



**EMPOWERING CAREGIVERS TO PROVIDE
FOR THEIR FAMILIES**

AN UPDATE FOR INDIGO VALLEY



A caregiver at Jigjiga 05 Muluwongel Amagnoch Child Development Centre is selling food to pedestrians, made possible from a loan from this intervention.

THE DIFFERENCE YOU ARE MAKING

Thanks to you, 863 caregivers are no longer wondering how they will feed their children.

Since the last report, all 863 caregivers have started their journey to a better life. They have had access to Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and loans to enable them to start a business and increase their income.

The Centre Director of Harar Kalehiwot Child Development Centre reports there has been a noticeable enhancement in quality of life and income. The church has gained a positive reputation and image within the community and among government officials, all attributed to the intervention. The intervention has significantly contributed to poverty reduction and the promotion of self-sufficiency.

A Centre Director shares the testimony of Ms. Alemtsehay mother of Edelawit:

“With an initial investment of 9750 ETB (£136), through the Self-Help Group, she embarked on the establishment of a mini hotel. Before, Ms. Alemtsehay lacked a consistent source of income, now she not only successfully covers the rent for her business premises but also maintains her residence. She has been able to allocate funds towards the education of her children.

Ms. Alemtsehay now meets the basic needs of her family and has managed to set aside 300 ETB (£4.19p) per month for savings. The opening of the mini hotel has not only provided her with a stable source of income but has also elevated her overall quality of life.”

Your support has brought a new hope, joy, and relief to these families. Thank you.

ACTIVITY REPORT

13 child development centres found in the Eastern Region of Ethiopia in the towns of Dire Dawa, Harar, and Jigjiga are receiving support from this intervention. 889 households are now being supported through Self-Help Groups, livelihood rehabilitation training, and access to microfinance opportunities. This is an increase from 863 caregivers, that were in the original plans.

🏠 250 caregivers have completed their loan repayments.

These caregivers have saved on average 3,302 ETB each (equivalent of £46).

- 🏠 The caregivers that participated in the Self-Help Groups (SHG) at the 13 centres have benefitted from it, allowing them to sustain their work and help them manage life's challenges and support their children.
- 🏠 The positive aspect is that caregivers have cultivated a habit of saving, and obtaining credit has gradually increased their monthly average income.
- 🏠 The 13 centres arranged essential training sessions for caregivers in their businesses. They collaborated with private micro-institutions and government experts to provide additional support for implementing livelihood activities.
- 🏠 The SHG approach and its functions has not only assisted caregivers in saving and accessing credit but also facilitated social inclusion. Building on the ideas of self-help, mutual aid, and self-reliance, it has promoted engagement, dialogue, and the growth of social capital.
- 🏠 The centres motivate caregivers to actively engage in the group and pursue viable businesses to improve their livelihoods. Caregivers share leadership roles which provide unity and shared ownership.
- 🏠 Staff maintain close follow-up and monitoring of SHGs.



Here is Bedru's mother from Diredawa Kalehiwot who makes and sells Enjera (a local bread made from Teffe).



Abel's mother is engaged in poultry production. Her son attends the Compassion centre at Diredawa Sabian Lutheran Church.



This photo shows the mother of Eden selling eggs at the market. Eden attends the Compassion centre at Harar Kalehiwot Child Development Centre.



This is caregiver to Jemmal, running a small shop. She obtained a loan from the Self-Help Group for her small shop business, in the Dire Dawa community.

CENTRE DIRECTOR, TILAHUN, FROM THE DIREDAWA COMMUNITY SHARES...

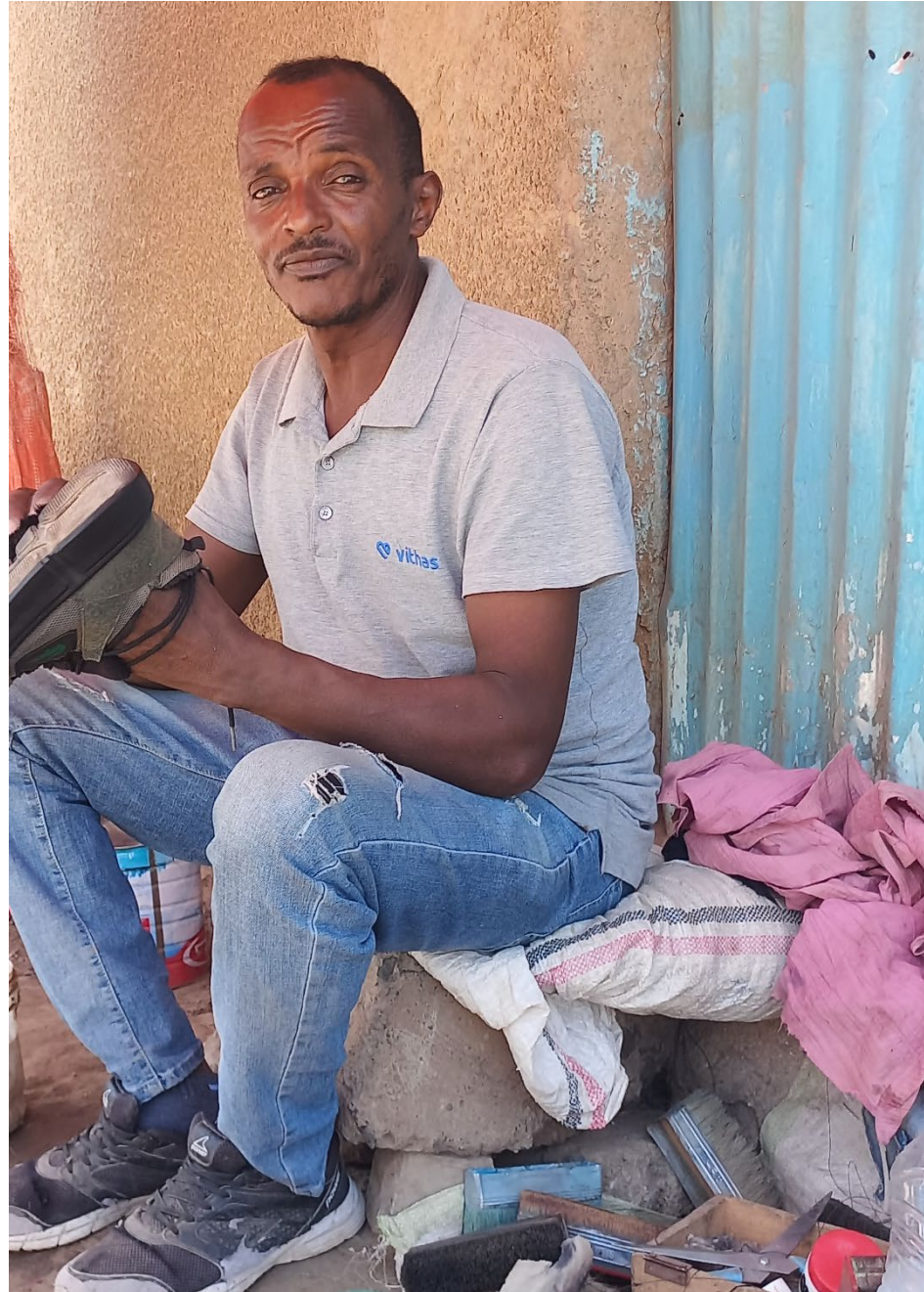
"I am thankful for the chance to serve members of the church, especially in empowering caregivers to address their economic requirements through various business initiatives.

"This intervention has played a significant role, in fostering the growth of hope among caregivers despite facing various life challenges."

"We believe that the church's community service will be comprehensive by integrating livelihood promotion activities. The church has utilised all available resources and will continue to do so; nevertheless, the role and dedication of the caregivers are crucial for enhanced success.

The availability of livelihood intervention has resulted in numerous advantages for caregivers, enabling them to fulfil not only their basic needs but also to address requirements related to education and healthcare.

To be honest, we acknowledge that this opportunity has been bestowed upon us by God. Therefore, we express gratitude to God for this provision. We have witnessed a substantial transformation in the lives of the caregivers, and we extend our sincere thanks to the donors and Compassion International Ethiopia."



This photo shows Dawit's father with his shoe shining and shoe maintenance business, in the Jigjiga community.



Here is Father to Belen who has a barber business. This has increased his income so he can provide for his daughter.



A caregiver called Rachel runs a small shop with the help of a loan from the Self-Help Group at Jigjiga 05 Muluwongel Amagnoch Child Development Centre.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



LILAY, MOTHER TO TSEHAY, SHARES HER TESTIMONY

“Life was difficult before the intervention because my husband died, and I was the one to take care of my children. I faced challenges to fulfil the needs of my two children while the cost of life increased from time to time. Since I was included in this self-help group, I got training and a loan which is helping me to start a small business selling vegetables at the local market.

“The intervention has improved my livelihood and I have become self-employed. As a family, we are able to have three meals per day which we used to struggle to have.”

“Praise to the Lord’s name! Since embracing this intervention, the difficulties I once grappled with have significantly diminished. I now have cultivated a renewed sense of optimism and can address basic needs.

As mentioned before, I’ve cultivated optimism and resilience despite facing numerous life challenges.

I have acquired valuable insights into the importance of commitment and the strength of resilience when it comes to overcoming life’s challenges. These lessons have taught me the significance of staying dedicated to my goals and remaining steadfast in the face of adversity.

I can affirm that this intervention has become an integral part of my existence, offering support when I require it. I am expressing my gratitude to the donors who, out of love, extended their support during my time of need.”



This is caregiver to Samuel, selling vegetables at the local market in Dire Dawa community.



The photo shows members of the Mehal Dire Dawa Meserete Kirstos Church Child Development Centre Self-Help Group receiving training from a professional instructor.

Thanks to you, and the hard work of all the participants involved, 889 households are changing their futures and the futures of their children. Their children are no longer going to bed hungry and can concentrate at school. This is all thanks to your generous giving.

Caregivers through loans and training in financial management and problem solving, have the skills to be more resilient when challenges occur, enabling them to keep a roof over their head and food on the table.

Incomes have increased and caregivers are able to buy clothes, food, school supplies and save regularly.

Thanks to you, this intervention has been life changing, some caregivers have never worked. It has given them the opportunity to learn a trade, invest in their future and improve their lives. Caregivers who never attended school or didn't complete their education are now running their own businesses.

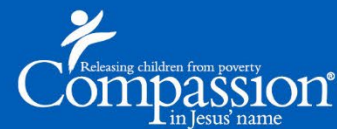
This opportunity is something they could only have dreamed of.

Thank you for making all this possible.

If you have any questions about this intervention, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Preston on 07830 791899 or at MarkP@compassionuk.org.

“Learn to do *right*;
seek justice.
Defend the oppressed.
Take up the *cause*
of the fatherless;
plead the case
of the widow.”

ISAIAH 1:17 (NIV)



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