

# ADANA

ORPHANED & IMPOVERISHED CHILDREN

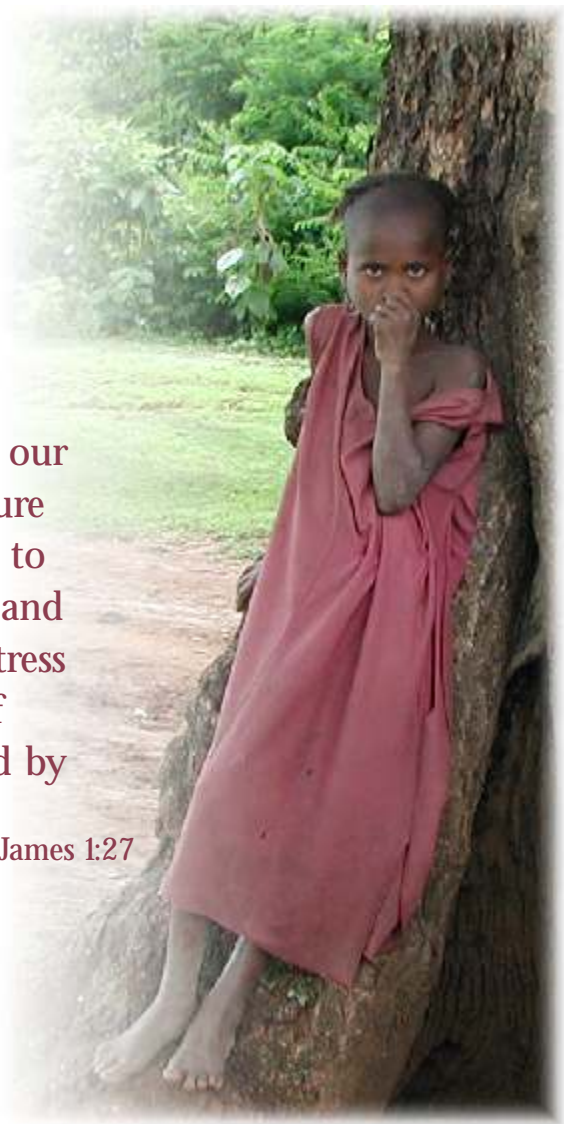


Child Information Booklet

# 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**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/19/2009 **Age:** 5

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Seble Terefe **Sisters** 2**Language** Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre**School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abel Moges Tesfaye**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/2/2000 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Moges Tesfaye **Brothers** 0**Mother** Meaza Tariku **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Abel Sisay**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/4/2001**Age:** 14**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 2**Mother** Deceased**Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Abel Sisay is an orphan with an undiagnosed mental disorder that appears to be similar to autism. Abel is 14 years old and does not talk yet. He expresses his feelings by yelling at people and/or hitting them. He lives with his 2 brothers and sister and his brother is the family's sole source of income at just under \$20 USD per month. They all live in a rental house from the government with a rent of 3 birr per month.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abenezer Abera**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/8/2008**Age:** 7**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 1**Mother** Aster Alemu**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abenezer's mother used to have a happy family and a happy marriage until her life drastically changed. In the most unfortunate turn of events her first husband left her and their son. That is when Abenezer's mom started to support her children by herself by working as a hotel cook. Yet that too became impossible when she was injured in a fire accident at the hotel. With no workers insurance, this left her with few options. When she felt it is too difficult to raise children by herself, she decided to remarry. As her second chance at married life seemed to be stabilize, she gave birth to Abenezer with her new husband. Once again life turned upside down when her husband passed away because of HIV. Abenezer's mother is now a single woman who is also HIV positive.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/17/2015



**Name:** Abenezer Kasu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/17/1997 **Age:** 18

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Abenezer**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kasu Kebede **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aster Gizaw **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Model School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abenezer Yohannes**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/17/2011 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Abenezer**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yohannes Ambibo **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aster Tekele **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Kembata**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Abenezer is a small boy with a beautiful smile. Abenezer lives with his parents who are both HIV positive, along with little Abenezer himself. Abenezer's father used to work as a guard in one of the local churches in Debre Zeyit but he is currently unemployed. Like his father, his mother is often sick and weak due to the virus and she is unable to work. Due to the dire situation this family finds themselves in, they struggle to care for their two children and they are in need of immediate assistance.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name: Abi Sisay****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 2/15/2004****Age: 11****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Abi****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Sisay Befekadu****Brothers 1****Mother Mimi Wondimagn****Sisters 1****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church**

Abi used to live in a village called Derea, 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Abigia Yirga****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 8/12/2004****Age: 10****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Abigia****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Yirga Alemu****Brothers 1****Mother Sisay Goshema****Sisters 1****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name:** Abonesh Dejene Kebede**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/16/2003 **Age:** 11

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Abonesh**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dejene Kebede **Brothers** 1**Mother** Berke Shibru **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abreham Gudu Mohammed**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/10/2005 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gudu Mohammed **Brothers** 2**Mother** Stiwoote Shrejo **Sisters** 2**Language** Pending E **Ethnicity** Pending Ethi**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Abreham Kuba**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/9/2010 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 0**Mother** Kuri Gutema **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abreham Kuba's story is a sad one. His mom gave birth to him out of wedlock and because she got pregnant outside of marriage, her father kicked her out of the house. This is how they ended up in Debre Zeyit. A caring woman found Abreham's mother crying in the street and took her in. She is now helping his mom raise the child but she is not in good health as she's aging and unable to continue providing for this family. Right now they are selling a traditional alcoholic drink at an estimate income of 500 birr (\$25 USD) per month. They live in a government house with a rent of 3 birr per month.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abreham Shimeles**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/10/2007 **Age:** 7

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 0**Mother** Hewan Kasu **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nurselam**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Abreham never knew his father. His mother, Hewan, raised him by working as a day laborer. Eventually, when his mother fell ill to the point that she couldn't care for Abreham, the burden fell on his grandparents. Their only source of income is a 300 birr pension which is equivalent to \$16/month and is not enough for the family of four. Abreham loves math and English and one day he wants to be a pilot. Abreham plays hid and seek with his favorite friend Yabsira. His favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is the sheep.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015



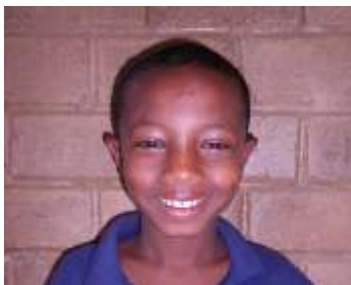
**Name:** Abreham Tefera**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/3/2000**Age:** 14**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Abraham**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tefera Megla**Brothers** 1**Mother** Wollela Bekele**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Derara School**Church** Zion 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Abrham Tesfaye Terefe**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/8/2011**Age:** 4**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Baby**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Almaz Workneh**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Abrham's mother, Almaz, and his father were married and lived together until Abrham was six months old. That is when Almaz found out that her husband had a secret life with another wife and children. After the separation, Almaz had to take care of Abrham by doing whatever she could. Because she wasn't qualified for much, she worked washing clothes and making Injera for people while carrying little Abrham on her back. Although Almaz is a hard worker, the small amount she makes is not enough for her and her son. Abrham loves to play soccer with his best friend Meskerem. His favorite animal is the sheep.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Adana Kasu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/23/2001 **Age:** 13**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kasu Kebede**Brothers** 1**Mother** Aster Gizaw**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Adana Shisema**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/26/2001 **Age:** 13**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Adana**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shisema G'tsadik**Brothers** 1**Mother** Tigistu Yilma**Sisters** 3**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Alemayehu Endeshaw**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/18/2008 **Age:** 7**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Alemayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endeshaw Fekadu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Tigist Chala **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Alemayhu Abera**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/22/2004 **Age:** 10**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abera Wolda **Brothers** 1**Mother** Alemnesh Degefa **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Alhamdu Mohammed**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/1/2007**Age:** 8**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mohammed Seman**Brothers** 1**Mother** Asereka Nedaga**Sisters** 0**Language** Gurage**Ethnicity** Gurage**School****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Alhamdu was born in the southern region of Ethiopia. His father is a farmer who makes a living by growing Ensete (false banana). When Alhamdu turned three he began having stomach problems and his local clinics referred him to a hospital in the capital city of Ethiopia. After staying a year at the hospital while they tried to diagnose the problem, Alhamdu was released, being told he had a hole in his stomach and he was given a colostomy bag. Due to his need for consistent medical attention, Alhamdu had to stay closer to the hospital so his father began living in Debre Zeyit with his sister. Although Alhamdu is currently seven years old he has never been to school due to his illness and while the father is working as a day laborer to pay for medical bills and food he also needs to care for his sick child at home.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015**Name:** Amanuel Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/28/2008**Age:** 6**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Honduma**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 0**Mother** Abandoned**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Elebas**Church** Emanuel Church

This young boy and his sister were abandoned by their mother many years ago when Amanuel was only a few years old. After their mother left, their father did his best to care for them but he was very sickly and passed away a few years ago. They were taken in by their grandparents, both of whom are retired and their income that they receive from pension is 600.00 birr per month – about \$31 USD. Because of their generosity and care for their grandchildren, this family has been struggling to make ends meet. Amanuel loves to play hide and seek with his best friend Ababi. Amanuel's favorite animal is cat and in the future Amanuel wants to be a pilot.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Asegid Dibaba**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/20/2002 **Age:** 12**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dibaba Hailu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Bezunesh Negussie **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Asnakech Chuchu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/31/2003 **Age:** 11**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Yeshe Asefa **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Tokuma School**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Asnakech and her sister Fanu have been through a lot at such a young age. Their father passed away when their mother was pregnant with Asnakech, leaving her to provide for herself and her children. Due to her desperate situation and her inability to provide for her daughters, their mother was forced to remarry. Sadly, their new father was very abusive and would abuse the girls. To protect her daughters from this, Asnakech's mother sent them to live with their grandmother. After a while, it became apparent that their old grandmother was not able to care for them. We found a family to shelter and care for the girls but the family does not have much to give the girls, as they struggle to keep food on the table and clothes on their backs. They have given what matters most though, love. Asnakech loves to go to school and her favorite subject is science. Asnakech says in the future she wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/24/2015



**Name:** Aster Teferi**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/6/1995**Age:** 19

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Aster**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teferi Haile**Brothers** 2**Mother** Zewde Neguse**Sisters** 3**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Model School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Ayu Megra Ede**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/23/2003**Age:** 12

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Ayu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Megra Ede**Brothers** 1**Mother** Feyise Wordefa**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Behailu Terefa Zike**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 7/22/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Behailu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Terefa Zike**Brothers** 0**Mother** Enani Zeke**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Church** Emanuel Church

After the loss of both parents, Behailu went to live with his grandparents. 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015**Name:** Belean Endale**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 8/16/2011 **Age:** 3

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endale Gizaw**Brothers** 1**Mother** Tigist Waktola**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Bemenet Gossaye**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 8/17/2011 **Age:** 3

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Sebele Tesfaye **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Bemenet is a very creative little girl who loves to color and play with crayons whenever given the opportunity. She is a sweetheart and she lives with her brother, mother and grandmother. The family has had a lot of struggles since Bemenet's mother left her former life as a prostitute. She is not educated and she has been unable to find a job. Bemenet's grandmother is HIV positive and often sick, making it very difficult for her to support her family. Bemenet loves to play with her brother Yabsira and her favorite animal is the rooster.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bemenet Olana**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/21/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Olana Amenu **Brothers** 3**Mother** Ethiopia Ayalew **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Finotestsela School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Bemenet Olana lives with her mother and four siblings. Bemenet's father is a former soldier who was badly injured by a bullet and he is permanently disabled due to this injury. Bemenet's mother and her father met while he was in a military rehabilitation camp in Debre Zeit. He has always lived close to his family in Debre Zeit however when his camp moved to the capital city, Addis Ababa, he moved as well with a doctor's recommendation. Currently Bemenet's family lives off of 294.00 birr pension which is an equivalent to \$17 USD a month. Bemenet helps her mother by cleaning the house and washing dishes. Her favorite animal is the dog and her favorite game is hide and seek. In the future Bement wants to be a runner.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name: Bemnet Manaye****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 10/13/1998 Age: 16****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Bemnet****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Manaye Girma **Brothers** 0**Mother** Muna Hailu **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Bereket Abush****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 11/18/2001 Age: 13****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Bereket****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abush Melese **Brothers** 1**Mother** Worke Megersa **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name:** Bereket Asechalew**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 8/7/2013**Age:** 1**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Emebet Getachew**Sisters** 0**Language** Welayeta**Ethnicity** Welayeta**School** BCI Academy**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 was 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's mother gave her a name and they both have hope for the future.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bereket Bedo**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/22/2009**Age:** 5**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Eyerus Girma**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Emanuel Church

This adventurous young boy loves bajaj's and says he wants to be a bajaj driver when he grows up! Although Bereket can barely walk due to an unknown disability he loves to watch children of his age play soccer. He has a determination for survival against all odds. Bereket's father abandoned the family long ago, leaving his mother provide for Bereket and his two siblings. Bereket's mother is a hard worker who washes clothes for local families. She works every day but as much as she tries to provide for her family, she only makes about 200 birr per month – less than \$11 USD. Her income does not cover even the most common living expenses for this family of four. On top of their living expenses, Bereket's disability has not been diagnosed and he is in need of urgent medical care. Bereket's favorite animal is the sheep and his favorite food is Ingera.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015



**Name:** Bereket Fasil Tamirat**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/14/2000 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Bereket**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Fasil Tamirat **Brothers** 0**Mother** Bekelech Benaru **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bereket Gebre**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/25/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Bereket**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gebre **Brothers** 1**Mother** Tsedale Moshe **Sisters** 2**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Bereket Shimeles**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/10/2003 **Age:** 11

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Bereket**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shemelis Fekadu**Brothers** 0**Mother** Samrawit Ali**Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bereket Tamerat**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/16/2002 **Age:** 12

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Hewan Kasu**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nurselam**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Bereket was raised by his mother, Hewan, who was a hard working single mother. She cared for him and his brother single handedly, since his father abandoned them a long time ago. Hewan worked as a day laborer to provide for them until she fell ill to the point that she couldn't care for Bereket and his brother anymore. The burden then fell on his grandparents. Their only source of income, a 300 birr pension which is equivalent to \$16 a month, is not enough for the family of five to live on. Bereket loves to play soccer and study with his best friend Yetemgeta. His favorite color is green. In the future Bereket wants to be an engineer.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Berhane Geremew**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/28/2006 **Age:** 8

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Geremew Birhanu**Brothers** 1**Mother** Meserte Abishu**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Berhane Mekuria Kebede**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/29/2007 **Age:** 7

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Berhane**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mekuria Kebede**Brothers** 0**Mother** Mestawat Birbo**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Beruk Dega**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/26/2003 **Age:** 11

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dega Obecho **Brothers** 1**Mother** Webit H/Gebrale **Sisters** 2**Language** Welayita **Ethnicity** Welayita**School** Herosen**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Life for Beruk Dega used to be as typical as any other young boy of his age. He was blessed with a happy family, a father who provides and a mother that cares and dotes on her children. But one day life turned upside down when his father, former military personnel, was arrested on a suspicion of wrong doing. With his father gone, the only source of income for the family dried up and life goes downhill for Beruk's mother and her four children. Like many other Ethiopian women, Beruk's mother never worked outside the home yet the full burden of providing and caring for the children fell on her. As the family struggles to survive with no income, they fall on the mercy of relatives and friends. Beruk helps his mother by cleaning the house. He loves cats and his favorite color is brown. In the future Beruk wants to be a pilot.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015**Name:** Beruk Gemechu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 2/7/2002 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Beruk**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gemechu Sisay **Brothers** 0**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$80**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name: Beruk Getachew****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 6/11/1996 Age: 18****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Beruk****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getachew Haile **Brothers** 0**Mother** Belge Beyene **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Bishoftu Tech & Vocational School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Beruktawit Godana****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 2/22/1996 Age: 19****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Choo Choo****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Godana Elias **Brothers** 1**Mother** Tigist Elias **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bishoftu Tech & Vocational School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name:** Beselote Dega**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/1/2012**Age:** 2**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dega Obecho**Brothers** 1**Mother** Webit H/Gebrale**Sisters** 2**Language** Welayita**Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Life used to be normal and full of joy for Beselote's family. He was blessed with a happy family, a father who provides and a mother that cares and dotes on her children. But one day life turned upside down when his father, former military personnel, was arrested on a suspicion of wrong doing. With his father gone, the only source of income for the family dries up and life goes down hill for Beselote's mother and her four children. Like many other Ethiopian women, Beselote's mother never worked outside the home yet the full burden of providing and caring for the children fell on her. As the family struggles to survive with no income, they fall on the mercy of relatives and friends. While able to provide a modicum of relief to this burdened family, Beselote's relatives and friends struggle to provide for their own families as well.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Besha Asefa**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/1/1998**Age:** 17**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Besha**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asefa Dable**Brothers** 2**Mother** Gete Abebe**Sisters** 4**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Besufekad Yohannes**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/9/2011**Age:** 3**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yohannes Ashengo**Brothers** 0**Mother** Marta Gutema**Sisters** 0**Language** Kembata**Ethnicity** Kemata**School****Church** Emanuel Church

Ever since he was born, this precious little boy has never been able to talk due to an unknown mental disability. His family lives on the 700 birr (\$35) his father makes as a guard. Because of their low income, they are not able to afford the medical care that Besufekad needs. Doctors have told his family that with the proper care his health would improve but they cannot afford to provide him with the care. Besufekad needs immediate medical assistance.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Betelhem Tadesse Getachew**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/11/2008**Age:** 7**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Boto**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 0**Mother** Fanose Tameru**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Selam Academy**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Betelhem used to live a happy life with her mother and father until her father went to his birth place to visit relatives and never returned. This is the last time Betelhem's mother, Fanose, ever heard from him again and in fear of betrayal she began looking for him. To Fanose's disbelief she found out that her husband was killed. From that moment on, things turned upside down. Fanose began caring for Betelhem all by herself while taking a job working as a day laborer often making less than a dollar a day. Because of this, they cannot afford for Betelhem to go to school. Betelhem loves to play soccer with her best friend Yesehak and her favorite animal is cow. In the future, Betelehem wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Bethel Negussie**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/6/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Negussie Zergaw **Brothers** 2**Mother** Zeriya **Sisters** 1**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bethlihem Asefa**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 4/8/1995 **Age:** 20

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Betlihem**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asefa G'Tsadik **Brothers** 0**Mother** Bezuwork Ketewe **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Betselote Mesenbet**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/6/1997 **Age:** 17

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Betselote**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mesembet Ketema **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tewabech Haile **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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 damage 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Biniam Chekel**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/23/1998 **Age:** 17

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Biniam**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Chekel Nigatu **Brothers** 4**Mother** Ejigayehu Legese **Sisters** 4**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** Tabernacle School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Bizuayehu Sisay Bekele**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 2/9/1997**Age:** 18**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Bezuayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Sisay Bekele**Brothers** 2**Mother** Wubalem Mesfin**Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$10**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Bleané Girma**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/29/2013**Age:** 2**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Meseret Haile**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

This beautiful girl is the product of a rape and she is in desperate need of help. Her mom is a physically disabled deaf and mute. She has sued her attacker over this tragic, life changing incident but he is not supporting the child. Currently they are living off the support of the neighborhood as they have no source of income and Meseret, Bleané's mother, is unable to work due to her disabilities. Her neighbors try to help out as much as possible but they are poor themselves so it's uncertain how much longer this can last.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Dagim Bacha Wordofa**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/18/2001 **Age:** 13**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Dagim**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bacha Wordofa **Brothers** 0**Mother** Meskerem Bekele **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Dagim Girma**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/6/2002 **Age:** 12**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Dagem**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Girma Abebe **Brothers** 0**Mother** Shibre Tasew **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Daremyelesh Girma**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 8/4/2013**Age:** 1**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Dembulit Meshesha**Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Daremyelesh's mother used to be a happily married woman with two children until she unexpectedly lost her husband to an unknown illness. Since the loss of her beloved husband, life wasn't the same and she struggled as a single mother to provide for her two children. After a time she got remarried and life got normalized once again. Yet that too was short lived when her new husband found out she was pregnant with twins and left her. The city office of Women's and Children's Affairs contacted BCI and referred us to this young mother. BCI sent a social worker on a home visit to assess the situation and found a heart breaking sight. The mother was sleeping in a small, dingy room with her twin girls, Daremyelesh and Mekdelawit. Her only belongings are the tiny mattress that she is sleeping on and a couple of cooking wares. Daremyelesh has unknown stomach pain and is malnourished.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Dawit Gameda**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/30/2002**Age:** 12**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Shewaye Girma**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Tokuma School**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Dawit Gameda lives with his mother and two siblings in a small rented house. His mother and father have separated leaving his mother to single handedly care for the children. Although his father pays an amount to support the children and Shewaye, his mother, earns extra 70 birr (\$3.50 USD) per month it is not enough for this single mom to provide for her family. Dawit likes English and his favorite color is green. He likes playing soccer and his favorite animal is the lion. His best friend is another BCI program kid named Tekalegne. He wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Dawit Leta Bedada**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/12/2000 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Dawit**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Leta Bedada Gudeta **Brothers** 2**Mother** Awetash Tesfaye Kahs **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Debora Tesfaya Chala**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 3/25/2007 **Age:** 8

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Butu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Fanaye Beshada **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Best Youth Academy**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Dibora is a beautiful little girl who lives with her mother and older brother. Dibora's mother is a day laborer who struggles to make ends meet. She often earns less than a dollar a day therefore life for the family is extremely difficult. Dibora's father has abandoned the family long ago. However, Dibora is a very good daughter who helps her mother around the house by sweeping and mopping the floor and also washing dishes. Dibora 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. She also enjoys 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name:** Dibora Debebe**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/6/2003 **Age:** 11

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Dibora**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Debebe G'Medihn**Brothers** 1**Mother** Meseret Fikere**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Dinagde Tolosa**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/26/2007 **Age:** 7

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 5**Mother** Tsege Tesfaye**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Chelekelaka**Church** Emanuel Church

Dinagde's father used to work as a night guard and his mother was a stay at home mom. Every night, his mother would deliver dinner to her husband at his work place but one sad night when she went to deliver his dinner as she usually does; she found her husband dead. To this day no one knows how he died. Nevertheless, Dinagde's father's death left behind Dinagde and six of his siblings to a single mother who did not have any other means of income. Currently Dinagde's mother makes a living by selling Tela (a homemade alcoholic drink). Dinagde helps his mother around the house by sweeping the floor. In the future Dinagde wants to be a Doctor. His favorite color is yellow and he loves to play with his best friend Dawit.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Eayasu Wondimu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/11/2001 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Eyasu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Wondimu Tadesse **Brothers** 0**Mother** Almaz Terfie **Sisters** 0**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Edelawit Abreham**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/1/2006 **Age:** 8

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Pome**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Eyerusalem Yemane **Sisters** 0**Language** Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre**School** BCI Academy**Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

This precious young girl with a beautiful smile was abandoned by both of her parents when she was very little. Because she was abandoned at such a young age, Edelawit has no recollection of her parents. Edelawit is being raised by her aunt, who struggles financially to support both herself and Edelawit. Although her aunt is providing everything that she possibly can, Edelawit's small stature shows that she doesn't get the nutrition that her body needs. Edelawit helps around the house by washing the dishes. Her favorite color is pink and her favorite animal is the lion.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Eden Efrem**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/13/2010 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Efrem Megra **Brothers** 0**Mother** Genet Wordofa **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Efrata Mesenbet Ketema**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/23/2002 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Efrata**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mesenbet Ketema **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tewabech Haile **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**Church** Emanuel Church

Efrata is a bright student and enjoys learning math and English. Efrata is a sweetheart 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. 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

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015



**Name:** Efrem Alebachew Getahun**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/20/2002 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Efrem**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alebachew Getahun**Brothers** 1**Mother** Medihen Desta**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Elias Engeda**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/23/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Elias**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Engeda Minase**Brothers** 1**Mother** Bekelech Tariku**Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Elizabeth Shimeles**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/9/2000 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Shemilise Fekadu**Brothers** 1**Mother** Samerawit Ali**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nigat Goh School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Elshadye Belete**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/30/2011 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Zehara Abdulkadir**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Elshadye Belete lives with her mother and sister. Her father abandoned his family long ago and Elshadye's mother has been taking care of the family by working as a day laborer. Zehara, Elshadye's mother, is a very hard worker who tries to provide for her family but because she is HIV positive, she is sometimes sick and unable to work. Zehara's income is about 650 birr per month (less than \$35 USD) and is not enough to cover her family's basic living expenses of food and shelter. Elshadye loves to play hide and seek with her best friend Betty and her favorite animal is the cat.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Emebet Abera**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/11/2002 **Age:** 12

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Emebet**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abera Wolde **Brothers** 2**Mother** Alemnesh Degefa **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Hebret School**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Emebet is a quiet child that has lived a hard life already. She is the third of four children who all live with their mother. Emebet's father passed away during a cave in on a house he was building. This left Emebet's mother to single handedly care for four children. Her 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. 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. Emebet enjoys school and her favorite class is math. She wants to be a Doctor when she grows up so it's a good thing she enjoys school so much!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Emmanuel Sisay**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/14/2009 **Age:** 5

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Emanuel**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Sisay Befekadu **Brothers** 1**Mother** Mimi Wendmagn **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Eskedar Asefa Beyene**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/18/2000 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Eskedar**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asefa Beyene**Brothers** 5**Mother** Aleme Abate**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Eskedar Tefera**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/6/2000 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Eskedar**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tefera Feyera**Brothers** 0**Mother** Adanech Derersa**Sisters** 5**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Esrael Yirga Alemu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/19/1999 **Age:** 16

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Esrael**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yirge Alemu Wodajo **Brothers** 1**Mother** Sisay Goshime **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Estifanos Tariku Baynesagn**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/16/2001 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Steve**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tariku Baynesagn **Brothers** 0**Mother** Mesay Masresha **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Eyoatam Gedion****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 12/7/2006 Age: 8****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Booti****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gedion Tesfaye **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tigist Demisse **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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".

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Eyob Husen****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 7/31/1999 Age: 15****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Eyob****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Husen Dube **Brothers** 0**Mother** Haregewoin Zenebe **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Libnedingil School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name: Eyob Teklu****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 6/12/1997 Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Eyob****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Teklu Abebe Brothers 0****Mother Wolela Tsegaye Sisters 1****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School Model School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Fanu Chuchu****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 9/15/2002 Age: 12****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Deceased Brothers 0****Mother Yeshe Asefa Sisters 1****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School Derara School****Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church**

Fanu and her sister, Asnakech, have been through a lot at such a young age. Their father passed away when their mother was pregnant with Asnakech, leaving her to provide for herself and her children. Due to her desperate situation and her inability to provide for her daughters, their mother was forced to remarry. Sadly, their new father was very abusive and abused the girls. To protect her daughters, Fanu's mother sent them to live with their grandmother. After a while, it became apparent that their old grandmother was not able to care for them. We were able to find a family to shelter and care for the girls but the family does not have much to give for the girls, as they struggle to keep food on the table. They have given them what matters most though, love. Fanu does good in school and in the future she wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 4/24/2015**

**Name:** Fasika Girma**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 3/30/2012 **Age:** 3

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Girma Abera **Brothers** 1**Mother** Senayit Hailu **Sisters** 3**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Fasika Girma is a baby girl who lives with her mother, sisters, brother and grandmother. Fasika has never known her father but she is very closely attached to her mother and grandmother. Fasika's mother works as a daily laborer to bring in as much as she can to support her children and mother but it is still not enough. Fasika lives in a home with no beds and the family is forced to sleep on straw and burlap sacks on the ground.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Fekadu Alemu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/1/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Fekadu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemu Kabtimer **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aynalem Kefelegn **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Ferehiwot Sisay**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 3/28/2003**Age:** 12**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Ferehiwot**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Sisay Befekadu**Brothers** 2**Mother** Mimi Wendmagn**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Fikerite Tilahun**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/11/1995**Age:** 19**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Fekerite**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tilahun Mola**Brothers** 1**Mother** Likie Teshome**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Libnedingil School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Fraol Geremew Bayu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/11/2000 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Fraol**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Geremew Bayu Ayele **Brothers** 0**Mother** Arare Dinsa Setta **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nafiade**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Geleta Birhanu Gemechu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/8/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Geleta**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Birhanu Gemechu **Brothers** 0**Mother** Worke Shume **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Genet Beekele**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/24/2003 **Age:** 11

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Hora Arseddi**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Genet Beekele is an only child whose father died due to HIV. Her mom raised her until she herself passed away and now Genet is living with her aunt whose sole source of income is selling a traditional alcoholic drink. Her aunt's health is not good and there are 6 people including Genet living in the home. Their house is a government rental at 3 birr per month. Their estimate income is 500 birr each month. To help her Aunt, Genet cleans the house. Her favorite subject is math. She loves the color yellow. In the future Genet wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Genet Mamo Bune**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 4/17/2001 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Genet**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mamo Bune Rasha **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aleme Tufa Mori **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Joshua Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Getaneh Yohannes**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/5/2007**Age:** 7**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Aba**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Deceased**Sisters** 1**Language** Gurage**Ethnicity** Gurage**School** Tokuma School**Church** Emanuel Church

Getaneh Yohannes and his sister used to live a happy life with a loving mother and father who cared for and provided for them. Unfortunately, their happy home was torn apart when they lost their mother to HIV AIDS. Their father suffered so much grief from the loss of his wife that he became very sick and as a result he couldn't work. To make things worse, when he couldn't pay rent on their home they were evicted. Faced with the prospect of street life, Getaneh's father sent his children to live with his old and poor mother. Getaneh and his sister are living with their grandmother but with no income the family is constantly struggling. They have not heard from Getaneh's father and he offers no help. Despite his circumstance, Getaneh can still smile. He is an athlete and has found joy in running. His favorite animal is the lion and in the future her wants to be a soldier.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/24/2015**Name:** Haben Andualem Masresha**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/11/2004**Age:** 11**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Haben**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Andualem Medresha**Brothers** 0**Mother** Mulu Soresa**Sisters** 1**Language** Tigre**Ethnicity** Tigre**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Habtamu Adugna**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/1/2009 **Age:** 5

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Adugna Gebeyehu **Brothers** 0**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Emanuel Church

Habtama Adugna lives with his grandparents. His mom passed away and they don't know where his father is, although even if they did, he is an unsuitable guardian due to his mental illness. Habtamu's grandfather is a daily laborer who makes 300 birr (\$15 USD) per month. Habtuma's favorite color is green and his favorite game is the pretending game. His favorite animal is the lion and he likes being with his best friend Fetana. He wants to be a pilot when he grows up.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Hana Kebede Kefeni**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/20/2001 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Hanna**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Kefeni **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tsehay Haile **Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Hawi Degaga**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/19/1997 **Age:** 17

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Degaga Jimma **Brothers** 0**Mother** Membere G'Meskele **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bekelicha School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Haymanot Sisay**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 7/19/2001 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Haymanot**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Sisay Bekele **Brothers** 3**Mother** Wubalem Mesfin **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Helen Taye G'medihin**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/21/2002 **Age:** 12

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Helen**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Taye G'Medihin **Brothers** 0**Mother** Elfineh Niguse Demise **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Henok Legesse**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/2/2007 **Age:** 7

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 3**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Derara School**Church** Emanuel Church

Henok Legesse lost both his parents and is now living with his brothers with the oldest attending university. There is no real source of income but the kids are selling papers on the street to whoever will buy from them. Their estimated income is 80 birr per month, the equivalent of just under \$5. Their neighbors help the boys when they can but there's not much to go around. The boys are ages 8, 11 and 18 and live in a government house by themselves. Henok attends school at Derara where his favorite subject is English. His favorite color is yellow and his favorite animal is the sheep. He likes soccer and his best friend is Adana. They play and study together. When Henok grows up, he wants to be a pilot.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Hiwot Desaligne**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 3/9/2006**Age:** 9**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Hiwot**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 2**Mother** Seble Terefe**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Hiwot Desaligne is a beautiful young girl who lives with her mother and two of her younger siblings. Hiwot experienced the hardships of life early as father passed away when she was young. Her mother remarried but the family received another devastating blow as Hiwot's step father left the family, leaving Hiwot's mother to single handedly care for three young children. Hiwot's mother is a strong woman who does her best to make a living by washing clothes and baking injera. However, her income is so little she struggles to provide for her family. Despite their hardships, Hiwot is a very smart girl who helps her mother at home by doing dishes, cleaning the house and watching her little siblings. Hiwot has two friends who live next door; Buta and Aba. They play pretend games together to pass the time. Hiwot also loves to play with dolls and her favorite animal is the cat. Hiwot also loves the color red and she adores her mother so much that she wants live with her forever.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Hiwot Semeneh**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/20/2006**Age:** 8**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Selam Alemu**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Bishoftu Family Hope Center**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Hiwot was born into a sad situation as her mother, Selam, was just nine years old when she was told she would marry a man her parent arranged. However, Selam was determined not to be forced into an arranged marriage with someone three times her age and she fled to Addis Ababa in search of safety. In Addis, Selam found a job as a maid. After sometime working in house, Selam felt that she was safe until her safety was ripped away. Selam was raped by someone in the house and became pregnant with Hiwot. Shortly after, she moved to Debre Zeyit and began working as a waiter, struggling to make ends meet. She continues to wait tables to provide for her and her girls but there it is never enough. Despite the tragedy of her situation, Hiwot is a beautiful young girl who aspires to become a pilot and loves environmental science.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/24/2015

**Name:** Huluyalfal Bisenebit**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/17/2004 **Age:** 10**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Huluyalfal**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bisenebit**Brothers** 0**Mother** Shura Abera**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Kaleab Tsegaye**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/17/2007 **Age:** 8**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Kalu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tsegaye W'Tekle**Brothers** 0**Mother** Adugna Eshetu**Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Kaleb Godana****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 6/2/1997****Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Kaleb****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Godana Urmilia****Brothers 0****Mother Tigist Elias****Sisters 1****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Bishoftu Tech & Vocational School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Kaleb Teshome****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 9/29/2004****Age: 10****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Kaleb****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Teshome Worku****Brothers 1****Mother Sada Cheru****Sisters 1****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Adventist School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name:** Kalkidan Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/9/2012**Age:** 2**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Kalkidan**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Meseret Haile**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

This precious girl's name is Kalkidan, meaning "promise" in Amharic, and she has one of the most heartwarming smiles you'll ever see. Kalkidan lives with her mother and older sister. Kalkidan's father abandoned the family when Kalkidan was just six month old, forcing Kalkidan's mother, Meseret, to take up work in a local slaughter house to provide for her daughters. Although Meseret is a dedicated, hardworking mother her income of a dollar a day is nowhere near enough to support this family of three. Kalkidan loves to play hide and seek with her best friend Yonas.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Kalkidan Gameda**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/8/2005**Age:** 9**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Shewaye Girma**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Tokuma School**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Kalkidan Gemade lives with her mother and two siblings in a small rented house. Her mother and father have separated, leaving her mother to single handedly care for the children. Although her father pays an amount to support the children and Shewaye, her mother, earns an extra 70 birr per month it is not enough for this single mom to provide for her family. Kalkidan loves environmental science. Her favorite animal is the cat and her favorite color is red. She enjoys playing with her best friend Selam. She likes to jump rope and in the future she wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Kalkidan Kebede Kefeni****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 6/20/2001 Age: 13****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Kalkidan****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Kebede Kefeni Brothers 0****Mother Tsehaye Haile Sisters 2****Language Amharic Ethnicity Amhara****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Kalkidan Shumi****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 12/6/2002 Age: 12****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Shumi Beshu8 Brothers 2****Mother Etanshe Hailu Sisters 2****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 5/1/2015**

**Name:** Kibruyisfa Teshome**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 8/5/1998**Age:** 16

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Kibruyisfa**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teshome Worku **Brothers** 1**Mother** Zebenay Tesfaye **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Libnedingil School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Kidist Gezahegn Mekuria**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/2/2001**Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Kidist**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gezahegn Mekuria **Brothers** 1**Mother** Wolela Tsegaye **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Lidya Yigezu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/8/2004**Age:** 11**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Mitu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 0**Mother** Berehane Tameru**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Lidya is a smart young girl who lives with her single mother. Her father abandoned her to marry another woman and since then Lidya and her mother are living in Debre Zeyit. Lidya's mother works as a street vendor to make a living. In a good month she makes about 500 birr (less than \$30 USD) selling vegetables, which is not enough to cover for Lidya's education and their food, let alone shelter and other needs. Lidya also has several allergies and will get a severe allergic reaction that gives her red eyes and runny nose. She needs close follow up by a doctor but her mother is unable to afford the additional medical expenses. Lidya's favorite colors are pink and orange. Her favorite animal is the cow and in the future Lidya wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Mahider Chekol Angaw**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/2/2000**Age:** 14**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Mahider**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Chekol Angaw**Brothers** 0**Mother** Genet Worku**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Marta Bedilu Zeberga**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/27/2001 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Martha**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bedilu Zeberga **Brothers** 0**Mother** Unknown **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Marta Tekelu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/25/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Weyeneshet Menegesh **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Finotestsela School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Marta Tekelu is the oldest child of her mother and father. Her father recently passed away, leaving his wife and two children. Marta's mother does her best to provide for her children by washing cloth and baking injera however, her income of 100 birr per month (less than \$10 USD) is not enough to feed her children. Marta helps her mother, who is often working, by cleaning the house and washing dishes. Currently Marta is going to a public school in Debre Zeyit and her favorite subject is math. Marta loves the color pink and in the future Marta wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Mastawet Endale****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 8/16/2011 Age: 3****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Endale Gizaw Brothers 1****Mother Tigist Waktola Sisters 1****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School****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. Mestawet'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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Mastewal Adugna Alemayehu****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 3/2/1999 Age: 16****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mastewal****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Adugna Alemayehu Brothers 2****Mother Abebech Tegabu Sisters 3****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name:** Meheret Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/29/2006 **Age:** 8

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 0**Mother** Meseret Haile **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Meheret live with her mother, Meseret, and her younger sister. Meheret's father abandoned the family when Meheret was 5 years old and her mother has been struggling to make ends meet ever since. Her mother works in the local slaughter house making less than a dollar a day. Meheret loves math and in the future she says she wants to be a doctor. Her favorite color is red and she loves to play hide and seek with her best friend Mita.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Meheret Efrem**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/25/2012 **Age:** 3

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Sara Zewede **Sisters** 0**Language** Welayeta **Ethnicity** Welayeta**School** -----**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Meheret's name means mercy in English. This precious boy lives with his little brother, mother, aunt and her family. His father has abandoned them leaving the mother to single handedly care for Meheret and his brother. With his mother often sick, she is unable to work. Therefore they are currently living with the aunt, who also struggles to provide for the three extra mouths on top of her own family with only \$53/month.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Meheret Eresa****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 7/30/2002 Age: 12****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Meheret****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Eresa Tafa Brothers 0****Mother Helen Tote Sisters 0****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****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. 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 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 the 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Meheret Lakew****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 5/17/2003 Age: 11****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Meheret****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Lakew (left the family) Brothers 1****Mother Shetaye Kefyalew Sisters 1****Language Amharic Ethnicity Gurage****School****Church Zion Mekaneyesus Church**

Meheret is a precious nine years old girl who never stops smiling. She lives with her Mother and two siblings in Debre Zeyet. Even though Meheret can't walk or talk due to a disability, she enjoys every minute that she spent with her favorite friend Yordanos Ayele. Meheret's father has left the family long time ago leaving the mother to care for the family often washing cloth or making injera for people. To make things worse Meheret's Mother also has a skin condition in which her skin would peel off and bleed even from the smallest task.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/17/2015**

**Name: Meheret Teka****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 7/17/2003 Age: 11****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teka Manchera **Brothers** 0**Mother** Wohagerede Mariam **Sisters** 2**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name: Mekdelawit Girma****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 8/4/2013 Age: 1****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Dembulit Meshesha **Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Mekdelawit's mother used to be a happily married woman with two children until she unexpectedly lost her husband to an unknown illness. Since the loss of her beloved husband, life wasn't the same and she struggled as a single mother to provide for her two children. After a time she got remarried and life got normalized once again. Yet that too was short lived when her new husband found out she was pregnant with twins and left her. The city office of Women's and Children's Affairs contacted BCI and referred us to this young mother. BCI sent a social worker on a home visit to assess the situation and found a heart breaking sight. The mother was sleeping in a small, dingy room with her twin girls, Daremyelesh and Mekdelawit. Her only belongings are the tiny mattress that she is sleeping on and a couple of cooking wares. Mekdelawit is malnourished and in need of immediate support.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name: Mekedes Shisema****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 9/20/1997 Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mekdes****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Shisema G'Tsadik Brothers 2****Mother Tigistu Yilma Sisters 2****Language Gurage Ethnicity Amharic****School Beza School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Mekedes Tadesse****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 6/12/2001 Age: 13****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mekdes****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Tadesse Metaferia Brothers 0****Mother Almaz Getachew Sisters 1****Language Amharic Ethnicity Amharic****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name: Menase Alebachew****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 6/28/1996 Age: 18****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Menase****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alebachew Getahun **Brothers** 1**Mother** Medihem Desta **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Mercy Elias Teshome****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 5/28/2004 Age: 10****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mercy****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Elias Teshome **Brothers** 1**Mother** Yejotework Benty **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name: Mergitu Eyassu****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 11/21/2001 Age: 13****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Emuti****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Deceased Brothers 1****Mother Deceased Sisters 1****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School Fana/Bole School****Church Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical**

Mergitu is a full orphan living with her elder sister and brother. Mergitu and her siblings are all students. Since they lost their parents, the older sister has taken it upon herself to care for Mergitu and her brother by taking side jobs like cleaning houses and washing laundry for families in their town. Mergitu's favorite subject is Biology because she want to be a Medical Doctor one day. She like the color green and eating Injera with potato wot, a type of stew. She loves praise and worship in the church and playing hand ball.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/28/2015****Name: Meron Deresu****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 12/12/1997 Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Meron****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Deresu Kebede Brothers 0****Mother Tibereh Kidane Sisters 0****Language Amharic Ethnicity Amharic****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name:** Meron Fikadu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/13/2006 **Age:** 8**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Abandoned **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Mersha School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Meron is a strong little girl who has been through so much hardship in life. Meron's father passed away long ago, likely because of AIDS, and her mother is also HIV positive. The area where Meron lives is one of the darkest areas in Debre Zeyit, full of bars and brothels. And just like many of the people in the area Meron's mother is a drug addict who works in one of the little bars (as prostitute). Because of their tragic situation Meron's mother wasn't able to take care of Meron and she gave her up to a local family. Meron helps her adopted family by cleaning the house and washing dishes. In her free time she loves to jump rope with her best friend Mitu. Meron's favorite food is Injera and her favorite color is green. In the future Meron wants to be a singer.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015**Name:** Merone Yakob Dhabi**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/4/2008 **Age:** 7**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Merone**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yakob Dhabi **Brothers** 1**Mother** Buzayehu Mamo **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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. She lives with her father, mother and little brother. Merone's family is extremely poor; her mother is a stay at home mom who spends all of her time looking after Merone's young brother. Merone's father works as a helper on a taxi making less than a dollar a day. Life for this family is extremely hard. However, thanks to one missionary who spotted Merone while on a home visit to a neighbor's house she was able to be added to BCI sponsorship program.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name: Mesaye Degu****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 12/25/2006 Age: 8****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Deceased****Brothers 1****Mother Deceased****Sisters 0****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Keta Secondary School****Church Emanuel Church**

The story of Mesaye is one of the most saddening stories that you could ever hear. She lost her mother to HIV when she was only nine years old then she was taken in by her uncle, who is also HIV positive. Currently his disease has progressed into AIDS, making it impossible for him to work and provide for his own family, let alone Mesaye. On top of that, Mesaye has mental and hearing disabilities which has prevented her from going to school. Mesaye loves the color white and her favorite animal is the lion. She says in the future she wants to be a pilot.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Meseret Girma****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 6/28/2005 Age: 9****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Burtie****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Girma Abera****Brothers 1****Mother Senayit Hailu****Sisters 3****Language Amharic****Ethnicity Oromo****School****Church Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church**

Meseret (Burtie) Girma is a young girl who lives with her mother, sisters, brother and grandmother. Meseret's mother works as a daily laborer to bring in as much as she can to support her children and mother but it is still not enough. Meseret lives in a home with no beds and the family is forced to sleep on straw and burlap sacks on the ground. Meseret has never attended school because her mother is unable to pay for the tuition, uniforms and books that are required to attend. Meseret is excited to begin school at this BCI Academy and to meet new friends. Meseret's favorite color is red, her food is rice and she loves horses.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 5/1/2015**

**Name: Mikias Engeda****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 5/23/1999****Age: 15****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mikias****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Engeda Minase****Brothers 1****Mother Bekelech Tariku****Sisters 2****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Mistre Kebede Kefeni****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 6/20/2001****Age: 13****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mistire****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Kebede Kefeni****Brothers 0****Mother Tsehay Haile****Sisters 2****Language Amharic****Ethnicity Amhara****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name: Mulugeta Kebede****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 12/28/1996 Age: 18****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mulugeta****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Kebede Hailu****Brothers 1****Mother Shewaye Birbo****Sisters 0****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Nebledengle****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$60****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Mulumembet Tadesse****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 2/15/1998 Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mulu****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Tadesse Mola****Brothers 0****Mother Asnaku****Sisters 0****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Libnedingil School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name: Mussie Dereje Mengistu****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 1/16/2008 Age: 7****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Mussie****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Dereje Mengistu Brothers 2****Mother Almaz Tulema Sisters 0****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School Emmanuel****Church MKC - Meserete Kristos Church**

Mussie is an energetic young boy who loves to play soccer. He is the youngest of three boys to his family. He lives with his parents and two brothers. Both parents are HIV positive and the mother is also a cancer patient. 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. Mussie's mother is often sick and fragile and do not work Putting the family at a great hardship.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 5/1/2015****Name: Nahom Belete****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 5/14/2011 Age: 3****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Belete Tamerat Brothers 1****Mother Mulu Eurgara Sisters 0****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name:** Nahom Gebeyaw Takele**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 2/19/2000 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Nahom**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gebeyaw Takele **Brothers** 2**Mother** Alemitu Weldemariya **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Nardos Melaku**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/31/2012 **Age:** 2

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aebe Dibaba **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Nardos has never seen her father since he abandoned her mother when she was only two month pregnant. Nardos' mother does her best to make a living by baking injera and washing clothes for other people. Nardos also has an older brother who lives with them and the family is in great need.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Natanim Wasihun Teshager**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/8/1997 **Age:** 17

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Natanim**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Wasihun Teshager**Brothers** 0**Mother** Tsega G'hiwot**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Nathanael Mulugeta Dabi**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/15/2005 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Nathanael**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mulugeta Dabi**Brothers** 1**Mother** Roman Ababaher**Sisters** 3**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Mersha School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Natnael Getahun****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 12/20/2004 Age: 10****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Nati****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getahun Shewangeza **Brothers** 0**Mother** Aynalem Shumi **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Natnael Melaku****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 10/27/1998 Age: 16****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Nati****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 1**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Tewodrose School**Church** Emanuel Church

Natnael is a bright young man who lost his father at the age of one and his mother at the age of nine. When we found him, Natnael was living with his uncle, who is a very abusive man. Upon acceptance to the BCI Program Natnael was removed from that abusive situation and now lives with his half-brother, who has taken responsibility for his care. For Natnael, life has been a struggle because his uncle did not provide for him and he doesn't have any source of income to support himself, often depending on the mercy of hotel owners and neighbors to give them their leftovers. However, Nati is optimistic about the future. One day he sees himself supporting those who are just like him by becoming a professional soccer player.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 4/28/2015**

**Name:** Natnael Melkamu Abebe**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 7/14/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Nati**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Melkamu Abebe **Brothers** 0**Mother** Genet Nigusie **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Natnael Mesele**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 2/14/2002 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Nati**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tigist Adugnaw **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Natnael Teshome**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/12/2003 **Age:** 11**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 1**Mother** Deceased**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Tokuma School**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Natnael's father has passed away due to HIV right after Natnael was born and then he lost his mother to HIV when he was nine. Natnael currently lives with his brother and elderly grandmother who tries survive on a monthly pension of 300 birr, which is equivalent to \$16 a month. This isn't enough to provide them with the basics and they often go without food. Natnael loves to play soccer with his best friend Temesgen. In the future he wants to be an Engineer. His favorite color is yellow and he loves dogs.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 5/1/2015**Name:** Natsanet Assefa Yimam**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/30/2010 **Age:** 4**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Netsanet**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 0**Mother** Tikedem Asefa**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Netsanet was 5 months old during his intake interview and it was discovered that he was never given a name. In Ethiopian culture, if the parents believe that the child will not survive then they don't name them. It was soon realized why the grandmother thought the baby wouldn't survive. While missionaries were praying for his mother, a demon manifested itself. The local church prayer team was called in to fast and pray for her and week later, she arrived at church and came forward to receive Christ. 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015

**Name:** Nebeyu Shimelese**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 7/14/2002 **Age:** 12**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tsege Mamo **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nigat Goh School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Nebeyu's mother, Tsege, was caring for a dying relative in a tiny neighboring city called Dukem. It is here that she met Nebeyu's father and Nebeyu was conceived. However, their relationship was short lived when Nebeyu's father heard the news about the pregnancy and took off. After Tsege's relative died she had no other options but to move to Debre Zeyit with her newly born baby. In Debre Zeyit she received sheltered at her sister's house and began raising her child by selling charcoal and fire wood on the street. Now Nebeyu is a young boy who loves his mother and helps her around the house. Nebeyu loves dogs and he also loves to play soccer, which is the favorite game among Ethiopian boys. When he grows up Nebeyu wants to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Nicolay Dmitry Shekov**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/23/2001 **Age:** 14**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Nicolay**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dmitry Zerkov **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tiruwork Bereje **Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Russian/Am**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Oholiab Mulugeta**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 5/30/2006 **Age:** 8**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Oli**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mulugeta Tamene **Brothers** 1**Mother** Hadas Tadele **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** MKC - Meserete Kristos Church

Oholiab Mulugeta has been through a lot in his young life. Since he was born in 2006, Oholiab has been consistently in and out of the hospital and has had six operations on his legs and spine. He has also been in a body cast for six months. The last seven years has been difficult for his family with uncountable trips to the hospital, many nights of worry, heartbreak for their son who doesn't understand why he isn't like other children and a large sum of medical bills they can never hope to repay. Despite his difficult life, Oholiab has taught his family and many others who have heard his story, a thing or two about hope, love and determination. It is difficult for the family to put food on their table while paying medical bills. Oholiab loves to play hide and seek with his best friend Dawit and in the future he says he wants to be a pilot or a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015**Name:** Philimon Lidetu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/26/2002 **Age:** 12**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Lidetu Kebede **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tigist Waktola **Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Rosa Daniel**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/14/2008 **Age:** 6

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Daniel Abera **Brothers** 0**Mother** Genet Tesfaye **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015**Name:** Rute Tsegaye**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/7/2008 **Age:** 6

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Rute**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 1**Mother** Wayneshet Mamo **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Rute Tsegaye is a precious little girl who lives with her mother, her brother and her two sisters. Rute lost her father due to unknown illness, which is very common in Ethiopia due to the lack of decent medical care. With the loss of her father, Rute's family also lost its only provider. That is when the burden of caring for the family fall on Rute's mother who had no source of income. Despite all of the hardship her and her family has had to endure, Rute is a very smart girl who loves her family and helps her mother in the house. During her free time Rute loves to play pretend games with her best friend Sifenu. Rute's favorite colors are pink and orange. Her favorite food is Rice. When she grows up Rute wants to become a Doctor to help families like hers, who couldn't afford medical care.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Sara Abiy**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/1/2006**Age:** 8**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Sara**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abiy Lemecha**Brothers** 0**Mother** Tigist Nigusie**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Selam Terefe**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 5/12/2012**Age:** 2**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned**Brothers** 1**Mother** Aster Abebe**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Emanuel Church

Selam, which means "peace" in Amharic, is a vibrant young girl. Yet despite her serene name and megawatt smile, Selam and her mother's story is devastating. Selam's mother, Aster, used to live in rural Ethiopia with her husband and three children however, life for Aster was very difficult because her husband used to get drunk and beat her viciously. After many years of unbearable abuse, Aster fled to Debre Zeyit with her youngest son. Aster began making a living by washing clothes until one day while at work, Aster was raped by a man she washed clothes for. This painful experience resulted in her becoming pregnant with Selam. Currently Aster and her two youngest children are living in a tiny house in poor condition. Selam and her family's situation is very desperate and Selam needs immediate assistance.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/24/2015

**Name:** Selamawit Teklemuz**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 1/25/1996 **Age:** 19

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Selamawit**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teklemuz Hailu **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tigist Arefaene **Sisters** 0**Language** Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre**School** Bushoftu School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Selamawit Yohannes**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/6/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 1**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Gurage **Ethnicity** Gurage**School** Tokuma School**Church** Emanuel Church

Selamawit Yohannes and her brother used to live with their parents in Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia. They lived a happy life with their loving mother and a father who cared for and provided for them. Unfortunately, their happy home was torn apart when they lost their mother to HIV AIDS. Their father suffered so much grief from the loss of his wife that he became very sick and as a result he couldn't work. To make things worse, when he couldn't pay rent on their home they were evicted. Faced with the prospect of street life, Selamawit's father sent his children to live with his old and poor mother. Currently, Selamawit and her brother are living with their grandmother but with no income the family is constantly struggling and in great danger. They have not heard from Selamawit's father and he offers no help. Selamawit loves the English language and her favorite animal is the cat. She loves to play soccer with her best friend Mekedes and in the future she wants to be a nurse.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Semira Adem**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 3/11/2000**Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Semira**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Adem Sirai**Brothers** 0**Mother** Busunesh Regasa**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$40**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Sentayehu Gemechu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/6/2008**Age:** 6

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Feker**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gemechu Sesa**Brothers** 1**Mother** Deceased**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Sentayehu is a precious little girl who lives with her grandmother in the red light district of Debre Zeyit, known for its bars and brothels. Sentayehu's mother used to work in one of these bars before she passed away because of HIV AIDS a couple of years ago. Sentayehu lived with her father for a time, watching him struggle with constant sickness due to HIV yet still trying to make ends meet for her and her brother. Eventually, her father's health declined so much that he was unable to care for the children and they were sent to live with their grandmother, who is also HIV positive and struggles to support them. However, thanks to gracious sponsors through BCI the family is getting the support that they need to survive and Sentayehu has a bright future. 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. Her favorite color is green and her favorite animal is the goat.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name:** Setota Esa**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/25/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Esa **Brothers** 1**Mother** Abandoned **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Derara School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Setota's story slightly differs from that of other children. When his parents separated, Setota and his siblings stayed with their father while their mother left. They haven't heard from her since. As if raising three children on your own wasn't enough of a challenge, Setota's father is disabled and unable to work. He lives on pension, about \$25/month, which is not enough to provide for the family of four. Setota helps around the house by washing the dish and cleaning the house. Setota loves to play soccer with his best friend Adisu. In the future Setota wants to become an engineer.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Seyum Dibaba Hailu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 7/12/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Seyoum**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dibaba Hailu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Bezunesh Negussie **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Sisay Alemu Kebtimer**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/30/2003 **Age:** 11**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Sisay**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemu Kabtimer**Brothers** 2**Mother** Aynalem Tesema**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Sisay Bekele Degefa**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/4/2000 **Age:** 14**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Sisay**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Bekele Degefa**Brothers** 1**Mother** Boge Bekele**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Sitota Aschalew**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/1/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Aschalew Kebede**Brothers** 0**Mother** Fewdnesh Derja**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Sitota Mesfen**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/28/2011 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Sitota**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mesfen Mideksa**Brothers** 3**Mother** Tigist Chala**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Siyam Mohammed Nur**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/26/2002 **Age:** 12

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Siyam**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mohammed Nur **Brothers** 0**Mother** Zehara Abdulkadir **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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 are dogs and cats.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Solomon Endeshaw**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/7/2001 **Age:** 13

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Solomon**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endeshaw Fekadu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Tigist Chala **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Surafel Tefera**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 8/27/2005 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Surafel**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tefera Megra **Brothers** 1**Mother** Wolela Bekele **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Tekalign Endeshaw**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/6/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Takle**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Endeshaw Fekadu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Tigist Chala **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Terefe Kebede**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 2/12/1998 **Age:** 17**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Terefe**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Kebede Hailu **Brothers** 1**Mother** Shewaye Birbo **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Nebledangle**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Tewodros G'Alief**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/30/1995 **Age:** 19**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Tedi**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** G'Alief Asgedow **Brothers** 0**Mother** Tazeb Miruts **Sisters** 1**Language** Tigre **Ethnicity** Tigre**School** Nebledangle**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name: Tewodros Tilahun Mola****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 4/20/1998 Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Tewodros****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tilahun Mola **Brothers** 0**Mother** Likie Teshome **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Teyent Asrat****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 6/30/1998 Age: 16****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Teyent****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Asrat G'Mikael **Brothers** 0**Mother** Amarech Hailu **Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Bekelicha School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name:** Tigist Debebe**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/8/1995 **Age:** 19

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Tigist**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Debebe Guchi **Brothers** 0**Mother** Alemtsehay Shiferaw **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Bushoftu School**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Tigist Gemechu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 2/21/2007 **Age:** 8

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Great Ethiopia**Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Tigist is an only child who lost both of her parents when she was just one year old. Luckily Tigist's aunt took her in and began raising Tigist as one of her own children. They were never well off but they didn't go hungry, that is, until Aster's husband fell ill. Since he has been sick, it is difficult for him to work and it has become impossible to provide for the family of nine. Tigist helps around the house by washing dishes and cleaning. She loves the color red and to play hide and seek. In the future Tigist wants to be a Doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name: Tigist Legesse****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 7/12/1999****Age: 15****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Tigist****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Legesse Abebe****Brothers 0****Mother Meselu Yeshitila****Sisters 0****Language Amharic Ethnicity Amharic****School Joshua Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Tigist Shimeles****Status: Approved****Girl Birthdate: 7/1/2009****Age: 5****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Shemilise Fekadu****Brothers 1****Mother Samerawit Ali****Sisters 1****Language Oromo Ethnicity Oromo****School****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name:** Tinsae Teklu**Status:** Approved**Boy** **Birthdate:** 4/23/2006 **Age:** 9

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Tinsae**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Teklu Workeneh **Brothers** 0**Mother** Meseret W'Maham **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Tizita Dawit Abreham**Status:** Approved**Girl** **Birthdate:** 3/14/2001 **Age:** 14

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Tizita**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dawit Abreham **Brothers** 1**Mother** Moadi Halefom **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Tsedenya Alemayhu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 11/28/2002 **Age:** 12

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased**Brothers** 2**Mother** Genet Bekele**Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Vera**Church** Emanuel Church

From the outside Tsedenya is a beautiful girl who loves to draw. Yet, ever since she was just six month old she has had a tough life. It was at the young age of six months when she began having signs of chronic epilepsy. Since then Tsedenya has been fighting for her life. On top of that Tsedenya's father passed away leaving Tsedenya's mother to care for three children. Tsedenya's mother works as a janitor in a local Red Cross office and although her income of 1000 Ethiopian birr (about \$52 USD) is better than most families, it does not cover Tsedenya's treatment or the families living expenses. Tsedenya loves to play soccer and her favorite color is red.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Tsion Andualem Daniel**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 7/23/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Tsion**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Andualem Daniel**Brothers** 1**Mother** Seble Girma**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amharic**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Wasihun Tesfaye**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/31/2005 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Wasihun**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tesfaye Tewodros **Brothers** 2**Mother** Wubalem Mesfin **Sisters** 2**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 5/1/2015**Name:** Wogayehu Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 10/15/1999 **Age:** 15

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Wogayehu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemayehu Haile **Brothers** 2**Mother** Aberash Denka **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yabsira Abreham**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 8/22/2007 **Age:** 7

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 0**Mother** Seble Tesfaye **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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 mothers 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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yabsira Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/28/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 1**Mother** Abandoned **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Elebas**Church** Emanuel Church

Yabsira and her brother were abandoned by their mother many years ago. After their mother left, their father did his best to care for them but he was very sickly and passed away a few years ago. They were taken in by their grandparents, both of whom are retired and their income that they receive from pension is 600.00 birr per month – about \$31 USD. Because of their generosity and care for their grandchildren, this family has been struggling to make ends meet. Yabsira is a big help around the house by washing dishes and cleaning. She loves to jump rope with her best friends Bestelot and Rediet. Her favorite color is green and in the future Yabsira want to be a doctor.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 5/1/2015

**Name:** Yabsira Belete Tamerat**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/30/2006 **Age:** 8**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Yabsira**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Belete Tamerat**Brothers** 1**Mother** Mulu Wurgesa**Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yabsira Feseha**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 12/8/2006 **Age:** 8**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Unknown**Brothers** 0**Mother** Membere G'Meskele**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Amhara**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015



**Name:** Yabsira Gameda**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 11/13/2013 **Age:** 1**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Separated**Brothers** 1**Mother** Shewaye Girma**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

Yabsira lives with his mom and 2 siblings ever since his parents separated. Although, his father pays an amount to support his children it is not enough to provide for the family's need. To make ends meet, Yabsira's mother also works earning 70 birr per month which is equivalent to \$3.50 USD. However, this is not enough to provide for the family.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yabsira Girma Desalegn**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 4/11/1997 **Age:** 18**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Yeabsira**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Girma Desalegn**Brothers** 1**Mother** Yesunesh Shumye**Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yabsira Hagos**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 6/16/2010 **Age:** 4

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Yabsira**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Hagos Zerihun **Brothers** 1**Mother** Seble Terefe **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School****Church** Lem Lem Mekan Yesus Church

The first thing you'll notice about Yabsira is that she loves to smile. She is an adorable little girl but life for Yabsira and her family has been difficult ever since her father left the family many years ago. When her father left, he left Yabsira's mother to single handedly care for three young children. Yabsira's mother is a strong woman who does her best to make a living by washing clothes and baking Injera. However, regardless of how hard she works, her income is so little that she struggled to provide for her family. Currently Yabsira's brother is under the BCI sponsorship program and life for this family and this beautiful girl is improving. Yabsira loves to play with toys and her favorite food is rice.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Yakob Dereje**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 12/16/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Yakob**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dereje Mengistu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Almaz Tulema **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yegele Getachew**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 6/14/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Yegele**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getachew Yitna **Brothers** 0**Mother** Ayelech Abebe **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yemeserach Tsega**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 8/29/2004 **Age:** 10

Debre Zeit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Barecho**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tsega Tegene **Brothers** 1**Mother** Tsige Mamao **Sisters** 5**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School** Tokuma School**Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

Yemeserach is the youngest of seven children. Although both of her parents are alive, her father is often sick and unable to contribute to the household. Her mother is left as the sole provider and her only source of income is selling Injera bread. No matter how hard she works, her monthly income is not enough. In addition to the heavy burden of providing the basic necessities for the family, Yemeserach is in need of medical attention as she has been having trouble walking since she was hit by a car. Despite all of the difficulties that her family has been struggling through Yemeserach is a smart girl who does good in school, where her favorite subject is math. Yemeserach also helps her mother when she is able by cleaning the house and washing dishes. Her favorite color is yellow and her favorite animal is the dog. In the future Yemeserach wants to be an engineer.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$90**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yeshak Dereje Mengistu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 9/15/2001 **Age:** 13**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Yeshak**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Dereje Mengistu **Brothers** 2**Mother** Almaz Tulema **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yohannes Bekele**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 3/12/2013 **Age:** 2**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Abandoned **Brothers** 0**Mother** Emebet Mogese **Sisters** 0**Language** Amharic **Ethnicity** Amhara**School****Church** Zion Mekaneyesus Church

The story of this little boy and his mother is a most unfortunate one. Yohannes's mother used to be a married woman, working side by side with her husband to make a living to provide for themselves. His mother found out that she was pregnant and share the news with his father. However, to his mother's disbelief, her husband disappeared and took all of their hard earned money with him. Although life for Yohannes and his mother is extremely difficult, she still tries to make a living by selling charcoal and firewood at the corner of the street while also nurturing her newly born son.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015

**Name: Yohannes Bune****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 1/14/1998****Age: 17****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Yohannes****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Mamo Bune Rasha****Brothers 1****Mother Alema Tufa Wori****Sisters 1****Language Oromo****Ethnicity Oromo****School Joshua Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 5/1/2015****Name: Yohannes Fitsum****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 7/6/2001****Age: 13****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name: Yohannis****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father Fitsum Tafere****Brothers 0****Mother Asegedech Tadesse****Sisters 1****Language Amharic****Ethnicity Amhara/Tig****School BCI Academy****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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$30****Updated: 4/10/2015**

**Name: Yohannes Gezahegne****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 5/15/2006 Age: 8****Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Gezahegne Shiferow **Brothers** 3**Mother** Birtekiwan Berga **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: \$90****Updated: 4/10/2015****Name: Yohannes Legesse****Status: Approved****Boy Birthdate: 3/16/2004 Age: 11****Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:****FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Deceased **Brothers** 3**Mother** Deceased **Sisters** 0**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** Derara School**Church** Emanuel Church

Yohannes Legesse lost both his parents and is now living with his brothers with the oldest attending university. There is no real source of income but the kids are selling papers on the street to whoever will buy from them. Their estimated income is 80 birr per month, the equivalent of just under \$5. Their neighbors help the boys when they can but there's not much to go around. The boys are ages 8, 11 and 18 and live in a government house by themselves. Yohannes attends school and his favorite subject is math. He cleans house and washes dishes to help out at the home. His favorite color is red. He also likes soccer and he plays with his best friend Eyob. His favorite animal is the chicken. When he gets older, he wants to be an engineer.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored: Fully Sponsored****Updated: 4/10/2015**



**Name:** Yohannes Yirga**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/18/2007**Age:** 8**Debre Zeit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Jhonny**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Yirga Alemu (Decease) **Brothers** 0**Mother** Sisay Goshema **Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**Church** Misgana Ethiopian Evangelical

Yohannes is a very smart young boy who loves to sing and worship. Yohannes lives with his mother and two of his older sisters. Yohannes's father has passed away when his mother was pregnant with him therefore he doesn't know his father. Yohannes helps his mother around the house and during his spare time he loves to play soccer. His favorite food is meat and pasta. In the future Yohannes wants to be a preacher.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/28/2015**Name:** Yonas Alemayehu**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/12/2005**Age:** 10**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Yonas**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Alemayehu Haile **Brothers** 1**Mother** Aberash Denka **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yosef Getachew**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 4/25/1999 **Age:** 16

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Getachew Belihu **Brothers** 0**Mother** Birke Tufa **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$30**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Yosef Mideksa Begna**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 10/8/1997 **Age:** 17

Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Mideksa Begana **Brothers** 3**Mother** Tadelech Feleke **Sisters** 1**Language** Oromo **Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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".

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

**Name:** Yosef Tesfaye**Status:** Approved**Boy Birthdate:** 1/22/2000**Age:** 15**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Yosef**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tesfaye Chala**Brothers** 0**Mother** Fanaye Beshadu**Sisters** 1**Language** Amharic**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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!

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** Fully Sponsored**Updated:** 4/10/2015**Name:** Zenu Tafa Bekele**Status:** Approved**Girl Birthdate:** 9/25/2005**Age:** 9**Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia****Nick Name:** Zenu**FAMILY BACKGROUND****Father** Tafa Bekele**Brothers** 1**Mother** Dida**Sisters** 2**Language** Oromo**Ethnicity** Oromo**School** BCI Academy**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.

**Amount Needed to be fully sponsored:** \$60**Updated:** 4/10/2015

# 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.

### CONTACT INFORMATION – USA

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