

DIR BIYABIR QUARTERLY UPDATE

3RD QUARTER 2015

WWW.DIRBIYABIR.ORG

SEPTEMBER 03, 2015

DEAR MEMBERS

On August 8 we held our very first fundraiser at Dana Street Roasting Company in Mountain View (our unofficial headquarters!). It was a successful event and we raised \$2,120 including online donations. The event also helped introduce us to a lot of new people. We will have a second event on October 18, a 5K run in the Palo Alto Baylands so please register for that (details below). We also have some great news to report on our poultry project for school girls. We hope you are as satisfied with these updates as we are!



FUNDRAISERS

Since our founding as a non-profit back in 2007, Dir Biyabir has never held formal fundraising events. On August 8 we held our first fundraiser at Dana Street Roasting Company where our Chairperson gave a brief presentation on Dir Biyabir and showed a short film about our work in Northern Shewa. We have made this film available for you on Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/135418030> (Password is DBfilm2ET). We had good attendance and got some exposure in the community and we are starting to attract new members, which is exciting for us!

On October 18 we are holding our second fundraiser which will be a 5K run in the beautiful Palo Alto Baylands here in the Bay Area. The goal is to raise funds for our school sponsorship program. You will also enjoy running in the beautiful Palo Alto Baylands on well-maintained roads and wide dirt trails extending out into the bay. Along the trails you will see abundant resident population of birds and a 360-degree view of the Bay Area. You can register at <http://www.active.com/palo-alto-ca/running/distance-running-races/run-to-send-a-girl-to-school-5k-run-walk-2015>. See you there!

POULTRY PROJECT

This quarter we received an update from ADHENO regarding the 4th phase of the poultry project we had funded for school girls. The goal of this project is to improve nutrition among school girls in Northern Shewa, while at the same time helping them to earn extra money and learn practical business skills. There were some challenges due to new local requirements that chicks be only 45 days old and sourced from a specific vendor. ADHENO was able to work with these challenges and 90 chicks were purchased and distributed to 30 school girls. Each girl got 3 chicks. The girls were selected from among the elementary school girls that Dir Biyabir sponsors at Moy Elementary. They were selected based on academic performance, having space for chicken in their home compound, and their willingness to be involved in this project. The girls were given enough feed for 1.5 months as well as training. The chicken are expected to start laying eggs soon. Based on previous phases of our poultry projects, we have seen much improved local availability of eggs, a very expensive commodity in Ethiopia. Talking to the girls during past visits we have also seen the impact on their self-confidence as well as income. We wish these girls and their chicken much success!