



Shambu Catholic Kindergarten

Caring for the Children of the Poor in Unstable Areas

— Shambu, Ethiopia —



Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them;
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”

MATTHEW 19:14



Executive Summary

Description

This project will educate and feed 237 students at a Catholic kindergarten in a remote, unstable region of Ethiopia.

Purpose

To demonstrate Christ's love by providing quality preschool and kindergarten education for the poorest families.

Location

Shambu, a remote mountain town northwest of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Cost

\$31,200 provides food and education for 237 children and salaries for nine teachers and seven support staff.

Highlights

NEED

- In Ethiopia, 1 in 5 children under the age of 5 are underweight and nearly a quarter of households live below the poverty line (CIA World Factbook).
- Shambu is a small town in a rural-agricultural region. Its remoteness makes life there challenging.
- Conflicts, disease outbreaks and drought have heavily impacted the people in the area.
- Low-income families desperately need help in providing stability and education for their children.

IMPACT

- The Consolata Missionaries and Consolata Missionary Sisters run a two-year preschool and kindergarten at the Shambu Mission Center.
- Families contribute approximately \$2 monthly for tuition, but the 40 poorest children receive a 100% free education, including uniforms, books, learning materials and daily lunches.
- School administrators conduct home visits and counsel parents to support a healthy upbringing for the students.





Ayantu Desalegn and her son Gelana Reta.

Stability, Love and Education for Children in Need

Ayantu Desalegn lives in a remote, mountainous region of Ethiopia where she collects firewood from the forest to earn a meager income. For all her hard work, she only manages to make about \$1 a day, so raising her three children on her own is a real challenge. Still, she pushes on in hopes that her little ones will have a better life.

Thankfully, God is aware of her hardships and has moved faithful Catholics to provide for the needs of families like Ayantu's. Their hope can rest in the words God spoke through his prophet Jeremiah: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope" (Jer 29:11).

The source of that hope is the Shambu Catholic Kindergarten. Ayantu was first blessed with that help two years ago when her oldest daughter was offered a spot at the school. It included clothing, food and books — all funded by the benefactors of Cross Catholic Outreach. Now that her daughter has graduated, her son Gelana is in line to become a student, and Ayantu is eager to see him succeed as well. If the school continues to be supported by Cross Catholic Outreach's compassionate donors, she is certain he will thrive there.

Shambu Catholic Kindergarten is a godsend to rural Ethiopian families because it provides a stable environment for their children to grow spiritually and add new skills. This helps break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy that has plagued so many poor families in this region. As children start a lifetime of learning, they are placed on a path to greater prosperity and can improve their entire family's circumstances. They also develop socially and spiritually as they make friends, see the world differently and apply the manners and good behaviors taught to them by the school's dedicated teachers.

These simple things – food, friends, intellectual stimulation — are basic building blocks for a better life, but they can often seem out of reach for poor families who are simply struggling to survive. With help from compassionate Catholics like you, however, these precious people can do more than survive; they can thrive!

Join us and be part of God's providence by providing hope, education and stability to the neediest families in the Shambu region today!



Deliver Christ's Love to Poor Children



God wants all his children to have food, housing and an education that will provide them with knowledge, wisdom and spiritual guidance. You can be God's instrument to deliver those blessings in Ethiopia by supporting the Shambu Catholic Kindergarten. It is perfectly positioned to serve 237 needy local children, but it needs your help to succeed.

Your generous gift today will empower the school's caring teachers, priests and sisters, providing a beacon of hope to those in greatest need. Please, help us ensure this school remains open and can serve the community effectively. Your gift will provide food for the children

and will help cover the salaries for nine teachers and seven support staff — all critical to the school's outreach to the poor. Your compassion and generosity can fulfill Jeremiah's prophecy today by giving these struggling Ethiopian families a future with hope!

Your generous gift will make a lasting difference!

Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.



Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2024, the close of our ministry's fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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