



# Brothers of Good Works

## HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis Health Care

— Addis Ababa, Ethiopia —



The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn.

ISAIAH 61:1-2



## Executive Summary

### Description

This project will provide medical care to impoverished HIV and tuberculosis patients in Ethiopia.

### Purpose

To show needy people living with HIV or AIDS God's love, acceptance and care — and to restore their health and hope.

### Location

Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia.

### Cost

**\$24,000** will help cover the salaries of health care staff and provide funds needed to test, counsel and treat approximately 6,375 patients.

### Highlights

#### NEED

- Ethiopia has been hit hard by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and church leaders in urban areas like Addis Ababa are in particular need of support so they can continue providing services to local patients.
- Those living with HIV/AIDS often feel shame and condemnation, which leads to an isolating stigma.
- Tuberculosis is also a major health concern in these impoverished neighborhoods, and those with HIV/AIDS are at a higher risk for contracting that disease.

#### IMPACT

- The Brothers of Good Works who live and work at St. Gabriel Catholic Health Center want to help treat HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis patients living in Ethiopia.
- The health center screens for tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, and provides medication, dignified medical care and counseling to those infected.
- Cross Catholic Outreach invites you to support the Brothers of Good Works to bring the love and care of Jesus Christ to Ethiopians living with HIV/AIDS or tuberculosis.



*A woman sits with her child outside the health center.*





*People gather together outside St. Gabriel Health Center.*

## The Need

Just over a decade ago, Lemlem Gebremedhin began experiencing an increased frequency of illness that was distressing to her and her daughter. Widowed and barely able to make ends meet, Lemlem did not have time to care for herself or get needed medical care.

When Lemlem finally learned the source of her illness, it was devastating — she had tested positive for HIV. Lemlem said, “After I learned that I am HIV positive, I started living in a state of darkness, often with frustration and stress.”

Unfortunately, the country was hit hard by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and in urban areas like Addis Ababa, the risks the poor face are extreme. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Addis Ababa is particularly high, impacting approximately 5 percent of the population. To ensure quality care for the poor, the health center partners with government to receive free antiretroviral medications that slow the disease’s progression. Based on their strong relationships with patients, the centers health officers and nurses are able to provide effective counseling.

The high exposure rate to tuberculosis in poor communities adds to these health challenges. Tuberculosis is a highly contagious disease and those with weakened immune systems are at greatest risk. That means HIV/AIDS patients like Lemlem have little ability to avoid contact and even less of a chance of fighting back against the disease. For patients like her, contracting tuberculosis can “tip the scales,” add secondary medical complications and eventually be fatal.

***That is why it was critical for Church leaders to intervene and offer hope.*** The Brothers of Good Works and the St. Gabriel Catholic Health Center are doing that through an outreach strategy they believe will spare patients like Lemlem from HIV/AIDS’ most deadly effects. With your help, we can empower them to provide medical interventions in Addis Ababa’s poorest communities, improving the health of suffering families and restoring their hope in the process!



## Give Generously

As Christ's followers, we are called to emulate our Lord's example by showing unconditional love and mercy to the suffering and the outcast. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are worthy of our compassion and support. By partnering with the Brothers of Good Works and the St. Gabriel Catholic Health Center, you play an important role in their mission of mercy. Your gift will empower them to be the hands and feet of God in the communities they serve!

Please — help them minister to those most stigmatized in their society. Help them bring both physical and spiritual healing to those who need hope most!



*You can help families like Amaneal Fikru's.*

***Please, restore health and hope  
by making a gift today!***

## 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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