

Language Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage

School BCI Academy **Grade** 2

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Bereket is a sweet boy who tends to be quiet and reserved most of the time. This may come from having three siblings who are all quite a bit older than him. Bereket lost both of his parents several years ago and has been staying with his aunt and uncle since. He has adjusted well to the change and feels happy to be a part of his aunt and uncle's family. He doesn't have any household chores, but he willingly runs any errands his family needs, pleased to be able to help. Bereket suffers from chronic skin problems. Bereket had no toys but his new sponsor recently mailed him a package and he was so pleased with the matchbox cars he was sent.

Sponsors Needed: None (Bereket Gebre is fully sponsored)

Name Bereket Shimeles

Accepted 10/10/2011

Boy Birthdate: 10/10/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Bereket

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Shemelis Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Samrawit Ali ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School **Grade** 1

Church Emanuel Church

Bereket lives with his mother and two sisters. His father abandoned them, leaving them to fend for themselves. Bereket's mother does what she can to provide for her children by baking and selling Injera (Ethiopian bread) but even during a good month, she only brings in around \$12. Bereket doesn't have any house chores, which leaves him extra time after school to play soccer with his best friend Solomon. Bereket enjoys going to church and says his favorite part is the singing and Sunday School. He would like to be a Pastor when he grows up.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Bereket Shimeles to be fully sponsored.

Name Berhane Geremew

Accepted 11/16/2011

Girl Birthdate: 12/28/2006 **Age:** 6

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Geremew Birhanu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Meserte Abishu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** KG

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Berhane is an incredibly shy girl with a sweet smile that can light up a room. Berhane lives with her father, aunt, and baby brother. Berhane's mother just recently left the family to seek work in an Arab country. No one knows when she will return but they are hopeful that this was a wise decision. Berhane's family doesn't speak the local language so it is hard for her BCI social worker to communicate with her. She just recently started school so she should pick up the Amharic language quickly. Berhane's father works as a daily laborer when he can find work but makes less than \$2/day.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Berhane Geremew to be fully sponsored.

Name Berhane Mekuria Kebede**Accepted** 05/13/2011**Girl Birthdate:** 5/29/2007 **Age:** 5

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Berhane**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mekuria Kebede ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Mestawat Birbo ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** KG**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Berhane's father died in a car accident when Berhane's mother was still pregnant with her. Berhane's mother was so devastated and lost that she seriously considered abortion. Her family convinced her to have the child and BCI is so glad that she did! Berhane is a feisty little girl that runs the house. Berhane lives with her mother, aunt, and cousin. Berhane's mother and aunt bake and sell injera (Ethiopian bread) as a means to survive but they don't make a lot of money. Berhane loves milk and eggs. Her neighbor just so happens to have a milking cow and chickens. However, for the longest of time Berhane's mother couldn't afford to provide these foods for her. Now with the help of BCI she is able.

Sponsors Needed: None (Berhane Mekuria Kebede is fully sponsored)**Name** Beruk Gemechu**Accepted** 1/28/2013**Boy Birthdate:** 3/21/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gemechu Sesa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Mesa Atenafu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bethlihem School **Grade** 6**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Beruk is a bright young man with an electric smile! And he loves to smile despite the fact that he has been dealt a hard hand in life, losing his mother when he was young and watching his father struggle with constant sickness and trying to make ends meet for him and his sister. Eventually, his father's health declined so much he was unable to care for the children and they were sent to live with their grandmother. Beruk is a good kid and he enjoys school and has lots of friends. He enjoys playing soccer with his best friend Engdawork and his favorite color is green. His favorite meal is pasta and Beruk's kindness shows through when he is willing to share his portion when he sees a hungry dog.

Sponsors Needed: 3 sponsors for \$30/month or one full sponsor at \$90/month.
Beruk Gemechu currently has no sponsors.

Name Beruk Getachew

Accepted 06/16/2008

Boy Birthdate: 6/11/1996 **Age:** 16

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Beruk

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Getachew Haile

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Belge Beyene

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amharic

School Bishoftu Tech & Voc **Grade** 11

Church Emanuel Church

This reserved, tranquil, unpretentious child has a light and understanding in his eyes that most boys his age don't acquire. To pass onto 11th grade in Ethiopia, a student must pass a national exam at the end of 10th grade. Unfortunately, Beruk did not pass his exam so he was unable to pass to 11th grade. He is currently attending a tech school where he hopes to learn a trade that will be useful to him to gain a job soon. Both of Beruk's parents are deceased so he lives with a guardian. He helps take care of the house and his guardian's baby.

Sponsors Needed: None (Beruk Getachew is fully sponsored)

Name Beruktawit Godana

Accepted 08/20/2008

Girl Birthdate: 2/22/1996 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Choo Choo

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Godana Elias

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Tigist Elias

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School Bishoftu Tech & Voc **Grade** 12

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Beruktawit has big dreams for her future. She would like to be a famous artist one day. She is very talented in drawing and everyone loves to watch her create. She is a very creative girl that also likes to do basket weaving and beading necklaces. Everyone calls her Choo Choo. Having asked her mom how she got this nickname her mom's reply was, "It is what we fondly call babies." She helps her mom by washing clothes, doing dishes, and sometimes cooking meals. If she had her own land, she would build a house to share with beggars so she could help them and teach them.

Sponsors Needed: None (Beruktawit Godana is fully sponsored)

Name Besha Asefa

Accepted 04/02/2010

Boy Birthdate: 1/1/1998 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Besha

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Asefa Dable

Deceased



Brothers: 2

Mother Gete Abebe

Deceased



Sisters: 4

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 6

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Besha's story is a sad one. Although both of Besha's parents are alive, he is living with his grandmother because they are not accepting of him and will not care for him. Besha had polio when he was one year old and as a result, he now wears a brace on his right leg that covers his ankle to his hip, and walks with crutches. This does not slow Besha down, he attends school with all the other children and his favorite subject is Oromo language. He is a shy, caring boy that smiles at all he comes in contact with. His favorite color is blue and his favorite food is pasta. When he grows up, he wants to be a doctor so he can help other disabled people.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Besha Asefa to be fully sponsored.

Name Bethel Negussie

Accepted 11/22/2011

Girl Birthdate: 11/6/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Negussie Zergaw

Deceased



Brothers: 2

Mother Zeriya

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Gurage

Ethnicity Gurage

School BCI Academy

Grade 3

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Bethel is the youngest of five children and a full orphan. Bethel lost both of her parents and moved to Debre Zeyit to live with a distant relative. Her brothers and sisters were split up and are now living in different places. Bethel's favorite color is red and her favorite animal is a lion, although she's never seen one in real life. Her guardian is older but still does not require Bethel to help around the house. Bethel is a quiet child that loves to snuggle!

Sponsors Needed: None (Bethel Negussie is fully sponsored)

Name Bethlihem Asefa

Accepted 04/22/2008

Girl Birthdate: 4/8/1995 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Betlihem

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Asefa G'Tsadik ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Bezuwork Ketewe ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 8

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Bethlihem is a young girl that seems older than she is. She was orphaned early as both parents died of unknown causes. She now lives with her aging grandmother and uncle. Her grandmother has no source of income and is having a hard time finding a job because of her advancing age. Bethlihem helps her grandmother by cleaning the house and enjoys having the shiro (Ethiopian stew) her grandmother prepares for her supper. She struggles at school but would like to be a doctor one day. Bethlihem's best friend is Hirut and they enjoy dreaming about the future together. Bethlihem's favorite color is red and her favorite animal is a dog.

Sponsors Needed: None (Bethlihem Asefa is fully sponsored)

Name Betselote Mesenbet

Accepted 06/16/2008

Girl Birthdate: 11/6/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Betselote

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Mesembet Ketema ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Tewabech Haile ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic

School BCI Academy **Grade** 7

Church Emanuel Church

Betselote is a shy, quiet girl with much on her mind. Both of her parents are deceased and she lives with her aunt and sister. Betselote's mom was murdered in what the police believe was a poisoning. Her father died due to complications related to his alcoholism. Betselote's aunt is a generous woman that is constantly taking people in that need a place to sleep so the house is always busy. There was recently a fire in Betselote's house that caused considerable damaged but thanks to God no one was hurt. Her favorite time of day is morning and she enjoys going to church where worship and singing are special to her. She enjoys the special times when her aunt prepares meat as it is expensive and not prepared often. Betselote's favorite color is yellow.

Sponsors Needed: None (Betselote Mesenbet is fully sponsored)

Name Biniam Chekel**Accepted****Boy Birthdate:** 3/23/1998 **Age:** 14

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Biniam**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Chekel Nigatu*Deceased***Brothers:** 4**Mother** Ejigayehu Legese*Deceased***Sisters:** 4**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Tabernacle School**Grade** 8**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Biniam is a quiet, shy boy who has lived a hard life. Both of his parents are deceased and he now lives with one of his sisters and cousin. His only chore is hauling water for the family. He attends Madryodrenken School. He finds school to be a challenge but his favorite subject is English because he likes the language. Fokeriob is his best friend. They study together and also find the time for playing. They often play soccer as that is Biniam's favorite game. His favorite food is duro wot which is a spicy, chicken stew. His favorite color is red and his favorite animal is the lion. He has aspirations of becoming a doctor to help the sick people in his city. He likes hearing the choir at his church.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Biniam Chekel to be fully sponsored.

Name Bizuayehu Sisay Bekele**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 2/9/1997 **Age:** 16

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Bezuayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Sisay Bekele*Deceased***Brothers:** 2**Mother** Wubalem Mesfin*Deceased***Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

When one thinks of funny, whimsical and mischievous, Bizuayehu comes to mind. This young boy delights in laughter, joking, and always has a smile. In February 2009 his mother, Wubalem, was hit by a car. She was unable to walk for quite some time so this caused a strain on the family finances. She is better now and they are hopeful about their future. Bizuayehu attends BCI Academy where he is always the top picked goalie in a game of soccer.

Sponsors Needed: None (Bizuayehu Sisay Bekele is fully sponsored)

Name Dagim Bacha Wordofa**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 11/18/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Dagim**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bacha Wordofa ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Meskerem Bekele ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0**Language** **Ethnicity****School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Dagim lives with his aunt, uncle, grandpa and grandma. His aunt is a daily laborer making \$12/month. His chores consist of running errands and going to the local shop. His favorite food is meat but he doesn't get it very often because it is very expensive. Dagim attends BCI Academy and his favorite subject is math because he understands it. He hopes one day to become a doctor so that he can help other people. Dagim suffers from severe sweating of the hands and feet and also suffers from recurring bouts with tonsillitis. Both of Dagim's parents are deceased. Dagim loves the sun, and his favorite color is yellow. He likes to play football with his best friend Babe.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Dagim Bacha Wordofa to be fully sponsored.

Name Dagim Girma**Accepted** 08/10/2009**Boy Birthdate:** 6/6/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Dagem**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Girma Abebe ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Shibre Tasew ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Emanuel Church

Dagim has lost his parents to HIV, and now lives with his grandmother. She works very hard making and selling injera (Ethiopian bread). She makes \$15/month. When asked what he would do with his own land he replied, "I would build a house for my family". This young boy attends BCI Academy where he loves math. He has no chores so after school he plays his favorite game of soccer with his best friend Yonas. Sometimes they will also study together. His favorite part about church is the singing, his favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is the cat.

Sponsors Needed: None (Dagim Girma is fully sponsored)

Name Dawit Leta Bedada

Accepted 12/31/2007

Boy Birthdate: 3/12/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Dawit

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Leta Bedada Gude ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Awetash Tesfaye ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 7

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Dawit is a mischievous, energetic, young boy with a passion for life. He lost his father in an accident while he was working in the Air Force. This has left his mother alone to care for him. Dawit's mom receives a small military pension but has no work otherwise. Her health is not stable. Dawit has one sister and two brothers but none of them live in their house. Dawit's chores consist of sweeping the floor and washing the dishes. Dawit attends BCI Academy and his favorite class is English. He is very quick to learn and is considered to be a good student which will come in handy as he dreams of becoming a Pastor. His favorite food is eggs and his favorite game is football. Morning time is his favorite time of the day, and he has tea and bread for breakfast. His color of choice is red.

Sponsors Needed: None (Dawit Leta Bedada is fully sponsored)

Name Debora Tesfaya Chala

Accepted 02/05/2013

Girl Birthdate: 3/25/2007 **Age:** 5

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Butu

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Tesfaya Chala ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Fanaya Beshada ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School Best Use Academy **Grade** KG

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Debora is a sweet, inquisitive young girl who likes to help others. She enjoys school and her teachers and says her favorite class is English because it is the best language to learn. Not only does she enjoy at the Best Use Academy but her favorite part of church on Sunday is Sunday school classes. After school, she helps clean the house by sweeping and doing dishes and then enjoys some play time with her best friend Bezawit. Their favorite thing to do is jump rope. Debora's favorite color is green and she says she would like to be a Doctor when she grows up.

Sponsors Needed: None (Debora Tesfaya Chala is fully sponsored)

Name Dibora Debebe

Accepted 03/17/2008

Girl Birthdate: 12/6/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Dibora

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Debebe G'Medihn ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Meseret Fikere ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara

School BCI Academy **Grade** 3

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

This rambunctious young girl lives with her grandmother, uncle, aunt and cousin. Dibora's parents both died of HIV shortly after she was born. Her grandmother suffers from failing eye sight and arthritis. Dibora lives with her family in a cement house far off the main road. It is a long journey by foot to get to and from town. Dibora attends BCI Academy where she can usually be found getting into fights with boys. She looks forward to the time when she is old enough to become a doctor so that she can help sick and hurting people. She loves to eat pasta and red is her favorite color. Dibora's favorite animal is the cat and her favorite game is to play catch with a ball.

Sponsors Needed: None (Dibora Debebe is fully sponsored)

Name Dureti Aboneh Worku

Accepted 02/04/2008

Girl Birthdate: 7/25/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Dureti

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Aboneh Wurku ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Alemnesa Tamiru ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 4

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Dureti is a friendly, cooperative girl who lives with her mom, two brothers and one sister. Her father died due to HIV, though the rest of the family has tested negative for the condition. Her mother makes \$30/month working. Dureti attends BCI Academy and her favorite class is English. Her favorite food is injera with wot which is a gravy with potatoes, carrot, onion and tomato. She has many friends and they often play ball together. Hide and seek is Dureti's favorite game. She dreams of one day becoming a pilot. She loves to attend church and her favorite part is praying to God. She lives in a small one bedroom house made of mud walls and dirt floors, with a 4 x 4 foot dirt courtyard.

Sponsors Needed: None (Dureti Aboneh Worku is fully sponsored)

Name Eayasu Wondimu**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 4/11/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Eyasu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Wondimu Tadesse ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Almaz Terfie ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Eayasu is a quiet boy but friendly and cooperative. Eayasu has no siblings but lives with his mom, grandmother, and four uncles. His mom works at a flower shop where she brings home \$20/month. He helps the family by running errands to the local shop and washing the dishes. Eayasu attends BCI Academy where he works hard. He dreams of one day becoming a doctor so that he can heal sick people. His favorite food is cake. When asked what he would do with his own land he replied, "I would build a house for my mom." Eayasu's father, a paralyzed soldier, died of a kidney infection. Eayasu also has troubles with recurring kidney problems.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Eayasu Wondimu to be fully sponsored.

Name Eden Efrem**Accepted** 1/18/2012**Girl Birthdate:** 6/13/2010 **Age:** 2

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Efrem Megra ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Genet Wordofa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** **Grade****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Eden currently lives with her mother and cousin. Her father comes and goes as he pleases so he is not a stable figure for her. She was scared of white people but has been getting used to seeing so many white faces come visit her house with BCI (her cousin Ayu is in the BCI program). Eden is a little mother in training. She always wants to carry smaller babies on her back (Ethiopian style). She is a happy baby that likes to laugh and giggle. Recently, missionaries have given her some toys but before that she had none to play with. Eden is just now starting to eat table food and she likes to eat injera (Ethiopian bread) and pasta.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Eden Efrem to be fully sponsored.

Name Efrata Mesenbet Ketema**Accepted** 06/16/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 1/23/2002 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Efrata**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mesenbet Ketema ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tewabech Haile ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 5**Church** Emanuel Church

Efrata is a bright student and enjoys learning math and English, her two favorite subjects. Efrata has a sweet heart and her goal is to one day become a nurse so she can look after and help sick people. Efrata's parents are both deceased. Her mother was murdered in what police believe was a poisoning. Her father died of alcohol-related complications. If she owned her own land she says she would build a hospital so she can help others. Efrata lives with her aunt and looks forward to the nights she has pasta for supper. Although she doesn't have chores to do, she still helps out around the house. For breakfast she eats bread and tea. Efrata has three dogs and three cats which happen to be her favorite animals. Her best friend is Dibora and they like to jump rope together because it is her favorite game. Efrata's favorite color is red, which seems fitting because it is very vibrant, just like her.

Sponsors Needed: None (Efrata Mesenbet Ketema is fully sponsored)**Name** Efrem Alebachew Getahun**Accepted** 03/07/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 1/20/2002 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Efrem**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alebachew Getahu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Medihen Desta ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 5**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Efrem is a very sweet, loving boy who always seems to be laughing and smiling. He loves to stand close and cuddle up against visitors, and is very curious about all equipment and paperwork! He lives with his father and older brother. His father is HIV positive and works as an evangelist and night guard. He makes \$40/month. Efrem is enjoying attending BCI Academy but finds school challenging. His favorite part about church is Sunday School. He loves to eat pasta, play running games, and spending time with his best friends, Bereket and Abel. Efrem's favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is a cat. Efrem lost his mother due to HIV complications.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Efrem Alebachew Getahun to be fully sponsored.

Name **Elias Engeda**

Accepted

Boy Birthdate: 5/23/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Elias

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Engeda Minase ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Bekelech Tariku ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 7

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

This gentle, quiet, curious boy always has a smile on his face. He lives with his mom, grandmother, older sister, twin brother and baby sister. Elias and his family were abandoned by his father, left to care for themselves. They have just received a new two room government house and they are so excited! Elias goes to school and he comes home to do his chores: cleaning the house and sweeping. He says the best part of his day is nighttime because his chores are done and all his friends are out of school so they can play. Elias play most with his best friend Besufekad.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Elias Engeda to be fully sponsored.

Name **Elizabeth Shimeles**

Accepted 11/23/11

Girl Birthdate: 11/9/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Shemilise Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Samerawit Ali ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School Nigat Goh School **Grade** 6

Church Emanuel Church

Elizabeth lives with her mother and two siblings. Her father abandoned them, leaving Elizabeth's mother to provide for her children by baking and selling Injera bread. While her mother does her best, even in a good month she will only bring in around \$12. Elizabeth's mother is also very sick with TB, which is continually lessening her ability to work. Elizabeth is a bright little girl who enjoys going to school. In her spare time, she helps her mother care for the house and her little sister, Tigist. Elizabeth wants to be a doctor when she grows up.

Sponsors Needed: None (Elizabeth Shimeles is fully sponsored)

Name Emebet Abera

Accepted 02/05/2013

Girl Birthdate: 12/11/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Emish

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Abera Wolde Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Alemnesh Degefa Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School Tokuma School **Grade** 5

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Emebet could easily be considered the teacher's pet since her teacher took her in when her mother could no longer care for her. Emebet enjoys school and her favorite class is math. She helps her teacher by cleaning the house, even though it is not required of her. Emebet is a kind, helpful young lady. In her free time, she enjoys jumping rope. Her favorite color is green which is fitting since she enjoys being outside in nature, sitting in the grass. She wants to be a Doctor when she grows up so it's a good thing she enjoys school so much!

Sponsors Needed: None (Emebet Abera is fully sponsored)

Name Emmanuel Sisay

Accepted 06/17/2010

Boy Birthdate: 6/14/2009 **Age:** 3

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Emanuel

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Sisay Befekadu Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Mimi Wendmagn Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade**

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

When Blessing the Children found Emmanuel and his family, his mother was working as a prostitute at a local bar and their home was a tent on the sidewalk outside the bar, built around a mattress. Their father had been gone for many years but just recently reappeared. He was delivered from a demon at church upon his return to Debre Zeit. Upon meeting this family and seeing their desperate need, Blessing the Children immediately found a new home for them and accepted all three children into the program. Emmanuel has experienced a lot in his young life but is a resilient child and has bounced back remarkably. His favorite (and only) toy is a spinning top, which he shares with his brother, Abi. He is a very easy going child whose favorite game is running and jumping. He likes cats and eating pasta.

Sponsors Needed: None (Emmanuel Sisay is fully sponsored)

Name Eskedar Asefa Beyene**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 1/18/2000 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Eskedar**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asefa Beyene*Deceased***Brothers:** 5**Mother** Aleme Abate*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Eskedar lives with her uncle, two aunts and a brother. Although she has five brothers, the other four live in a remote village far in the north. Her uncle is retired and receives \$35/month in retirement pay. Her favorite subject is math and she dreams of one day becoming a teacher. She likes bread and tea which she eats for breakfast most mornings. Her favorite time of the day is afternoon, because that is when all of her family is home and they can spend time together. Eskedar enjoys making coffee for her family. Her favorite part about church is worshipping. Her favorite food is meat, which is a special treat because it is expensive.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Eskedar Asefa Beyene to be fully sponsored.

Name Eskedar Tefera**Accepted****Girl Birthdate:** 6/6/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Eskedar**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tefera Feyera*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Adanech Derersa*Deceased***Sisters:** 5**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** Emanuel Church

Eskedar lives with her mom and five sisters. Her mom is a painter/daily laborer who makes \$15/month. This is a hardship on the mother who also is HIV positive. Eskedar's father left when she was young but he will return for a short period of time and then leave again. She attends school where her favorite class is English. She dreams of helping the people of Ethiopia by becoming a doctor. Eskedar and Mahider are best friends and enjoy playing volleyball together. This also happens to be Eskedar's favorite game. Eskedar's favorite food is macaroni, her favorite color is white and her favorite animals are sheep.

Sponsors Needed: None (Eskedar Tefera is fully sponsored)

Name **Esrael Yirga Alemu**

Accepted **12/31/2007**

Girl Birthdate: 1/19/1999 **Age:** 14

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Esrael

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Yirge Alemu Woda ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Sisay Goshime ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 8

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Esrael, her mom, grandmother, and younger brother and sister live together in a small two room hut, sleeping four people in one bed. She is a very bright student, receiving one of the top spots in her class last year. Her dream is to become a doctor when she is older. Her favorite part about attending church on Sunday is hearing the choir. If she owned her own land she would build a house for her mother. Her breakfast consists of bread and tea. Esrael's favorite color is pink and she likes to play volleyball. Her favorite animal is the peacock. Esrael is a delightful young lady who has a glint in her eye and is always up for a challenge.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Esrael Yirga Alemu to be fully sponsored.

Name **Estifanos Tariku Bayinesagn**

Accepted **07/11/2008**

Boy Birthdate: 4/16/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Steve

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Tariku Baynesagn ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Mesay Masresha ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic

School BCI Academy **Grade** 6

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Estifanos lives with his mom who is paralyzed from the waist down and is also HIV positive. They get help from the church to pay the rent. Estifano's mom needed a wheelchair for many years and this past year God has provided by way of a visiting missionary. Estifanos is a very good student, always receiving top spots in his class. His favorite subjects are math and English and has the goal of becoming a doctor to help people like his mother. Estifanos's chores consist of cleaning the house and hauling water. His favorite food is rice and cake and the game he likes best is soccer. He enjoys spending time drawing pictures.

Sponsors Needed: None (Estifanos Tariku Bayinesagn is fully sponsored)

Name Eyoatam Gedion**Accepted** 07/17/2010**Boy Birthdate:** 12/7/2006 **Age:** 6

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Booti**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gedion Tesfaye*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tigist Demisse*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** KG**Church** Emanuel Church

Upon first introductions, Booti appears shy and quiet but after spending a little time with him, watch out! He blossoms like a flower into an outgoing, lovable little boy. Despite his affectionate nature, Booti's story is a hard one. His father was a pilot in the air force and was accidentally shot by a police officer, only one year before completing medical school. After this happen, his 19 year old mother had a break down and was no longer able to care for Booti, so she ran off, leaving him with his grandmother. Booti has adjusted well to the change and has retained his fun, silly attitude. Booti loves to play soccer and sing, and says he would like to be a singer when he grows up. His favorite animal is sheep and when asked why, he simply responded, "eat it".

Sponsors Needed: None (Eyoatam Gedion is fully sponsored)**Name** Eyob Husen**Accepted** 02/15/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 7/31/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Eyob**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Husen Dube*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Haregewoin Zene*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Libnedingil School**Grade** 9**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Eyob is a very happy and cheerful child. When Eyob was a baby his caretaker dropped him and he landed on his head. He has suffered mental impairment because of this accident. He has improved a lot due to the care he receives at school and through BCI. He enjoys people and is very social with his community and other children in his compound. His mother is a daily laborer who makes \$15/month. She is also HIV positive. His father died of unknown causes. He has no siblings and no chores to do. He enjoys dismantling radios and has aspirations to become a mechanic. His favorite food is chicken but rarely gets it because of the cost. His favorite part about church is the worship time. Eyob enjoys his cat, the color red and likes cows.

Sponsors Needed: None (Eyob Husen is fully sponsored)

Name Eyob Teklu**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 6/12/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Eyob**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teklu Abebe*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Wolela Tsegaye*Deceased***Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Model School**Grade** 9**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Eyob is a funny, quiet young man who also has a serious side. If you watch him for a while you will see him practicing his martial arts skills. He likes to watch action movies when he has a chance. Eyob has faced many challenges in his young life. His father has passed away and his mom has been very sick the past few years. She just recently remarried and left Eyob and his sister behind to care for themselves. Eyob's sister has moved back in with their mother but Eyob continues to live alone. He must be a responsible boy, cooking and cleaning for himself, all while trying to do well in school. He would like to be an engineer when he is older. One of his favorite pastimes is to sing in the BCI choir.

Sponsors Needed: None (Eyob Teklu is fully sponsored)**Name** Fekadu Alemu**Accepted** 10/22/2010**Boy Birthdate:** 6/1/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Fekadu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemu Kabtimer*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Aynalem Kefelegn*Deceased***Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Fekadu is a very active, outgoing young man. Living with his mother and two sisters, Fekadu is the man of the house. A few years ago, his father became very sick and could not walk or get around. His mother began working a lot breaking cobblestone to pay for the medical bills to help him get better, and once he was better, he left and divorced Fekadu's mother for a younger woman. Fekadu is a resilient young man and still as outgoing as ever. He loves playing soccer with his best friend Abel, after he has finished his school and chores. Fekadu says his favorite bible story is David and Goliath and he likes to pray to God. His favorite color is red and he wants to be a pilot when he grows up.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Fekadu Alemu to be fully sponsored.

Name Ferehiwot Sisay

Accepted

Girl Birthdate: 3/28/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Ferehiwot

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Sisay Befekadu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Mimi Wendmagn ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 2

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Ferehiwot is a feisty little girl who likes to keep other children, including her two younger brothers, in line. She lives with her mom and two younger brothers in a very small one room house. Ferehiwot's father just returned after being gone for many years. Ferehiwot's home consisted of a single bed with walls around it. They cooked and played outside. Due to the unhealthy nature of this arrangement Blessing the Children was able to step in along with her Social Worker and place Ferehiwot and her family in a bigger home for less rent. Ferehiwot has aspirations to become a lady taxi driver. She helps her mom with the cooking. Her favorite color is yellow and her favorite animal is the cat.

Sponsors Needed: None (Ferehiwot Sisay is fully sponsored)

Name Fikerite Tilahun

Accepted 03/07/2008

Girl Birthdate: 5/11/1995 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Fekerite

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Tilahun Mola ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Likie Teshome ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School Libnedingil School **Grade** 5

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Eyob is a funny, quiet young man who also has a serious side. If you watch him for a while you will see him practicing his martial arts skills. He likes to watch action movies when he has a chance. Eyob has faced many challenges in his young life. His father has passed away and his mom has been very sick the past few years. She just recently remarried and left Eyob and his sister behind to care for themselves. Eyob's sister has moved back in with their mother but Eyob continues to live alone. He must be a responsible boy, cooking and cleaning for himself, all while trying to do well in school. He would like to be an engineer when he is older. One of his favorite pastimes is to sing in the BCI choir.

Sponsors Needed: None (Fikerite Tilahun is fully sponsored)

Name **Fraol Geremew Bayu****Accepted** **12/31/2007****Boy** **Birthdate:** 4/11/2000 **Age:** 12**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Fraol****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Geremew Bayu Ay** ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** **Arare Dinsa Setta** ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** **Oromo** **Ethnicity** **Oromo****School** **Nafiade** **Grade** **3****Church** **Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical**

Fraol lives with his mom. They are both HIV positive. Fraol's father died of unknown causes. His mom is a daily laborer who makes \$25/month. Fraol helps his mother by cleaning the house and washing clothes. He hopes to one day be a doctor so he can help the sick people of Debre Zeyit. Fraol's best friend is Keya and they play together as much as they can. Fraol's favorite food is pasta and his favorite color is red. He likes watching the sheep in his neighborhood which are his favorite animals.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Fraol Geremew Bayu to be fully sponsored.

Name **Geleta Birhanu Gemechu****Accepted** **03/17/2008****Boy** **Birthdate:** 10/8/2004 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Geleta****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Birhanu Gemechu** ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** **Worke Shume** ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** **Oromo** **Ethnicity** **Oromo****School** **BCI Academy** **Grade** **4****Church** **Zion Mekaneyesus Church**

This energetic boy is full of mischief and smiles as he darts around Zion Church compound. Geleta lost his father in a car accident. He lives with his two sisters, mom, uncle, and cousin. He is excited when his mom makes pasta for supper because that is his favorite food. He enjoys helping do all kinds of things like cleaning the house. He attends BCI Academy where he keeps his teachers on their toes. His favorite subject is English. He would like to be an evangelist when he grows up. He loves dogs and his favorite game is soccer where he can wear off some of that energy!

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Geleta Birhanu Gemechu to be fully sponsored.

Name Genet Mamo Bune

Accepted 12/31/2007

Girl Birthdate: 4/17/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Genet

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Mamo Bune Rasha ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Aleme Tufa Mori ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School Joshua Academy **Grade** 5

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

This little girl has had lots of responsibility in her short years. Genet's mother is blind, unable to even cook for her family due to her sight loss. Genet has had to become very responsible. Genet's father abandoned the family after his wife accepted Christ. He has never returned. Genet helps her mom by washing clothes and hauling water. She has an older brother. Genet attends Joshua Academy. She dreams of one day becoming a doctor. Genet's favorite part of church is the choir. Her best friends name is Tigist and walk to school together and also try to find time to play when school is done for the day. Genet's favorite meal is pasta and her favorite color is green. She loves to jump rope and sheep are her favorite animal.

Sponsors Needed: None (Genet Mamo Bune is fully sponsored)

Name Haben Andualem Masresha

Accepted 08/20/2008

Girl Birthdate: 2/11/2004 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Haben

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Andualem Medres ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Mulu Soresa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre

School BCI Academy **Grade** 3

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Haben is a coy, fun loving, energetic little girl. Haben currently lives in the BCI foster home where she is responsible for washing her own clothes. She was living with her aunt because her parents left her when she was young. Her young aunt was no longer able to care for her because of commitments to school and work. Haben attends BCI Academy and her favorite class is English. Her goal is to be a doctor. She loves to braid hair and jump rope with her best friend, Fiker. Her favorite animal is sheep. She says if she owned her own land she would grow cabbage although her favorite food is pasta and rice.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Haben Andualem Masresha to be fully sponsored.

Name Hana Kebede Kefeni**Accepted** 04/22/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 6/20/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Hanna**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Kefeni

Deceased

**Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tsehay Haile

Deceased

**Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 7**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

You have to do a triple look when Hana walks towards you and wonder if it is really her or one of her sisters! Hana is a triplet which is a very unique thing; especially in Ethiopia! Due to maternity care in Ethiopia this is a very rare occurrence. They live with their mother who works as a daily laborer making \$20/month. Hana's father died suddenly leaving her mother alone to care for the three girls. Hana is a happy, congenial, cooperative girl. She has her sights set on becoming a doctor. Her favorite meal is pasta and she likes the color red. Her best friends name is Lidia and they like to play hide and seek together. Hana's favorite animal is sheep and she loves games that involve running.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Hana Kebede Kefeni to be fully sponsored.

Name Hawi Degaga**Accepted** 04/09/2012**Girl Birthdate:** 9/19/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Degaga Jimma

Deceased

**Brothers:** 0**Mother** Membere G'Mesk

Deceased

**Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bekelicha School**Grade****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Hawi is a sensitive young girl who has been through a lot in her life. Hawi has been diagnosed with TB and is also HIV positive. In addition to her illnesses, Hawi lost her father to a drug overdose several years ago, leaving her mother to care for Hawi and her younger sister, Yabsira. Hawi's mother sells roasted potatoes, which brings in around \$7 USD a month. Hawi says her favorite time of the day is the evenings when she can spend time with her mother selling potatoes. Hawi tells us that she wants to be a Scientist when she grows up because she "want to know everything". Hawi also enjoys growing flowers and reading her bible. Her favorite bible story is Adam and Eve but her favorite bible character is Abraham.

Sponsors Needed: None (Hawi Degaga is fully sponsored)

Name Haymanot Sisay

Accepted 03/08/2010

Girl Birthdate: 7/19/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Haymanot

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Sisay Bekele

Deceased



Brothers: 3

Mother Wubalem Mesfin

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amhara

School BCI Academy

Grade 3

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Haymanot lives with her mother and two brothers. Her father was killed in the war, and her mother was in a car accident, leaving her unable to work for quite some time. Her mother is better but has still not found work. Haymanot and her siblings do their best to help out around the house, when they are not in school. Haymanot says that her favorite animal is a fox, and her favorite color is green. She doesn't have any toys, and her favorite game is to play house with her little brother. Her best friends name is Mendu, and Haymanot's favorite time of day is the morning because she gets to play with her best friend.

Sponsors Needed: None (Haymanot Sisay is fully sponsored)

Name Helen Taye G'medihin

Accepted 12/31/2007

Girl Birthdate: 6/21/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Helen

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Taye G'Medihin

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Elfineh Niguse De

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amhara

School BCI Academy

Grade 4

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Helen has known sad times in her life for being such a young girl. Her father died before she was born and her mother died shortly after her birth of TB. She was left in the care of her aunt. Helen's aunt works as a daily laborer earning \$15/month. They live in a small one room house with mud walls and a dirt floor. Helen helps her aunt by cleaning the house, sweeping the floor and washing dishes. Helen attends BCI Academy and her favorite subject is English. She hopes to one day be a doctor. Mitu is her best friend and they study together and during play time use the jump rope. The best thing about church is the choir. Helen's favorite food is duro wot, which is a chicken dish with gravy and her favorite animal is the tiger.

Sponsors Needed: None (Helen Taye G'medihin is fully sponsored)

Name Huluyalfal Bisenebit

Accepted 05/13/2011

Boy Birthdate: 10/17/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Huluyalfal

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Bisenebit

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Shura Abera

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amhara

School BCI Academy

Grade KG

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Huluyalfal is a fun little boy with a glint in his eye. Both of his parents died due to an unknown illness. This left his 16 year old sister to care for him. When BCI found them they were living in a one room house, which doubled as a café. They shared a burlap sack behind the serving counter. But now he lives with a guardian who is doing a better job caring for him. However, money was still an issue that is why the support from BCI has been so beneficial to him, especially this year because he got to start school!

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Huluyalfal Bisenebit to be fully sponsored.

Name Joy Endale Glyesus

Accepted 06/10/2011

Girl Birthdate: 9/21/2009 **Age:** 3

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Bitiko

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Endale G'Yesus

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Mekiya Mufter

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amhara

School

Grade

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

This little girl has a glint in her eye and mischievousness written all over her face, but that just endears her to the hearts of the missionaries. Joy is living in the foster home after her young mother signed over guardianship to Zion Church. Mekiya, Joy's mother, is working as a prostitute. She didn't want her children to grow up in that environment so she gave them away. After accepting Joy into the BCI program it was discovered that she is actually a twin. When the twins were born they were available for adoption. Her twin brother was adopted right away but Joy was very sick at birth so she was left behind. BCI is glad to accept her as part of our family and she is loved and adored by all of BCI staff and every missionary that visits.

Sponsors Needed: None (Joy Endale Glyesus is fully sponsored)

Name Kaleb Godana**Accepted** 08/20/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 6/2/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Kaleb**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Godana Urmilia ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tigist Elias ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bishoftu Tech & Voc **Grade** 12**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Kaleb is a good natured young man. He has a talent for music. He can often be found playing the keyboard at his church. He would like to become a doctor. He helps his mom out by cleaning the house and washing clothes. His favorite food is duro wot (spicy chicken stew) and his two favorite colors are yellow and red. His favorite animal is the rabbit and his favorite game is soccer.

Sponsors Needed: None (Kaleb Godana is fully sponsored)**Name** Kaleb Teshome**Accepted** 04/22/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 9/29/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Kaleb**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teshome Worku ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Sada Cheru ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Adventist School **Grade** 3**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Kaleb has a sparkle in his eye and doesn't miss a thing as he looks around. He lives with his mom who is HIV positive. She works as a teacher's assistant. His father died due to complications from HIV. He has an older brother and sister but they don't live with him. Kaleb enjoys playing with his two trucks. He even convinces his mom that she should play with him. He helps his mom by going on short errands. Kaleb keeps his teachers busy at BCI Academy due to his endless energy! His favorite subject is math because it is fun. He dreams of becoming a Pilot because he wants to fly an airplane. Kaleb's favorite food is macaroni and his favorite color is yellow. He likes to play the pretend game with his best friend Radet. Kaleb's favorite animal is the lion.

Sponsors Needed: None (Kaleb Teshome is fully sponsored)

Name Kaleb Tsegaye**Accepted** 04/01/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 1/17/2007 **Age:** 6

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Kalu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tsegaye W'Tekle ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Adugna Eshetu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** KG**Church** Emanuel Church

In January 2011, Kaleb's fourth birthday, this precious little boy's life went from good to bad. After a long days work, his mother and father were riding home in a bajaj (small taxi) and were struck from behind by another vehicle. Kaleb's father did not survive the accident. His mother survived but her arm was seriously injured. Due to the necessary recovery time for her arm, Kaleb's mother lost her job at Sara's Supermarket, where she was working as a cashier. This put a huge financial burden on the family. His mother has since gotten her job back at the supermarket but work is painful for her. Both Kaleb and his mother are struggling to get by, both emotionally and financially. Kaleb's favorite animal is a cat, which can often cheer him up. He also loves to hear stories about Moses, and enjoys eating pasta with tomato sauce and lots of pepper.

Sponsors Needed: None (Kaleb Tsegaye is fully sponsored)**Name** Kalkidan Kebede Kefeni**Accepted** 04/22/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 6/20/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Kalkidan**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Kefeni ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tsehaye Haile ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Kalkidan is a sweet, cooperative girl. She dreams of becoming a doctor when she is finished with school. I wonder if the teacher has trouble telling her apart from her sisters as she is one of triplets. Can you imagine the chaos they could cause! Kalkidan's mom is a daily laborer in a factory and makes \$20/month. Kalkidan's father died suddenly leaving her mother to look after the triplets. For breakfast Kalkidan eats bread and tea. She looks forward to the evening meal when her mother fixes rice because it is her favorite food. Her best friend is Samrawit and they play Kalkidan's favorite game which is hide and seek. Kalkidan is fond of the color yellow and her favorite animal is the dog. She looks forward to church and the part that is special for her is the praying.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Kalkidan Kebede Kefeni to be fully sponsored.

Name Kalkidan Shumi**Accepted** 11/22/2011**Girl Birthdate:** 12/6/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shumi Beshu8

Deceased

**Brothers:** 2**Mother** Etanshe Hailu

Deceased

**Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 3**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Kalkidan is the youngest of five children and though three of her siblings are old enough to be on their own, they all still live at home with their mother. Kalkidan's father died when she was young and when asked what God means to her, Kalkidan says "He is my Father". Kalkidan attends school and her favorite color is red. Kalkidan's earliest memory is of playing soccer with her friends and to this day, she enjoys the game. Kalkidan's favorite Bible story is the story of David and Goliath because David had enough faith to trust God and kill Goliath.

Sponsors Needed: None (Kalkidan Shumi is fully sponsored)**Name** Kibruyisfa Teshome**Accepted** 04/22/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 8/5/1998 **Age:** 14

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Kibruyisfa**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teshome Worku

Deceased

**Brothers:** 1**Mother** Zebenay Tesfaye

Deceased

**Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Libnedingil School**Grade** 10**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Kibruyisfa lives with his mom and sisters. His dad died due to complications of HIV. Kibruyisfa's goal in life is to be a professional soccer player. When asked what he wanted to do if soccer didn't work out he said "a soccer player". Physics is his favorite subject at school. After school Kibruyisfa likes to study and do his homework. He also enjoys playing soccer with the neighborhood boys late into the evening. Kibruyisfa said if he owned his own land he would build a home for his family.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Kibruyisfa Teshome to be fully sponsored.

Name Kidist Gezahegn Mekuria**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 2/2/2001 **Age:** 12**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Kidist**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gezahegn Mekuria ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Wolela Tsegaye ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Kidist is a delightful, fun loving, caring girl who lives with her mom and older brother. Her mom has been ill with TB but with the help of medication is starting to feel better. Kidist helps her mom out by doing the dishes and cleaning the house. Her father has passed away. Kidist attends BCI Academy. Her favorite subject is math and she dreams of becoming a doctor one day. Kidist loves cats, especially kittens, and likes taking care of them. Her favorite food is cake and her favorite color is yellow. She enjoys playing hide and seek with her best friend Bemnet. She loves to go to church and sing to the Lord.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Kidist Gezahegn Mekuria to be fully sponsored.

Name Kumelachew Melese**Accepted** 12/13/2012**Boy Birthdate:** 9/25/1999 **Age:** 13**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Mickey**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Melese ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Zewede ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 5**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** **Grade****Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Kumelachew came from the Bahadar region of Ethiopia. His father died of yellow fever when he was only four and his mother passed away when he was 9. Upon his mother's death Kumelachew was forced to the streets. Kumilachow was living along the roadside and receiving some charity from a local school, but they could not afford to help him for long. He was then brought to Addis by a Good Samaritan truck driver who wanted to help the boy although resistance from the truck driver's wife put an end to that. The truck driver, unsure what else to do, took Kumilachow to the police station where he lived for around 15 days. Kumilachow was receiving very minimal assistance from a local organization but they were unable to continue due to financial constraints. While his dire situation is no indicator, Kumilachow has attended school in the past and is a smart young man who speaks like a young adult and even knows

Sponsors Needed: None (Kumelachew Melese is fully sponsored)

Name **Latera Aboneh Worku****Accepted** **12/31/2007****Boy Birthdate:** 12/13/2002 **Age:** 10**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Latti****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Aboneh Wurku** ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** **1****Mother** **Alemnesea Tamiru** ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** **2****Language** **Oromo** **Ethnicity** **Oromo****School** **BCI Academy** **Grade** **4****Church** **MKC - Meserete Kristos Church**

Latera lives with his little sister and mom. He has an older brother and sister but they don't live with him. His father died due to HIV. The family lives in one room with a dirt floor. The walls are made of straw, mud and cow manure. The only noted possessions were a few wood benches and a single bed. He attends BCI Academy and his favorite subject is Amharic because it is easy. Latera has aspiration of becoming a doctor so he can help people. This seven year old has one toy which is stuffed dog. He likes to play football with his best friend Abenezer. In his spare time he likes to draw. His favorite animal is a cat and he has two pets a cat and a dog. His favorite food is meat but he doesn't get it often because it is expensive. Latera's favorite color is yellow.

Sponsors Needed: 3 sponsors for \$30/month or one full sponsor at \$90/month.

Latera Aboneh Worku currently has no sponsors.

Name **Mahider Chekol Angaw****Accepted** **04/22/2008****Girl Birthdate:** 6/2/2000 **Age:** 12**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Mahider****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Chekol Angaw** ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** **0****Mother** **Genet Worku** ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** **0****Language** **Ethnicity****School** **BCI Academy** **Grade** **7****Church** **MKC - Meserete Kristos Church**

Mahider is a shy girl but inquisitive with big beautiful eyes. She lives with her mom in a one room house. Her mom works at a hotel restaurant preparing food. She makes \$25/month. Her father is deceased. She helps her mom by cleaning the house. This beautiful girl enjoys school, especially because she gets to see her friends and play soccer. Mahider is considered an average student. She has a dream of becoming a teacher so that she can help other children receive a quality education. After school she enjoys doing homework and studying.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Mahider Chekol

Angaw to be fully sponsored.

Name Marta Bedilu Zeberga

Accepted 05/29/2008

Girl Birthdate: 1/27/2001 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Martha

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Bedilu Zeberga ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Unknown ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 3

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Marta is a fun child with a rich sense of imagination. As you get to know Marta you can see that she lacks in social skills and has not received a lot of positive attention. She is a child who loves to be loved! Her father is deceased and her mother's location is unknown. Marta lives with two aunts, two uncles, and her grandparents. She helps out by washing the dishes. Marta attends BCI Academy and her favorite subject is Amharic because it is familiar. School is a struggle for her and she appears to have ADD. Marta enjoys playing with her cousins. She says her favorite game is Lions and Tigers and when asked how to play, she says, "It's easy! You just pretend to be a lion or tiger." Her favorite animal is a sheep.

Sponsors Needed: None (Marta Bedilu Zeberga is fully sponsored)

Name Mastawet Endale

Accepted

Birthdate: 8/16/2011 **Age:** 1

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Endale Gizaw ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Tigist Waktola ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School **Grade**

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Mestawet is a very happy baby and she smiles almost constantly. She is a very well-mannered. She loves to stare at light bulbs and is ticklish under her chin. Mastawet's mother feels overwhelmed with the task of raising three small children. She often asks God why he gave her twin babies. She has thought about giving them away because she had no way of caring for them. Her son Philimon constantly asks her not to give them away because he loves them. He helps feed and clothe the babies when he can. She started praying to God for help and to take the babies from her. God didn't take the babies, but He sent help and now she is relieved that God heard her cries.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mastawet Endale is fully sponsored)

Name Mastewal Adugna Alemayeh**Accepted** 02/15/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 3/2/1999 **Age:** 14

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Mastewal**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Adugna Alemayeh ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Abebech Tegabu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 3**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

This young boy always has a smile plastered on his face! Mastewal's mother died of HIV, and his father died due to "an unknown emergency illness". He also had an aunt who died of HIV. His surviving aunt helps look after Mastewal and his two brothers. He helps his aunt by sweeping the floor. Mastewal attends BCI Academy and his favorite classes are math and English because they are easy. His goal is to one day become a pilot. He loves to attend church and his favorite part is listening to the choir. Mastewal and his best friend, Nicolay get a kick out of playing soccer together! It happens to be Mastewal's favorite game. His favorite food is pasta and his favorite animal is the cat.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Mastewal Adugna Alemayehu to be fully sponsored.

Name Meheret Eresa**Accepted** 07/15/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 7/30/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Meheret**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Eresa Tafa ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Helen Tote ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Meheret is an only child who lives with her mom who suffers from asthma. Her mom had to quit her job due to her asthma and she is currently unemployed. Meheret doesn't have any chores, but she tries to help clean the house and do the dishes because she does like to help. She attends and enjoys school and dreams of one day becoming a doctor so that she can help sick people. Meheret doesn't have any toys of her own, and she calls her favorite game "Ka Ka". She explains you play the game by finding old things, give them new names and then play with them. Her best friend is Hirut and they like to play hide and seek together. They also find time to study together. Her favorite food is potatoes, her favorite color is red and her favorite animal is sheep.

Sponsors Needed: None (Meheret Eresa is fully sponsored)

Name Meheret Lakew

Accepted 02/14/2013

Girl Birthdate: 5/17/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Lakew Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Shetaye Kefyalew Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage

School **Grade**

Church

Meheret is a gentle girl who suffers from an unknown disability that prevents her from walking or talking. She has suffered with this disability since she was six months old. Meheret and her mother now live with her grandmother because their home was in such terrible condition that the walls collapsed, leaving them homeless. Meheret's grandmother offered to take them in and now supports all three women on the income she makes selling injera because Meheret's mother is unable to work due to a skin condition. Meheret is a happy girl who brings her mother much joy. She loves to watch other children play and you will see her eyes light up if a cat walks by.

Sponsors Needed: None (Meheret Lakew is fully sponsored)

Name Meheret Teka

Accepted 11/06/11

Girl Birthdate: 7/17/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Teka Manchera Deceased ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Wohagerede Mari Deceased ☒ **Sisters:** 2

Language Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage

School BCI Academy **Grade** 3

Church Emanuel Church

Meheret is from a very rural area where even basic health care leaves much to be desired. Because of this lack of health care, when her parents fell ill, nothing was done and they both passed away. After her parents deaths, Meheret and her sister were taken in by extended family. Her current guardian was on a visit to Meheret's village and saw Meheret. She felt led to speak to Meheret and her family. Meheret's family asked Mulu (her current guardian) to take Meheret home with them, where they knew she would have a better life. Meheret now lives with Mulu and her family, attends the BCI Academy, and is doing great. She enjoys playing jump rope, learning new things in school and her favorite food is spaghetti. Meheret loves animals and can't choose just one favorite, so she chose two: a cat and sheep.

Sponsors Needed: None (Meheret Teka is fully sponsored)

Name Mekedes Shisema**Accepted** 07/15/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 9/20/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Mekdes**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shisema G'Tsadik ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Tigistu Yilma ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Beza School **Grade** 10**Church** Emanuel Church

Mekedes is a reserved, kind, loving girl, who has a desire to help other people. Mekedes lost both of her parents to HIV and was sent to live with extended family. She wasn't treated well at this home so she was placed in the BCI foster home. Mekedes struggles with some subjects at school but she is determined to do well so she attends extra tutoring classes to help her. Mekedes cares for her younger brother, Adana. She cooks meals for him and makes sure he always has lunch for school. She is very involved in activities that her school and church offer. Mekedes dreams of living in Canada one day.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mekedes Shisema is fully sponsored)**Name** Mekedes Tadesse**Accepted****Girl Birthdate:** 6/12/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Mekdes**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tadesse Metaferia ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Almaz Getachew ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Mekedes and her best friend Betty enjoy playing ball together. Mekedes doesn't do well in school but it's not because she doesn't try but because she doesn't have anyone to help her with her assignments at home. She desires to be a pilot so she can travel the world. This young lady lives with her uncle, aunt, and cousin. She has an older sister but she lives in a different area of Debre Zeyit. Mekedes' sister is not a Christian and Mekedes prays that her sister will come to know Christ. Mekedes has a lot of chores around the house. She sweeps, cooks, washes dishes, and cares for her younger cousin. Her favorite game is volleyball and her favorite food is injera (Ethiopian bread) with potato wot; this is potatoes in a sauce.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mekedes Tadesse is fully sponsored)

Name Menase Alebachew**Accepted** 03/07/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 6/28/1996 **Age:** 16

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Menase**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alebachew Getahu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Medihem Desta ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 8**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

This tranquil, observant, kind boy always has a smile on his face. Menase's mother has passed away and his father has been diagnosed with HIV and has been undergoing treatment. His father works as an evangelist and also a night guard. He makes \$40/month. The landlord keeps raising their rent, making bills unpredictable and harder to meet. Menase also has a younger brother who lives with them. He dreams of one day becoming a doctor so that he can help sick and hurting people. Menase helps out by preparing food for the family and washing the dishes. His favorite food is bread and his favorite color is red. Menase's best friend is Edidya and they study together and also find time to play soccer.

Sponsors Needed: None (Menase Alebachew is fully sponsored)**Name** Mercy Elias Teshome**Accepted** 02/15/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 5/28/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Mercy**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Elias Teshome ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Yejotework Benty ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Mercy is a cheerful, friendly little girl who likes to laugh. She attends BCI Academy. Her mom works as the BCI janitor making \$25/month; she is so grateful to have a steady income. Mercy's father abandoned the family when Mercy was only two years old. He had a history of drug, alcohol and mental problems. She loves to curl up in your lap and talk. She says she has some toys and her best friend is Maylot. She dreams of being a doctor some day and injera and wot (Ethiopian bread with stew) is her favorite meal. Their home is high up on a hill and it's quite a steep walk. Her home didn't have a bathroom but a visiting missionary generously paid to have one installed. Although their home is small and modest in furnishings, Mercy's mother keeps it clean and tidy.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mercy Elias Teshome is fully sponsored)

Name **Meron Deresu**

Accepted **02/29/2008**

Girl Birthdate: 12/12/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Meron

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Deresu Kebede

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Tibereh Kidane

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amharic

School BCI Academy

Grade 8

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Meron is a very mature, pleasant, happy girl. Meron's father's whereabouts are unknown, and her mother died due to complications of mental problems. Meron was left to the loving hands of her parents servants, who have taken her in and cared for her as one of their own children. Her guardian suffers from asthma and has a retirement income of \$25/month. Meron helps out around the house by washing dishes, clothes and helping to clean the house. Meron attends school and wants to be a doctor one day. Her favorite subjects are math and English. Her favorite food is pasta and she enjoys cats. Her favorite day of the week is Sunday when she gets to go to church.

Sponsors Needed: None (Meron Deresu is fully sponsored)

Name **Meron Yakob**

Accepted **1/28/2013**

Girl Birthdate: 2/4/2008 **Age:** 5

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Hana

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Yakob Dhabi

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Buzayehu Mamo

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade KG

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Meron is a sweet, young girl who loves to run and play. On her own, she is very shy and reserved but get her together with her best friend Berehane and they are on the go! They enjoy playing with the neighborhood cats, playing soccer and pretend studying for school. Meron wants to be a teacher when she grows up and is loving the opportunity to attend the BCI Academy. Her favorite meal is vegetable sandwiches and she loves the color red.

Sponsors Needed: None (Meron Yakob is fully sponsored)

Name Metasebia Yohanes**Accepted** 07/11/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 12/20/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Metasebia**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yohanes Bekele

Deceased

**Brothers:** 1**Mother** Medehin Tarekgn

Deceased

**Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 8**Church** Emanuel Church

Metasebia has had to struggle to care for her grandmother who has arthritis since her father died of AIDS and her mother abandoned her. She has one brother but he lives on the streets in a different town with their mother. Metasebia does most of the work in the house by washing clothes, washing dishes, and making the meals for herself, her grandmother, and her three uncles that live with them. Her favorite food is pasta and her favorite color is blue. Metasebia dreams of living in Australia one day.

Sponsors Needed: None (Metasebia Yohanes is fully sponsored)**Name** Mikias Engeda**Accepted****Boy Birthdate:** 5/23/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Mikias**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Engeda Minase

Deceased

**Brothers:** 1**Mother** Bekelech Tariku

Deceased

**Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 7**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Mikias is a shy, quiet observant boy who enjoys playing soccer with his twin brother, Elias. Mikias's father abandoned his family, and his mother and grandmother do some babysitting to help bring in some much needed income. Mikias also has two sisters, one older and the other is just a baby. Mikias helps out however he can, generally cleaning the house and sweeping the floor. When he is done with his chores, he likes to play with his best friend, Yoseph. Mikias enjoys chicken and he loves the color red. Like most children his favorite game is soccer. When asked what he would do with his own land, Mikias answered he would like to build a big house for his family.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mikias Engeda is fully sponsored)

Name Mistre Kebede Kefeni**Accepted** 04/22/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 6/20/2001 **Age:** 11**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Mistire**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Kefeni*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tsehay Haile*Deceased***Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 7**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Mistre is a happy, sweet cooperative girl. She is also special because she is a triplet which is very rare in Ethiopia. Mistre's father died very suddenly leaving her mother to care for the three girls. Her mother is a daily laborer who makes \$20/month. Mistre attends BCI Academy and her favorite class is math. She is an average student. She hopes to one day be a doctor. She loves to play hide and seek with her best friend Yabsira. Her favorite part about church is praying. Mistre loves the color green, her favorite animal is the chicken and her favorite food is rice. She and her sisters enjoys playing hopscotch and a form of jacks, with rocks only.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Mistre Kebede Kefeni to be fully sponsored.

Name Mulugeta Kebede**Accepted** 07/11/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 12/28/1996 **Age:** 16**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Mulugeta**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Hailu*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Shewaye Birbo*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nebledengle**Grade** 9**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Mulugeta is a serious, gentle, observant boy who has seen a lot at his young age. He and his younger brother lost both of their parents. He lives with his aunt, two cousins, and his brother. His aunt is jobless so they rely on support from BCI for survival. Mulugeta is a very bright student who wants to be a pilot one day. If he owned his own land he would open an animal shelter. His favorite part of church is hearing the preacher. Mulugeta's best friend is Fraol and they like to play soccer together which is Mulugeta's favorite game. His favorite food is injera (Ethiopian bread) and his favorite color is red. Mulugeta's favorite animal is the ox.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mulugeta Kebede is fully sponsored)

Name **Mulumembet Tadesse****Accepted** **06/17/2010****Girl** **Birthdate:** 2/15/1998 **Age:** 15**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Mulu****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Tadesse Mola***Deceased***Brothers:** **0****Mother** **Asnaku***Deceased***Sisters:** **0****Language** **Oromo****Ethnicity** **Oromo****School** **Libnedingil School****Grade** **10****Church** **MKC - Meserete Kristos Church**

Mulumebet lives with a guardian that takes very good care of Mulumembet and loves her as her own. Her mother abandoned her when she was small and her father died; leaving Mulu with no one. She is a sweet girl who cares about the well-being of others, which is why she wants to be a doctor when she grows up. She is attending school regularly and also does a few chores around the house. Her favorite game is volley ball and her favorite animal is sheep. She likes the color red and eating pasta with her best friend, Bemnet. Mulu often braids the visiting missionaries hair as a way to make some money.

Sponsors Needed: None (Mulumembet Tadesse is fully sponsored)**Name** **Nahom Belete****Accepted** **11/08/2011****Boy** **Birthdate:** 5/14/2011 **Age:** 1**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Belete Tamerat***Deceased***Brothers:** **1****Mother** **Mulu Eurgara***Deceased***Sisters:** **0****Language** **Oromo****Ethnicity** **Oromo****School****Grade****Church** **Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church**

Nahom is a precious child that is full of giggles. Regardless of the hopeless situation he was born into, Nahom continues to thrive and grow. After much pressure and pushing, Nahom's mother, Mulu, dropped out of school to get married. Since having Nahom and his older brother, Mulu's husband has left her with no source of income and no education to speak of. Feeling like she had no other choice of survival for herself or Nahom, Mulu was trying to give Nahom away to someone who could care for him. She even tried giving him to BCI's long term missionaries. The social worker assigned by BCI to Nahom's family told Mulu that God would provide a way for her to care for her baby; that she just needed to be patient and trust in God. Of course God has provided by way of Blessing the Children.

Sponsors Needed: None (Nahom Belete is fully sponsored)

Name Nahom Gebeyaw Takele**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 2/19/2000 **Age:** 13**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Nahom**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gebeyaw Takele ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Alemitu Weldema ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Nahom's father died of TB leaving his mother to care for 3 young children. Although he suffered a terrible burn when he fell into a fire when he was 2 years old, he is in excellent health, with normal eye sight and hearing. Nahom is shy, but very cooperative and eager to learn and explore new things. His favorite food is rice and his best friend's name is Bereket. Nahom's mother works for the Airforce as a librarian. Even though she has a job she still doesn't make enough to care for her family. Nahom helps his mother around the house by doing chores for her.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Nahom Gebeyaw Takele to be fully sponsored.

Name Natanim Wasihun Teshager**Accepted** 03/07/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 10/8/1997 **Age:** 15**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Natanim**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Wasihun Teshager ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tsega G'hiwot ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Natanim comes to the Blessing the Children Program after the death of her mother and father, due to HIV. Natanim herself has been diagnosed HIV positive, and has been undergoing medical treatment. She is strong and basically healthy given her diagnosis, except for hearing loss since birth in her right ear. She lives with her sister, brother in law, and two young cousins. Natanim's sister makes and sells sambusas (deep fried dough filled with lentils) to help support the family. Natanim sells the sambusas for her sister at night and on the weekends. Natanim is a good student at BCI Academy.

Sponsors Needed: None (Natanim Wasihun Teshager is fully sponsored)

Name Nathanael Mulugeta Dabi**Accepted** 06/16/2008**Boy** **Birthdate:** 1/15/2005 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Nathanael**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mulugeta Dabi ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Roman Ababاهر ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 3**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Mersha School **Grade** 3**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Natnael's mother died during childbirth and his father has been out of the picture since he was born. Natnael's sister has taken care of him since he was born and she struggles to feed him by doing what little work she can on computers. Due to malnourishment as a baby, Natnael suffers from health problems that include stomach issues. Natnael is a very energetic, sweet boy. Natnael likes to run and play soccer. He says his sister is his best friend and his favorite time of the day is night time because that's when his sister comes home.

Sponsors Needed: None (Nathanael Mulugeta Dabi is fully sponsored)**Name** Natnael Getahun**Accepted****Boy** **Birthdate:** 12/20/2004 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Nati**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getahun Shewange ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Aynalem Shumi ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Natnael's father was a soldier in the Eritrean/Ethiopian war and was killed. Soon after, Natnael's mother suffered great despair and depression and left him, leaving his grandmother to care for him. His grandmother makes about \$10/month by making and selling clothing. Nati goes to school and occasionally runs small errands for his grandmother when she needs him to. He has one small toy and a soccer ball that he enjoys playing with, along with his best friends Yosef and Behailu.

Sponsors Needed: None (Natnael Getahun is fully sponsored)

Name Natnael Melkamu Abebe

Accepted 05/13/2011

Boy Birthdate: 7/14/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center

Nick Name: Nati

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Melkamu Abebe ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Genet Nigusie ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara

School BCI Academy **Grade** KG

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church



Natnael (Nati) is quiet boy who has endured much pain and suffering for his young age. When Blessing the Children found him, he was wandering the streets, crying and very hungry. During his intake interview, it was discovered that Nati had been in Debre Zeyit for about 20 days. His parents recently passed away and someone put him on a bus to come to his uncle's house. Nati lives with his uncle, aunt, and young cousin. Neither Nati's aunt or uncle work so the added pressure of another mouth to feed as put a great strain on the family. Upon admittance, Blessing the Children, took Nati to the doctor for a physical, where it was discovered he has a serious heart condition. Nati was schedule to have heart surgery in Ethiopia's capital city, Addis Ababa, but his case was put on hold as there were other, more sick children that needed surgery. Currently, BCI is working to get Nati sent to the USA for surgery.

Sponsors Needed: None (Natnael Melkamu Abebe is fully sponsored)

Name Natnael Mesele

Accepted 06/17/2010

Boy Birthdate: 2/14/2002 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

Nick Name: Nati

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Tigist Adugnaw ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic

School BCI Academy **Grade** 4

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church



Natnael is a boy with dreams and ambitions. He is currently attending school regularly and doing great. He wants to be a medical doctor when he grows up. He would also love to own a farm one day, if he had his own land. He loves the mornings and is always up bright and early. His favorite color is yellow, bright and cheery, like his personality. He loves to play football and his favorite animal is the hen. He has a few chores, which consist of washing the dishes sometimes and cleaning up the house.

Sponsors Needed: None (Natnael Mesele is fully sponsored)

Name Natsanet Assefa Yimam

Accepted 05/13/2011

Boy Birthdate: 12/30/2010 **Age:** 2

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Netsanet

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Tikedem Asefa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara

School **Grade**

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

If this young man could talk, he would have quite a story to tell. During his intake interview at his house with his mother and grandmother, it was discovered that this young man was never given a name, even though he was already 5 months old. In Ethiopian culture, if the parents believe that the child will not survive then they don't name the baby. It was soon realized why the grandmother thought the baby wouldn't survive. Blessing the Children missionaries felt led to pray for his mother and while praying for her, a demon manifested itself. The local church prayer team was called in to fast and pray for her. A week later, she arrived at church and came forward to receive Christ as her Savior. The church elders were able to pray for her and cast the demon out. Natsanet's mother is not in good mental health so most of the responsibility for his care falls on his elderly grandmother.

Sponsors Needed: None (Natsanet Assefa Yimam is fully sponsored)

Name Nicolay Dmitry Shekov

Accepted 11/12/2008

Boy Birthdate: 3/23/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Nicolay

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Dmitry Zerkov ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother Tiruwork Bereje ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language Amharic **Ethnicity** Russian/Am

School BCI Academy **Grade** 7

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Nicolay is a unique boy. His father was in the Russian airforce and was stationed in Ethiopia. He left Nicolay's mother with a beautiful baby boy. Nicolay's mother is retired and receives \$15/month retirement pay. He helps out around the house by running errands and going to the local shops for supplies. Nicolay is a clever, wily, happy boy who misses having a father in his life. He dreams of one day becoming a doctor. Most mornings he has tea and bread for breakfast. He has an allergy to the sun that causes discoloration on his skin. His favorite food is pasta and his favorite color is green. Nicolay can be found playing soccer with the rest of the neighborhood boys and he also plays a mean game of marbles.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Nicolay Dmitry Shekov to be fully sponsored.

Name **Philimon Lidetu**

Accepted **11/13/2011**

Boy **Birthdate:** 9/26/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father **Lidetu Kebede** Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother **Tigist Waktola** Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 2

Language **Amharic** **Ethnicity** **Amharic**

School **BCI Academy** **Grade** **4**

Church **Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church**

Philimon was bore out of a bad situation when his father raped his mother. Regardless of the way he was conceived, Philimon is not loved any less. He is a bright boy who is amazed by electronics and he always wants to play with the missionary's laptops or cameras. He is attending the BCI Academy and while he enjoys it, he also comments that it is hard work. Philimon loves playing soccer but he hasn't been able to play a lot lately because his knees have been swelling and causing him pain. His favorite color is blue and he loves dogs. He is completely in love with his two baby sisters and enjoys spending time with them and helping with their care.

Sponsors Needed: None (Philimon Lidetu is fully sponsored)

Name **Rosa Daniel**

Accepted **12/02/2011**

Girl **Birthdate:** 9/14/2008 **Age:** 4

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father **Daniel Abera** Deceased ☐ **Brothers:** 0

Mother **Genet Tesfaye** Deceased ☐ **Sisters:** 0

Language **Oromo** **Ethnicity** **Oromo**

School **BCI Academy** **Grade**

Church **Zion Mekaneyesus Church**

The change in Rosa after being admitted to the BCI program has been absolutely remarkable. While once sullen, painfully shy, and without smile; Rosa is now a feisty, loving little girl who is the leader in her circle of friends. When BCI found her, Rosa was living in a local brothel where her mother worked as a prostitute. BCI was able to help her mother find a new home and because of the Bible studies that BCI staff and missionaries hold at Zion Church, she is now a Christian. She has left her life of prostitution and is helping the other prostitutes to see that they too can change their lives.

Sponsors Needed: None (Rosa Daniel is fully sponsored)

Name Sara Abiy

Accepted 04/22/2008

Girl Birthdate: 9/1/2006

Age: 6

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Sara

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Abiy Lemecha

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Tigist Nigusie

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 2

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Sara is a caring, sweet, lovable girl. She lives with her mom and younger sister. Sara's dad passed away due to a disability. Sara helps her mom out by doing errands and going to the corner shop to get supplies. She is a smart girl that loves math. She dreams of one day becoming a doctor. Her favorite part about church is the singing. Sara enjoys drawing, the color blue and has a pet cat; even though her favorite animal is the sheep. She looks forward to times when her mom makes a meat dish because it is her favorite. This is rare because meat is so expensive.

Sponsors Needed: None (Sara Abiy is fully sponsored)

Name Saron Solomon

Accepted

Girl Birthdate: 5/30/2003

Age: 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Saron

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Solomon Bogale

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Rahel Alemu

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 3

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Saron is a sweet, sweet girl that loves to give cuddles. Saron recently moved back in with her mother who had been away for a few years. Saron is a very intelligent girl that has placed #1 in her class for the past two years. She also dominates any educational competitions for her grade such as spelling bees and English word competitions. Saron's father died a few years ago due to a lung problem. She has an older sister but Saron's mother doesn't know where she is as she is living with her father. She usually has bread and tea for breakfast but her favorite food is eggs. If she owned her own land she would grow vegetables on it. Her favorite animal is a dog.

Sponsors Needed: None (Saron Solomon is fully sponsored)

Name Selam Abebe

Accepted

Girl Birthdate: 10/5/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Selam

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Abebe W'atir

Deceased

Brothers: 0

Mother Worknesh Kebede

Deceased

Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 4

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Selam lives with her mom who is a daily laborer. She washes clothes and makes injera (Ethiopian bread) for different families. She makes \$10/month. Selam's father abandoned her and her mother several years ago and she recently found out he has died. Selam usually has bread and tea for breakfast but her favorite food is pasta. Selam helps her mom by doing the dishes. She loves Amharic class at school because she said she can understand it. She aspires to become a doctor when she is older. Selam likes to draw in her spare time and her favorite color is white. She enjoys cats and in fact she has a pet cat. Selam and her mom are both HIV positive but otherwise Selam is in good health.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Selam Abebe to be fully sponsored.

Name Selamawit Teklemuz

Accepted 04/22/2008

Girl Birthdate: 1/25/1996 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Selamawit

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Teklemuz Hailu

Deceased

Brothers: 0

Mother Tigist Arefaene

Deceased

Sisters: 0

Language Tigre

Ethnicity Tigre

School Bushoftu School

Grade 12

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

This young girl is gentle, soft spoken, and beautiful. She has such a caring, servant's heart. She willingly helps her aging grandmother who is unable to work. Both of Selamawit's parents have passed away. She has no siblings but her cousin lives with her because his parents too have passed away. She helps out around the house by washing the clothes. She loves everything about school and it is the best part of her day. She walks 45 minutes one way in order to make it to school. She dreams of one day becoming a doctor so that she can help the sick people in her city. Her favorite activity is playing soccer, her favorite color is red, and she has two favorite animals, cats and chickens. Selamawit has a couple of hens. Her favorite part about church is the singing.

Sponsors Needed: None (Selamawit Teklemuz is fully sponsored)

Name Semira Adem

Accepted 02/15/2008

Girl Birthdate: 3/11/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Semira

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Adem Sirai

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Busunesh Regasa

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 5

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Semira is a sweet, cheerful, very personable girl. She lives with her mother who was working as a cleaner at BCI Academy but due to poor health was unable to continue. Semira attends BCI Academy and her favorite subject is math. It's her dream to one day be a doctor and "help other people who are sick, too". She and her mom have both been diagnosed as HIV positive. If she owned her own land she would build a hospital. Semira's best friend is Efrata and they enjoy playing jump rope together. Semira's favorite color is blue and her favorite animal is the cat. She eats bread and tea for breakfast most mornings but her favorite meal includes meat. She is unable to have it often because it is expensive.

Sponsors Needed: None (Semira Adem is fully sponsored)

Name Sentayehu Gemechu

Accepted 1/28/2013

Girl Birthdate: 12/6/2008 **Age:** 4

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Gemechu Sesa

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Mesa Atenafu

Deceased



Sisters: 0

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School

Grade

Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Sentayehu is a darling of girl who has seen a lot of heartbreak in her life, losing her mother when she was young and watching her father struggle with constant sickness and trying to make ends meet for her and her brother. Eventually, her father's health declined so much he was unable to care for the children and they were sent to live with their grandmother. Sentayehu loves her grandmother and has adjusted well to the move. As an active young girl, Sentayehu enjoys playing tag and making up pretend games with her best friend, Kalkidan. Her favorite color is gray and she loves cats.

Sponsors Needed: None (Sentayehu Gemechu is fully sponsored)

Name Seyum Dibaba Hailu**Accepted** 05/18/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 7/12/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Seyoum**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dibaba Hailu*Deceased*☐**Brothers:** 2**Mother** Bezunesh Negussi*Deceased*☐**Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 1**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Seyum is the middle child of three boys and talk about energy! He loves to tear up the soccer field and is equally as energetic in the house with his chores. He washes clothes, sweeps the floors and does dishes, at record speed. He says that he doesn't like school because he would rather play. He can usually be found following his older brother around. His favorite color is red and he has two favorite animals because he just can't choose which he likes better, dogs or cats.

Sponsors Needed: None (Seyum Dibaba Hailu is fully sponsored)**Name** Sisay Alemu Kebtimer**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 10/30/2003 **Age:** 9

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Sisay**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemu Kabtimer*Deceased*☐**Brothers:** 2**Mother** Aynalem Tesema*Deceased*☐**Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 3**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Sisay lives with her mom, two brothers and one sister. Her mom sells onion and potatoes at the market making \$10/month. Her father abandoned them about a year ago and recently divorced Sisay's mom. This young girl is very social, friendly and has the spirit to cheer people up. Sisay helps her mom by going to the local shop. She attends BCI Academy and her favorite subject is math and she dreams of one day becoming a doctor. Her favorite games are games she can play with her hands. Her favorite food is pasta. Her favorite animals are dogs and cat; in fact she has a cat of her own.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Sisay Alemu Kebtimer to be fully sponsored.

Name Sisay Bekele Degefa**Accepted** 12/22/2007**Boy Birthdate:** 6/4/2000 **Age:** 12**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Sisay**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bekele Degefa*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Boge Bekele*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 6**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Sisay lives with his mom and brother. Sisay's mom works hard making and selling bread and injera (Ethiopian bread). She makes \$25/month. Sisay attends BCI Academy. This young man is a good student and with his fun loving, playful nature he keeps his teachers on their toes. His favorite subject is English because he likes to read it. It is Sisay's dream one day to become a doctor. After school Sisay studies and then he races off to find his best friend Natnael so they can kick around a soccer. Sisay lives in a very rural part of the village, in a single mud room with his family. They have a single hibachi open flame cook top for cooking food, one small pot at a time. Sisay's favorite food is meat but it is expensive and doesn't have it often. His favorite animal is the lion because it is dangerous.

Sponsors Needed: None (Sisay Bekele Degefa is fully sponsored)**Name** Sitota Aschalew**Accepted** 02/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 12/1/1999 **Age:** 13**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Aschalew Kebede*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Fewdnesh Derja*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 8**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Sitota has had an unstable life. Her father passed away and her mother has abandoned her. She was living with one aunt but she was being treated as more of a servant than a part of the family so she moved in with another aunt. They live in a small house but it is kept very tidy; Sitota helps out with small house chores. Her favorite food is meat although she seldom is able to have it due to cost. Sitota's favorite color is red. Sitota really enjoys singing and likes to listen to her church choir. After her chores are done she goes looking for a game of soccer to join in along with the other neighborhood children. Sitota also enjoys playing jump rope with her school friends.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Sitota Aschalew to be fully sponsored.

Name Sitota Mesfen**Accepted** 05/13/2011**Girl Birthdate:** 2/28/2011 **Age:** 2

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mesfen Mideksa ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 3**Mother** Tigist Chala ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** **Grade****Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Sitota has a sad story for one so young. She was abandoned by her father, leaving her mother, who is HIV positive, left to care for Sitota and her three brothers. Sitota's mother is very weak from the disease and is unable to work. Sitota is a sweet little girl that is loved on immensely by her three older brothers. Sitota's family was in a dire situation until BCI stepped in. Now they have food, beds, clothes, toys, and shoes. In fact, when her sponsor gave her her first pair of shoes she was scared of them and was trying to get away from them but of course they kept following her!

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Sitota Mesfen to be fully sponsored.

Name Siyam Mohammed Nur**Accepted****Girl Birthdate:** 12/26/2002 **Age:** 10

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Siyam**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mohammed Nur ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Zehara Abdulkadi ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Siyam lives with her mother and baby sister. Siyam and her mother are both HIV positive and both struggle a lot with their health. Siyam's mother works at a taxidermist and is often gone at night working so that leaves young Siyam to care for her little sister. Her father passed away due to HIV complications. At the time Siyam's mother didn't know he had HIV and she then took Siyam and herself to get tested and that is when they discovered that they too were infected. Siyam tries to help her mother out around the house by washing the dishes, making coffee and helping to cook the meals. It is her dream to one day become a doctor so she can help other sick people. When she has free time, she enjoys playing hide and seek with her best friend Aster. If she had her own land, she would like to grow vegetables to give to her mother so that she didn't have to work so much. Siyam's favorite food is pasta and her favorite animals

Sponsors Needed: None (Siyam Mohammed Nur is fully sponsored)

Name Solomon Endeshaw

Accepted 05/13/2011

Boy Birthdate: 10/7/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Solomon

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Endeshaw Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2

Mother Tigist Chala ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 3

Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Blessing the Children first met Solomon in his home after meeting his brother in the MKC church compound. After his father's death, the father's family chased Solomon and his family away because they did not want Solomon to inherit the land his father owned. They came to Debre Zeyit along with other siblings and have been trying to survive ever since. When BCI visited his home for the first time, it was discovered along with the lack of food that there was a new baby in the house. After further investigation we found Solomon's mother is also HIV positive and not very strong. Solomon is a great big brother to his two younger brothers and little sister. He loves to play soccer with his brothers and his mother's illness has made him want to become a doctor.

Sponsors Needed: None (Solomon Endeshaw is fully sponsored)

Name Surafel Tefera

Accepted 05/29/2008

Boy Birthdate: 8/27/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Surafel

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Tefera Megra ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1

Mother Wolela Bekele ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1

Language Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo

School BCI Academy **Grade** 2

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Surafel is extremely bashful but he also has an inquisitive nature about him. He lives with his mom and his brother in a small one room house where they all share one bed. He doesn't do well in school but it is probably because his mother is uneducated so she is unable to help him with his schoolwork. He enjoys helping his mother wash dishes and he will even demonstrate for you if you ask him. His favorite color is red and his favorite animal is the cat. Most days you will find him out playing soccer with his friends. Surafel is a very picky eater and does not like injera (traditional Ethiopian bread), only macaroni. He will eat injera with tomato if there is no pasta and he is forced.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Surafel Tefera to be fully sponsored.

Name Tekalign Endeshaw**Accepted** 05/13/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 11/6/2004 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Takle**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endeshaw Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Tigist Chala ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 1**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Tekalign lost his father several years ago to an unknown illness. Upon his father's death, Tekalign's family was chased away because of a piece of land his oldest brother stood to inherit. Tekalign and his family came to Debre Zeyit and have been trying to survive ever since. During a home visit it was discovered that along with the lack of food in the house, there was also a new baby. Upon further investigation we found Tekalign's mother is also HIV positive and not very strong. Tekalign doesn't have any chores but he often helps his mother sweep the floor. He enjoys playing soccer and was recently given a jump rope by a visiting missionary.

Sponsors Needed: None (Tekalign Endeshaw is fully sponsored)**Name** Tekia Bekana**Accepted** 06/16/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 3/23/1997 **Age:** 15**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Tekia**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bekana Nedi ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 3**Mother** Mulatuwa Manale ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Joshua Academy **Grade** 10**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Tekia is helpful, curious and enjoys living on the small farm his step-mother has. He lives with his step mom and three brothers. He helps out by cleaning the house. He attends school at Joshua Academy and says he doesn't have a favorite school subject. His goal is to become a famous singer when he is older. On their farm they have a dog, cats, donkeys and cows; which happens to be his favorite animal especially when he is able to milk her. Tekia helps his stepmom plant a garden. His favorite things to grow in a garden are cabbage, carrots, tomatoes and green beans. He likes cabbage and often eats it with injera. His favorite food is a special kind of wot called "duro"; or chicken. Tekia's favorite time of day is morning, because he likes to watch the sun rise.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Tekia Bekana to be fully sponsored.

Name Terefe Kebede**Accepted** 07/11/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 2/12/1998 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Terefe**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Hailu*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Shewaye Birbo*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nebledangle**Grade** 9**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Terefe is a kind, gentle, sensitive boy; he lives with his aunt, two cousins and his brother. He helps out by cleaning the house. He is an excellent student and his favorite subjects are math and English because he understands them and they are easy. He aspires to be a doctor some day. For breakfast he eats bread and tea but his favorite meal is one made with meat. He doesn't have this often because it is expensive. His favorite part about church is the preaching. He enjoys gathering the neighborhood children for a rousing game of soccer. Terefe's favorite color is red and his favorite animal is a cat.

Sponsors Needed: None (Terefe Kebede is fully sponsored)**Name** Tewodros G'Alief**Accepted** 03/07/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 9/30/1995 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Tedi**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** G'Alief Asgedow*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Tazeb Miruts*Deceased***Sisters:** 1**Language** Tigre**Ethnicity** Tigre**School** Nebledangle**Grade** 9**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Tewodros lives with his mom and brother. She works at her hair shop where she braids hair bringing home \$20/month. Tewodros help out by washing the dishes. His father died of unknown causes leaving his mother to card for Tewodros and his brother. He attends Tokuma School and he struggles with school especially math. He eats bread and injera for breakfast; but his favorite meal is duro wot, which is chicken in a sauce. His favorite day of the week is Sunday because he is able to go to church. Tewodros's favorite game is football and often times you will find him playing with his best friend Sisay. His favorite color is red and his favorite animal is a bird.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Tewodros G'Alief to be fully sponsored.

Name **Tewodros Tilahun Mola****Accepted** **03/07/2008****Boy Birthdate:** 4/20/1998 **Age:** 14**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Tewodros****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Tilahun Mola***Deceased***Brothers:** **0****Mother** **Likie Teshome***Deceased***Sisters:** **1****Language** **Amharic****Ethnicity** **Amhara****School** **BCI Academy****Grade** **6****Church** **Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical**

After the death of both his parents, Tewodros and his sister, Fikerite, went to live with an elderly uncle. Still working at his old age as a guard, he was earning less than \$18/month. He was unable to take care for them and they were moved into the Blessing the Children foster home. They now receive the love and attention they deserve from a kind and caring woman who considers them her own. Tewodros attends BCI Academy and his favorite subject is math. He loves to play soccer on the nearby soccer field with his friends. He dreams of one day becoming a doctor. His favorite food is duro wot, which is a spicy chicken stew and his favorite animal is the rabbit.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Tewodros Tilahun Mola to be fully sponsored.

Name **Teyent Asrat****Accepted** **03/17/2008****Boy Birthdate:** 6/30/1998 **Age:** 14**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** **Teyent****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** **Asrat G'Mikael***Deceased***Brothers:** **0****Mother** **Amarech Hailu***Deceased***Sisters:** **1****Language** **Amharic****Ethnicity** **Amhara****School** **Bekelicha School****Grade** **9****Church** **Zion Mekaneyesus Church**

Teyent is a kind, capable and willing helper. God has gifted him with the talent of music and he can often be found playing for his church during their many different programs. Teyent lives with his mom and sister. Teyent's father died of liver TB when he was an infant. His mother contracted the disease when she was caring for her husband. Teyent's mom tries to keep their small home appealing and tidy. He is working hard towards his goal of becoming a doctor. Teyent studies a lot and he enjoys studying. Teyent tries to help his mother by sweeping the floor and washing the dishes and says his favorite meal is bread and eggs.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Teyent Asrat to be fully sponsored.

Name Tigist Debebe**Accepted** 02/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 11/8/1995 **Age:** 17

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Tigist**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Debebe Guchi*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Alemtshay Shifer*Deceased***Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bushoftu School**Grade** 10**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

After the death of both her parents due to HIV, Tigist went to live with her grandmother who, at the age of 49, was making less than \$8/month and was caring for two other grandchildren as well. She found herself unable to care for Tigist properly. She lives in a rural village with a fenced in area where their horse and dogs roam free. The windows have steel shutters but no glass. Tigist is a quiet, but cooperative young girl. She showed signs of malnutrition and dehydration, but seems to be in good medical health at this time. She is a good student, and in excellent medical health. Monday is her favorite day of the week and white the best color. She loves milk and dreams of one day being a doctor and building her own house.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Tigist Debebe to be fully sponsored.

Name Tigist Legesse**Accepted****Girl Birthdate:** 7/12/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Tigist**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Legesse Abebe*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Meselu Yeshitila*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Joshua Academy**Grade** 7**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Tigist attends Joshua Academy. She likes her teachers and her favorite subject is Amharic because it is her language. She lives with her mother and uncle, who is the same age as her! Her mother isn't able to work as struggles with ill health due to her HIV positive condition. Tigist also lost her father to HIV. Tigist helps her mom by hauling water. Tigist's favorite game is jump rope and often times you will find her with her best friend Lidiya playing together. Tigist's favorite thing about church is the choir. If Tigist had her own land she would build a house and have a family. Her favorite colors are red, yellow and green.

Sponsors Needed: None (Tigist Legesse is fully sponsored)

Name Tigist Shimeles**Accepted** 11/18/11**Girl Birthdate:** 7/1/2009**Age:** 3**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shemilise Fekadu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Samerawit Ali ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** **Grade****Church** Emanuel Church

Tigist lives with her mother and two siblings. Her father abandoned them, leaving them to fend for themselves. Tigist's mother does what she can to provide for her children by baking and selling Injera (Ethiopian bread) but even during a good month, she only brings in around \$12. Her ability to work and care for Tigist is continually lessening as she is very sick with TB. Tigist is too young to attend school or have chores, so she spends her days playing with rocks, sticks and whatever else she can find around the house.

Sponsors Needed: None (Tigist Shimeles is fully sponsored)**Name** Tinsae Teklu**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 4/23/2006**Age:** 6**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Tinsae**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teklu Workeneh ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Meseret W'Maha ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 2**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

At his young age, Tinsae has been through a lot. Both of Tinsae's parents are deceased, leaving his grandparents to care for him. His grandmother then passed away and his grandfather sent him to live with his aunt. He is a very energetic little boy who has trouble paying attention in school and he can't help but to get into trouble! He likes to play soccer and enjoys playing on the keyboard and singing. His favorite food is milk and meat but is unable to have them often. His favorite color is red and his favorite animal is the dog. They have a dog Tinsae likes in his compound.

Sponsors Needed: None (Tinsae Teklu is fully sponsored)

Name Tizita Dawit Abreham**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 3/14/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Tizita**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dawit Abreham ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Moadi Halefom ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** **Ethnicity****School** BCI Academy **Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Tizita is a sweet, lovable affectionate girl. Tizita's father abandoned his family when she was small. Her mother has since remarried and their living conditions have improved. Tizita now has a little brother that she helps to care for. She helps her mom by making bread, cleaning the house, and washing dishes. Tizita attends BCI Academy. She dreams of becoming a doctor when she is older. Her favorite part of church is the choir. Tizita's favorite color is red and she can be found having jump rope contests with her best friend Lidiya. Tizita's favorite food is pasta and her favorite animal is the cat.

Sponsors Needed: None (Tizita Dawit Abreham is fully sponsored)**Name** Tsion Andualem Daniel**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 7/23/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Tsion**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Andualem Daniel ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Seble Girma ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Tsion lives with her mom, brother, and sister. They all help their mom run a small café close to the bus station. Her mom works very hard at the café and earns \$10/month profit. Tsion's mom suffers from eye, kidney, and gastric problems. Tsion helps her mom by cleaning the house, washing dishes, and giving a hand at the café. Tsion's father left them when she was very young. Tsion attends BCI Academy and she likes all of her teachers. Her favorite subject is Amharic because it is her language. She longs to be a doctor to help the sick and suffering in her city. Her favorite game is volleyball, her favorite food is meat and her favorite animal is a bird.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Tsion Andualem Daniel to be fully sponsored.

Name Wasihun Tesfaye**Accepted** 03/08/2010**Boy Birthdate:** 1/31/2005 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Wasihun**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tesfaye Tewodros ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Wubalem Mesfin ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 1**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Wasihun is a little cutie! He was bore out of a violent situation. His mother was raped by her estranged husband after he broke into the house when she was at work and hid until she came home. When she arrived he then raped her and left. Wasihun blessed the family with his presence 9 months later. He is a loving little boy that always walks around with a smile on his face. Wasihun says his favorite animal is the lion, although he doesn't get to see them. He just started school so we look forward to see big developments in him!

Sponsors Needed: None (Wasihun Tesfaye is fully sponsored)**Name** Wogayehu Alemayehu**Accepted** 06/17/2010**Girl Birthdate:** 10/15/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Wogayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemayehu Haile ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Aberash Denka ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Emanuel Church

Wogayehu and her two brothers moved to Debre Zeyit from Mojo (20 km away) to live with their aunt, after their father's death. Wogayehu does not have any toys, but that doesn't mean she doesn't have fun! Her favorite game is hide and seek. Her favorite color is red and she likes sheep. Before joining the Adana Program, Wogayehu had never been to school but she now attends with joy! She likes eating pasta. Although she doesn't have to, Wogayehu often helps her aunt by cleaning the house and washing dishes.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Wogayehu Alemayehu to be fully sponsored.

Name Yabsira Abreham**Accepted** 11/22/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 8/22/2007 **Age:** 5**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father***Deceased*☐**Brothers:** 0**Mother** Seble Tesfaye*Deceased*☐**Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** KG**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Yabsira is a charming boy full of energy and mischievousness. He lives with his mother and his grandmother, although his grandmother has been taking care of Yabsira and his mom since he was born. Yabsira is the product of a gang rape on his mother and the injuries she sustained, both physical and emotional, have kept her in her house since the incident. Yabsira's mother spends her days looking out the window, watching the world go by, too afraid and broken to do anything. Despite his mother's condition, Yabsira has grown up to be an outgoing little boy. His favorite food is pasta and his mother tells the story about Yabsira, when he was very small he loved tomatoes and when he would see one he would steal it and eat it.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yabsira Abreham is fully sponsored)**Name** Yabsira Belete Tamerat**Accepted** 05/18/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 12/30/2006 **Age:** 6**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Yabsira**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Belete Tamerat*Deceased*☐**Brothers:** 1**Mother** Mulu Wurgesa*Deceased*☐**Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** KG**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Yabsira is a feisty little boy. Whenever he sees a missionary he always digs in their bags and purses to see what they might have brought him. His father abandoned him and his brother a couple of years ago. Yabsira sleeps on a single mattress with his mom and baby brother. His favorite food is bread with tea. He helps his mother by running errands and messages. He enjoys playing soccer with his best friend Abanet. His favorite animals are the lamb and cow, but he has no favorite color. He enjoys them all. When Yabsira grows up he wants to be able to drive and ride a bike.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yabsira Belete Tamerat is fully sponsored)

Name Yabsira Feseha

Accepted 7/18/12

Girl Birthdate: 12/8/2006 **Age:** 6

Adana Children Center



Nick Name:

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Unknown

Deceased



Brothers: 0

Mother Membere G'Mesk

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Amharic

Ethnicity Amhara

School BCI Academy

Grade

Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Yabsira is a very shy little girl who lives with her mother and sister. She attends school and when not in school, she wants to spend the majority of her time with her mother or sister. Yabsira's mother and sister are both HIV positive and her mother is sick quite frequently. Yabsira's mom sells potatoes at night on the street and Yabsira can most often be found helping her late at night. Yabsira is an absolute darling and quite the girly girl. She says her favorite color is pink, she loves kittens and if she had her own land she would use it to grow flowers.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yabsira Feseha is fully sponsored)

Name Yabsira Girma Desalegn

Accepted 02/04/2008

Girl Birthdate: 4/11/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center



Nick Name: Yeabsira

FAMILY BACKGROUND

Father Girma Desalegn

Deceased



Brothers: 1

Mother Yesunesh Shumye

Deceased



Sisters: 1

Language Oromo

Ethnicity Oromo

School BCI Academy

Grade 7

Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Yabsira is a sweet girly girl-but don't let that fool you-she can tear up the soccer field! She lives with her mother, sister, and many extended family members. Yabsira suffers from epilepsy but she has been feeling better since supporters of BCI have continued to buy her much needed medication. But she doesn't let her illness keep her down. She says that she has to stay strong and carry on to be a witness to her family that are not Christians. She wants to prove that God will give you strength to fight your battles. Her favorite part about church is the choir. If she owned her own land she would build a hospital on it. Yabsira's favorite color is red and her favorite animal is the dog. She enjoys the nights she has pasta to eat.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yabsira Girma Desalegn is fully sponsored)

Name Yabsira Yonas**Accepted** 07/11/2008**Girl Birthdate:** 6/12/2000 **Age:** 12

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yabsera**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yonas Kemaw*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Yeshihareg Goben*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 5**Church** Emanuel Church

Yabsira lives with her mother in a small, one room house. Her mother used to be a shop keeper but she fell very ill and had to use all of her savings and sell all of her goods to pay for her medical needs. She now has no work as she is still sick. Yabsira is quite the soccer player-often beating the boys. Her hearts passion is to become a doctor so she can help sick people. If she owned her own land she would build a house for her family. She loves to go to church and her favorite part is praying. Yabsira likes to eat meat and injera (Ethiopian bread) and her favorite color is yellow.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Yabsira Yonas to be fully sponsored.

Name Yakob Dereje**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 12/16/2004 **Age:** 8

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yakob**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dereje Mengistu*Deceased***Brothers:** 2**Mother** Almaz Tulema*Deceased***Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Grade** 2**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Yakob is a quiet, shy boy, but very friendly and loves to giggle. Yakob really, really wants to be a pilot one day. He says that he wants to visit the whole world. He lives with his parents and two brothers. Both parents are HIV positive and are finding it difficult to care fully for their young family. Neither parent complains of "feeling sick", but they are often tired. His father operates a horse cart during the day and works as a guard at their church at night time. Yakob will often run errands to help out his parents. His favorite food is injera and his favorite color is green. Yakob's favorite animal is the tiger.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yakob Dereje is fully sponsored)

Name Yegele Getachew**Accepted** 05/29/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 6/14/2004 **Age:** 8**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Yegele**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getachew Yitna ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Ayelech Abebe ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 3**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Yegele has high energy and is at full throttle all the time! He lives with his mom and his father has passed away. Yegele helps his mom by running errands to the corner shop. He goes to school at BCI Academy and his favorite class is English. Yegele's typical breakfast is bread with tea, although his favorite food is macaroni and he could eat it all day long. He suffers from chronic skin allergies that cause him pain. Yegele dreams of the day he can be a "taxi man" and we are all in trouble because he will tear around Debre Zeyit at full throttle!

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Yegele Getachew to be fully sponsored.

Name Yeshak Dereje Mengistu**Accepted** 12/31/2007**Boy Birthdate:** 9/15/2001 **Age:** 11**Adana Children Center****Nick Name:** Yeshak**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dereje Mengistu ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 2**Mother** Almaz Tulema ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Yeshak is the oldest of three boys. He is very rambunctious and loves to play practical jokes on people. He lives with his parents and two brothers. Both parents are HIV positive and are finding it difficult to care fully for their young family. Neither parent complains of "feeling sick", but they are often tired. By God's grace, none of the three boys are HIV positive. His father works as a horse cart driver and a church guard so he is not home often. He wants to be a pilot and says that he can help bring missionaries to Ethiopia. Yeshak's favorite color is red and his favorite animal is the tiger. His favorite food is eggs.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yeshak Dereje Mengistu is fully sponsored)

Name Yohannes Bune**Accepted** 02/04/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 1/14/1998 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yohannes**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mamo Bune Rasha ^{Deceased} ☐ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Alema Tufa Wori ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Joshua Academy **Grade** 6**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Yohannes is a pleasant young man who has become very responsible due to his mother's loss of sight. Yohannes's father abandoned the family after their mother accepted Christ. He has never returned. Yohannes helps look after his younger sister. He helps around the house by hauling water, gathering wood, and making coffee. Yohannes attends Joshua Academy. Yohannes and his best friend Ameha play soccer together and they also study their lessons together. Yohannes likes to hear the preaching at church. His favorite color is red and his favorite animal is a cat. He likes it when his sister makes pasta for their evening meal.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yohannes Bune is fully sponsored)**Name** Yohannes Fitsum**Accepted** 07/15/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 7/6/2001 **Age:** 11

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yohannis**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Fitsum Tafere ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Asegedech Taddess ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara/Tig**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 4**Church** Emanuel Church

Yohannes is a sweet spirited, easy going child. He lives with his mother who works as a daily laborer. She makes \$20/month. Yohannes isn't an only child, but his sister lives in a far away village in Northern Ethiopia with her father. He attends BCI Academy where his favorite classes are math and English. Yohannes aspires to be a doctor when he is older. He loves to eat macaroni, rice, and meat but not all at once! Yohannes and his best friend Papai often play soccer together which happens to be Yohannes's favorite game. His color of choice is red and his favorite animal is the dog. His favorite part about church is hearing the Word of God.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Yohannes Fitsum to be fully sponsored.

Name Yohannes Gezahegne**Accepted** 11/22/2011**Boy Birthdate:** 5/15/2006 **Age:** 6

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gezahegne Shifero ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 3**Mother** Birtekiwan Berga ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 1**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Yohannes is the youngest of six children and consequently, was abandoned to live with a distant relative because his mother didn't want him. His father passed away from HIV complications but by the grace of God, Yohannes has tested negative for the disease. Yohannes enjoys going to school and playing games outside, mostly games that require a great deal of imagination because he doesn't have many toys. His favorite color is red but he doesn't have a favorite animal. Yohannes thinks it would be fun to drive a car and is aspiring to be a driver when he grows up.

Sponsors Needed: None (Yohannes Gezahegne is fully sponsored)**Name** Yonas Alemayehu**Accepted****Boy Birthdate:** 4/12/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yonas**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemayehu Haile ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 1**Mother** Aberash Denka ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 1**Church** Emanuel Church

Yonas lives with his grandmother, and seven other children in the house. Yonas lost both of his parents to HIV. Yonas loves school and his favorite class is Amharic because it is easy. His dream is to become a doctor. His favorite part about church is the singing. Yonas likes to spend time with his best friend Dagim. They can often be found playing football together. His favorite food is injera (Ethiopian bread) with stew. Yonas likes the color green and his favorite animal is sheep.

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Yonas Alemayehu to be fully sponsored.

Name Yosef Getachew**Accepted** 06/16/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 4/25/1999 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getachew Belihu ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 0**Mother** Birke Tufa ^{Deceased} ☒ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** Emanuel Church

This young boy lives with his grandparents, who are both retired. His grandpa struggles with nerve/muscle problems and his grandma has kidney problems. Both of Yosef's parents have passed away. His favorite class is math. His job of choice right now is a doctor. Yosef and his best friend Behailu get a kick out of playing soccer together. He enjoys the color green and he likes chickens, to play with, not eat. If he had his own land he would build a house. Yosef's favorite part about church is the singing and worship. Yosef also likes to play with dogs.

Sponsors Needed: \$30/month needed in sponsorships for Yosef Getachew to be fully sponsored.

Name Yosef Mideksa Begna**Accepted****Boy Birthdate:** 10/8/1997 **Age:** 15

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mideksa Begana ^{Deceased} ☒ **Brothers:** 3**Mother** Tadelech Feleke ^{Deceased} ☐ **Sisters:** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 7**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Yosef lives with his grandparents, uncle, and aunt. He has 1 sister and 3 brothers. His grandfather is retired and receives \$10/month retirement pay. Yosef's father died before he was born due to an infection he developed after a witchcraft practice. His mother currently practices witchcraft and Yosef's grandparents traveled to a rural part of Ethiopia to take Yosef from her and bring him back to their house to raise him as a Christian. He dreams of one day becoming a pilot. He helps around the house by washing the dishes. His favorite class is music class. His favorite time of day is the afternoon after school. He can't choose what his favorite color is saying "the rainbow is the best".

Sponsors Needed: \$60/month needed in sponsorships for Yosef Mideksa Begna to be fully sponsored.

Name Yosef Tesfaye**Accepted** 01/11/2008**Boy Birthdate:** 1/22/2000 **Age:** 13

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tesfaye Chala*Deceased***Brothers:** 0**Mother** Fanaye Beshadu*Deceased***Sisters:** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 6**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Yosef is a quiet, gentle boy whose eyes never stop searching. He lives with his mother and sister. His mother works as a daily laborer earning \$15/month which is a daunting task considering she is HIV positive. His father abandoned them and has since passed away. He enjoys playing football with his neighborhood friends. Until June 2010, Yosef had always been self-conscious about the extra digit on his hand but a doctor from a visiting team met Yosef and graciously offered to pay for the surgery to have the digit removed. To look at Yosef now, you would never know he lived most of his life with an extra digit!

Sponsors Needed: None (Yosef Tesfaye is fully sponsored)**Name** Zenu Tafa Bekele**Accepted** 05/18/2011**Girl Birthdate:** 9/25/2005 **Age:** 7

Adana Children Center

**Nick Name:** Zenu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tafa Bekele*Deceased***Brothers:** 1**Mother** Dida*Deceased***Sisters:** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy **Grade** 2**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Zenu is a gentle, kind-hearted girl who loves dogs, but as she said twice in her interview, "They must be small." When she grows up she wants to be a doctor because she sees the need for so many children to be treated for illness. Zenu's favorite color is yellow and she enjoys playing soccer and any games that have to do with running. Zenu attends school and does very well in her classes. But she is very hard on herself. Last year she placed third in her class and she cried and cried because she didn't get first place. She is diligent about doing her homework and also spends part of her afternoon helping out around the house by sweeping the floor and washing dishes.

Sponsors Needed: None (Zenu Tafa Bekele is fully sponsored)

WHAT'S SPONSORSHIP?

The Adana Children Center provides a loving home and solid education for orphaned children like Temesgen. The project was launched in January 2008, in response to the pleas from local churches of Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia. These churches were attempting to reach out to the poor in their communities, but with their congregations made up of people living themselves on less than a dollar a day, they don't have the resources to help.

Sponsoring a child provides them a home with a loving family and a solid education.

Personal Care

In the home, children are provided plenty to eat, a warm bed and a clean environment along with nurturing care from loving parents who attend to their physical, spiritual and emotional needs. Each home considers it their ministry to love and care for the children as their own. While fun things are planned to provide diversion, they are rounded out with daily chores, Bible reading and devotions.

Christian Education

Each sponsored child receives a quality education. They attend private schools where available and all have personal tutors available as needed, providing

academic excellence while instilling Christian principles and values.

Trained & Challenged

It's our goal to produce the best educated young adults, and to send them forth with purpose and a challenge to make a difference in their country.

Teachers and staff pour themselves into these previously hopeless lives, pointing them to Jesus, the children are transformed into dedicated, hope-filled, contributing members of society – fully equipped to fulfill their God-given destiny.

Less than a dollar a day – just \$30 per month – will make the difference between life and death for an orphaned or abandoned child, providing food and clothing.



When you sponsor child, we will send you a photo of your child along with their personal information. Plus, you will get to know your child more personally as you receive letters written by your child along with progress reports and updates.

Some sponsors prefer to be a child's only sponsor by supporting them with \$90/month – the actual cost to fully care for every aspect of raising their sponsored child in Ethiopia.

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