

RISING STARS

We have three girls in the BCI sponsorship program who have excelled in academics over the past several years. Each semester, they continually rise to the top of their classes and demonstrate a strong commitment to learning.



L to R: Rahel Gezachew, Kalkidan Kasahun, Yordanos Gezachew

Rahel Gezachew is 12 years old. She placed 1st in her grade 5 class, with an average score of 96.3%.

Kalkidan Kasahun is 7 years old. She placed 2nd in her grade 2 class, with an average score of 96.2%.

secure families and have advantages over sponsored children. This makes the accomplishments of these girls even more outstanding, as they have risen above a great deal of adversity on their way to success. We are so excited for their bright futures!

Yordanos Gezachew is 9 years old. She placed 1st in her grade 3 class, with an average score of 98.9%.

Classes at the BCI Academy include both sponsored children as well as children from the local community, most of whom come from more financially

Post Newsletter

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A PROMISE FULFILLED

It has long been our vision to offer a complete education from preschool through grade 12. In 2017, we undertook a project to expand the BCI Academy to offer grades 9 and 10. This meant that students could reap the benefits of an excellent education at the BCI Academy for two additional years. Since our school ends at grade 10, those who complete grade 10 and progress to university prep (grades 11 and 12) must switch to government school for their final two years.

A BCI Academy student shared his thoughts after transferring to a government school for grade 11: *“I don't hate the government school and I don't like it either. I hate the racism and other things. Some of the teachers have taught for many years in the school and they are sick and tired of teaching. Some teachers give us one question and they sit and relax for 45 minutes, even though we only have class twice a week on that subject. The quality of the teaching in government schools is really poor compared to the BCI Academy and other private schools. There is a laboratory but we have not been to the lab since school year started. The school fees are really cheap compared to private schools so you get what you pay for.”*

We have stepped out in faith and embarked on completion of the BCI Academy by initiating the building of grade 11 and 12 classrooms. Although great progress has been made, we are running out of time and resources for the 2021/22 school year, which will begin in mid to late September. If you are able to be a part of this special project to help fulfill the promise of a complete education at the BCI Academy, please reach out. You may send a check by postal mail, make a donation by credit or debit card by calling our US office, or make a secure one-time gift through our website.



Contractors working to finish the high school classrooms

Current Needs

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total Need
Desks	\$80	88	\$7,040
White Boards	\$37	8	\$296
Tables	\$45	8	\$360
Electrical	\$1,100	1	\$1,100
Filing Cabinets	\$37	8	\$296
Book Shelves	\$33	6	\$198
Windows	\$147	10	\$1,470
Plumbing	\$2,650	1	\$2,650
Books	\$20	25	\$500
			\$13,910

RETURN TO CAMPUS

After well over a year away from campus, our university students are steadily making a return to in-person learning. We have nine returning students as well as several incoming freshmen. The students are studying at institutions all across Ethiopia, including Jimma, Hawassa, Gambella, Debre Berhan, Jigjiga, Dire Dawa, Gondar, Ambo and MCMS. This is child sponsorship in action - giving these wonderful young people a chance to make a good life for themselves. Praise God for this opportunity!

Bemnet Manaye and Adana Kasu have overcome a great deal to stay enrolled in university. They first had to flee campus during their freshman year when violence erupted on campus and their dorm was ransacked. This was followed by more than a year away from school during the start of the pandemic. We're so pleased in their persistence and happy to have them back on campus.

Efrata Mesenbet and Tizita Dawit are incoming freshmen. Efrata is attending Gondar University and Tizita is attending Ambo University. Please join us in praying for the health and success of these students!



L to R: Bemnet Manaye and Adana Kasu



Efrata Mesenbet



Tizita Dawit

THE COST OF WAR



Sifen Abreham, age 6

Sifen Abreham is a quiet and shy 6-year-old girl who has lived a hard life. Her father is a soldier on the front lines of the war in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. The war has been ongoing for months now and has claimed many lives. Sifen has no idea if her father has died in combat, been captured as a POW, or if he is still alive. The stress and worry weighs heavily on Sifen and her family.

Sifen lives with her mother and 4-year-old sister, Sebele. Her mother washes clothes for a different family. Sifen helps her mother by taking care of her younger sister. In fact, her nickname is Mama. Sifen is not attending school because her mother does not have enough income to send her. Her mother earns 500 birr (approximately \$11 USD) per month washing clothes. The family is in a desperate situation.

Sifen has recently been blessed with partial sponsorship at \$45 / month. Perhaps you have considered sponsorship but are unable to commit to a full \$90 / month sponsorship. Can you help complete Sifen's sponsorship?

Please also join us in praying for Sifen's father to return safely to the family.

UPDATE: PUTTING MOMS TO WORK

We are thrilled to report that our Income Generating Activity project for moms is receiving great support and is moving ahead.

TRAINING: Training in business and sanitation is complete. The moms have been trained on the financial aspects of running a business, best business practices, and proper sanitation for conducting a food-based business. All moms were trained together and were able to share ideas and work collectively.

MATERIALS: Team leaders have been selected. They met and conducted a market survey to determine the types of injera the market is demanding. Based on this information, they made a plan of which ingredients to purchase and are in the process of procuring their materials.



One of 4 Team Leaders



Fresh injera made by BCI moms

Ovens: Construction of the injera ovens is now complete. A new kind of oven was created in our ministry workshop by our creative staff. The moms have each received an oven to take home for their businesses.

NEXT STEPS: Next steps are to deliver the ingredients to participating mothers, start production, and put their product into the market.

There is still time to participate in this key project. There are more moms praying to be added to the team. The cost to fully support one mom is \$250 USD.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Sponsorship of Sifen

Provide monthly sponsorship for 6-year-old Sifen Abreham to meet her needs and help her thrive.

Need: \$45/month
Raised: \$0
Remaining Need: \$45/month



September Food Support

Provide critical food support for families in crisis due to the effects of the pandemic.

Need: \$30/family
Raised: \$0
Remaining Need: \$1,200



A Promise Fulfilled

Be part of BCI history by helping with the final steps in building grade 11 & 12 classrooms to complete the school.

Need: \$13,910
Raised: \$0
Remaining Need: \$13,910



You can **make a donation** by phone at (888) 269-2719, by web at www.BlessingtheChildren.org or by mail to: Blessing the Children, 2265 Fraser Road, Kawkawlin, MI 48631