

# ENHANCE WORLDWIDE

Q1 Newsletter | January 2018

## ENHANCE IN ACTION

This January marks **36 months** of Enhance Worldwide operations in Ethiopia. Although the political situation in Ethiopia has stabilized, there are still regular bouts of smaller-scale unrest. Communication has improved and we are again able to receive regular program updates from our field team. We now know that we are able to weather such political upheaval with no disruptions to programs or services.

Our field team **courageously** continued administering **all Enhance programs** during a nationwide state of emergency, intermittent internet shutdowns, even violent demonstrations. Although we certainly wish they were never put in such a position, we are proud of their ability to continue **despite the odds!**



The girls in our programs are **thriving**. All students in our Kinship Care and Rising Autonomy programs have started school again after winter break. Last term, all program participants received passing grades and are excited to reconnect with friends after time at home.



Our university cohort of students will soon return to school later this month after their mid-term exams. Although they haven't yet received their marks, we are **confident** they performed well – as always!

With much to celebrate, our team in Ethiopia is busy planning our **third annual** January **community event** and looking ahead to new ways to stand up for girls!

—**Ashley Lackovich-Van Gorp**, Founding Executive Director ■

---

***“If you educate a man, you educate an individual; but if you educate a woman, you educate a nation.”***

*African proverb*

---

## BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY, VIOLENCE, AND INEQUALITY

For **\$25** a month, we can enhance a girl's life. For **\$60**, we can send a young woman to university.

Your participation and financial support provide girls, young women, and their communities with the **tools and strategies** to navigate pathways out of poverty. Right now we are recruiting sponsors for **Kinship Care**, a program that keeps orphaned girls off of the streets by enabling them to live with relatives and attend school in their home communities in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Expanding learning into the community, we facilitate community conversations on topics that impact the wellbeing of the girls and young women we serve, such as **HIV/AIDS** and **reproductive health, child marriage** and **gender based violence**.



Enhance Worldwide is growing and you can help. Our

**Rising Autonomy** program supports young women from impoverished households in the early years of their independence. The program is based on the fact that privilege emerges from privilege whereas social mobility is increasingly rare. In order to ensure that girls from underprivileged backgrounds **foster agency**, we support them in the same way until they are living independently. This might mean financial aid and support services for a university or vocational school, lease assistance for their first apartment, financial literacy, or mentoring and support with life skills and healthy relationships. While many organizations cease support upon high school graduation, we recognize the vulnerability of young adults and established this program to create a tangible **pathway to independence**. Any contribution toward **Rising Autonomy** will help create this pathway.



Because our field team are volunteers and we work within the existing social system, our program funds go directly to those navigating poverty and inequality. Let's send girls to school! To sponsor a girl's education, visit

<http://www.enhanceworldwide.org/donate/> ■

---

***“For 3 years the money that you have been sending every month made it possible for me to go to school and receive this diploma. I would like to say thank you very much and give my sincerest gratitude to your organization.”***

*Rising Autonomy participant & college graduate*

---

## COURAGEOUS ACTION

January 2018 marks the **third anniversary** of Enhance Worldwide being operational – naturally, we're celebrating with a holiday party and life skills event for all the girls and young women in our programs funded by our **Pathways Project!** Enhance Worldwide's three programs – **Kinship Care**, **Rising Autonomy** and **Pathways Project** – actively challenge

the threats of child marriage, institutional care (orphanage), street violence, heightened risk for HIV/AIDS, and trafficking in the Entoto area of Addis Ababa. Together, we have accomplished so much!

In October 2017, our Board of Directors committed to long-term and strategic program development, program evaluation, and fundraising to support and amplify Enhance Worldwide’s **capacity** and **impact**. Enhance Worldwide is now within reach of fully funding our second **GlobalGiving** project and our first university cohort – in partnership with **Kapadia Education Foundation** – is now in their second year of studies. Our field team and Board of Directors work tirelessly to expand our program offerings, program reach, and the number of constituents served in the Entoto area of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



At Enhance Worldwide, we believe in the power of **partnerships**. To date, we have partnered with Not Too Late, Days For Girls, and Kapadia Education Foundation, became a member organization of Girls Not Brides and GlobalGiving, as well as a Girls’ Globe featured organization. We can’t wait to see the **courageous action** Enhance Worldwide will take in **2018!**

—*Heather Mahardy*, Founding President ■

---

***“When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion.”***  
*Ethiopian proverb*

---

## COMMITTED ADVOCATES FOR CHANGE

[Learn more](#) about Enhance Worldwide’s passionate and fearless **Board of Directors**, working for communities where girls and women have the skills to lead meaningful, dignified lives and where each individual has agency, autonomy and aspirations. ■

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Ashley Lackovich-Van Gorp**  
Founding Executive Director



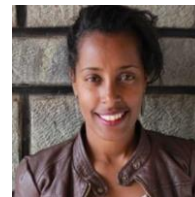
**Heather Mahardy**  
Founding President



**Amare Siraw Yihun**  
Founding Vice President



**Brian Hayden**  
Founding Secretary and Treasurer



**Tsion Asmare**  
Founding Member



**Roxanne Swogger**  
Founding Member

♥ **CONNECT WITH ENHANCE WORLDWIDE**  
Twitter: @EnhanceWW | Facebook: EnhanceWorldwide