

# DIR BIYABIR QUARTERLY UPDATE

2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2014

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## DEAR MEMBERS

*In the second quarter of 2014 Dir Biyabir funded several exciting projects. In addition our chairperson Haeran Fisseha had the opportunity to visit some of our key projects and meet with famers and villagers. Viewing the impact of our projects first-hand was a remarkably rewarding experience. In addition the incredibly warm reception by the residents of the villages of Amoragedel, Kasset, and Moyi (where all our funding from The Christensen Fund is invested), was extremely humbling.*



Lunch for Dir Biyabir held by villagers of Amoragedel



Clinic at Gethesemane Betedenagil Tebabat Nunnery

## PROJECTS FUNDED IN SECOND QUARTER OF 2014

The second quarter of 2014 was very productive in the number of key projects that Dir Biyabir was able to fund including:

- Second phase of books for “Worku Jenber High School” in Gela Matebia, Gonder
- Egg-hatching Incubator for a Nunnery in Sebeta just outside Addis Abeba
- Tables and chairs for the Goshebado School Library in Semain Shewa
- First phase of books for “Yedege Elementary School” in Edja Wereda, Gurage

Of these projects the Nunnery in Sebeta and “Yedege Elementary School” are new partnerships in 2014 and we look forward to a continued long-term relationship with both. The book purchase for the “Worku Jenber High School” Library is the second and final phase of an initiative started in December 2013. A total of 994 books have now been purchased over 2 phases and the library is now very well stocked. This project was very swiftly and efficiently executed. The tables and chairs for library of Goshebado School was funded by a single donation from a Dir Biyabir member who had visited the school in 2013. We look forward to the successful completion of this project which will allow the students of Goshebado to make good use of books which were donated to the library by another NGO.

## INCUBATOR FOR GETHESEMANE BETEDENAGIL TEBABAT NUNNERY

The Sebeta Gethesemane Betedenagil Tebabat Nunnery (GBTN) was founded in 1960 by the good will of Queen Menen who offered her own palace to the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church. Currently 105 nuns live in the nunnery taking care of 215 orphan children from all over Ethiopia. The nunnery runs a school and various income generating small enterprises such as:

- Vegetable and fruit gardening
- Handicraft production, sales and training.
- Dairy farming, bee keeping, bakery

Based on a proposal submitted by GBTN, Dir Biyabir funded in April, the purchase of an egg hatching incubator. The goal is for the nunnery to generate additional income by hatching eggs and selling chicks. Haeran was privileged to have the opportunity to visit the nunnery in April and meet the key Emahoy who is responsible for operations. She was extremely impressed by the level of efficiency, work ethic and effectiveness of these nuns. The nunnery is extremely well run, the children are very well cared for and the quality of the handicraft produced is exemplary. The nunnery should be held up as a model for what can be accomplished in Ethiopia and Dir Biyabir is honored to support them in a small way.

We look forward to a long-term partnership with this incredible organization.