



EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION ETHIOPIA

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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EDUCATION ETHIOPIA



## From Executive Director

Dear supporters,

Upon reaching our third year, we are deeply grateful for the substantial assistance, generosity, and kindness we have received. After the successful completion of our initial project in BahirDar, our current focus is on establishing a community preschool in Debre Tabor, capable of accommodating 450 children. We are delighted to announce that this project is progressing remarkably well, thanks to the invaluable contributions of our supporters. Furthermore, we are thrilled to share that our organization has experienced significant growth through partnerships and affiliations with like-minded institutions that actively contribute to the mission of ECEE.

Recognizing the pivotal role of local wisdom in early childhood education, we are incorporating indigenous knowledge into the curriculum and instruction of the programs we support, create and guide. This approach enables us to cultivate culturally relevant and child-centered learning experiences that deeply connect with the communities we serve.

As Early Childhood Education Ethiopia expands its presence in various environments, we are committed to learning from the community we serve. The community we serve constantly reminds us that interventions must be rooted in community knowledge and practices, recognizing that local populations often possess valuable insights into their challenges and potential solutions.

We are grateful for the symbiotic relationship between our organization and the community and look forward to the upcoming year.

In Gratitude



"You are not just building a preschool, it's far more than this strengthens our hope for the future"

# STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS



## ECEE'S FIRST COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL BEGINS

In November 2022, Early Childhood Education Ethiopia began constructing the organization's first preschool in Debre Tabor, Ethiopia. This significant milestone was achieved following extensive community engagement, which spanned several months and gathered invaluable insights to understand better the community's needs, challenges, and local aspirations. The project gathered valuable input from parents, community elders, and staff members, recognizing their role in shaping the educational landscape for their children. Beyond the physical construction, the project encompasses a broader vision for early childhood education in Ethiopia. It seeks to lay the foundation for a comprehensive and inclusive educational system that recognizes the importance of early learning in shaping the future of children and society as a whole. The preschool project in Debre Tabor is an inspiring example for other communities in Ethiopia, demonstrating the power of collaborative efforts and a shared commitment to early childhood education. It is a beacon of hope for children and families, signaling the beginning of a new era of educational opportunities that will shape future generations.







# PROJECT BETA: ECEE'S COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

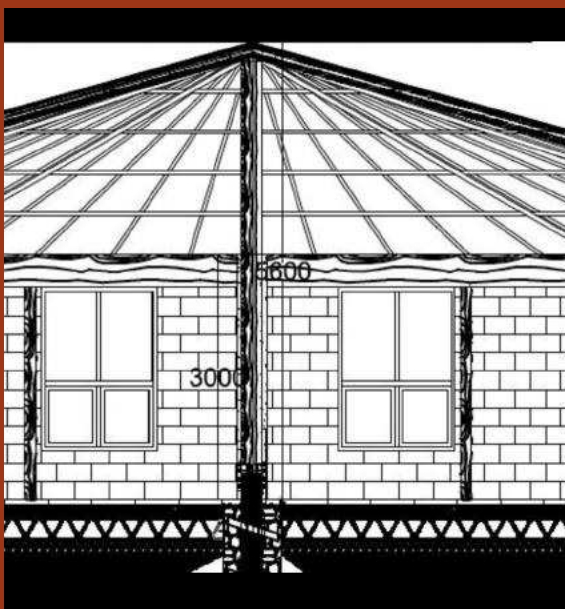
## SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Our dedication to building a sustainable future extends beyond the classroom. We continuously evaluate and improve our building practices to align with the latest advancements in sustainable infrastructures. By integrating earth-friendly materials, supporting tree planting initiatives, minimizing cement usage, and promoting environmental stewardship, we hope to influence the next generation on their importance in protecting the planet.



## SATO LIXIL

Early Childhood Education Ethiopia received a generous donation from SATO, a solution-oriented organization renowned for its global efforts in providing innovative sanitation and hygiene products, including Ethiopia. With SATO's contribution and the introduction of the Single Outlet I Trap Connection system, we aim to demonstrate its efficacy and suitability for broader adoption in Ethiopia and across Africa.



## INDIGENOUS DESIGN AND APPROACH

Cultural relevance is at the core of Early Childhood Education Ethiopia's mission and vision. We firmly believe that incorporating indigenous elements into every educational journey is essential. Exemplifying our commitment, our flagship early education center draws inspiration from Ethiopia's rich cultural heritage, specifically by utilizing a traditional housing style known as "gojo bet." This approach ensures that our educational environment reflects the local context and resonates with the children we serve.



# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



## ECEE PRESCHOOL

- Community Preschool construction begins.
- Indigenous, sustainable and using local resources.
- Phase one includes two classrooms and one toilet.



## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Since 2021, ECEE has provided ongoing training to teachers, staff, and parents.
- Teacher survey indicates positive enhancement to practice.

A screenshot of a web form for volunteer contact. It includes fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', 'Email Address', and a 'Message' text area. A yellow 'SEND MESSAGE' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Early Childhood Education Ethiopia Volunteer Contact Information

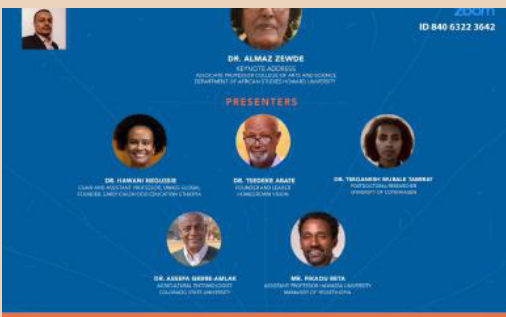
## VOLUNTEERISM

- Dedicated and presenting with a wide range of experiences, knowledge and practice.
- ECEE has over 40 volunteers located in different parts of the world.



## PARTNERSHIPS & AFFILIATES

- Key partnerships with local and global institutions
- Focused on bringing organizations invested in advancing birth to 5



## YEARLY CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

- Discussion, dialogue and presentation on critical issues
- Connecting with industry leaders to expand the work of ECEE
- Strengthening local knowledge



WE BELIEVE PARENTS ARE NAVIGATIONAL EXPERTS, PROBLEM SOLVERS, ASTUTE COMMUNICATORS, NEGOTIATORS, AND EQUAL CONTRIBUTORS TO THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION. ECEE GUIDING PRINCIPLE #3



# 2022 GALA FUNDRAISER

## FIRST ANNUAL GALA 2022

Early Childhood Education Ethiopia held its first Gala. in Los Angeles, California. This remarkable event brought together guests, supporters, and advocates who share a common passion for early childhood education. The Gala provided an excellent platform to showcase the organization's achievements and shed light on the critical issues facing children in Ethiopia.

A highlight of the evening was the keynote address delivered by the distinguished Dr. Connie Lillas, a respected authority in Infant Mental Health. Dr. Lillas's presentation on the effects of stress on early childhood development proved to be both timely and relevant, particularly in the context of recent events in Ethiopia.



## SISTER MEHERET KANNA: CHILDREN'S CHAMPION'S AWARD RECIPIENT:

A true champion of children's rights and women's well being was honored as the recipient of the first-ever Early Childhood Education Ethiopia Children's Champions Award during our first Gala. This accolade recognizes individuals who have profoundly impacted the lives of women and children within Ethiopia and across the globe.

Sister Meheret's lifelong work inspires us, and we know her contributions will continue to influence how we think of holistic strategies for the children we serve at Early Childhood Education in Ethiopia.



# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHT 2022



- PHASE ONE CONSTRUCTION - 58%
- FINCTIONAL COST - 10%
- ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE - 15%
- OTHER - 3%

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Throughout the fiscal year 2022, the organization secured a funding through a mix of grants and donations. Noteworthy is the allocation of over fifty percent of this funding towards the first phase of constructing our flagship community preschool. Moreover, the year 2022 witnessed a fortunate milestone as we successfully procured a small grant, marking the genesis of our expedition into the realm of grant funding. This achievement signifies a promising trajectory in diversifying our financial avenues and fortifying our sustainability for the future.

## FINANCIAL STABILITY

Our dedication to fiscal prudence is an enduring testament to our organization's core values. It is a commitment that echoes through our careful and strategic handling of resources, serving as a cornerstone of our operational ethos. Every financial decision we make, every allocation we approve, and every initiative we undertake reflects our unwavering pledge to maximize the impact of our endeavors. Central to our financial stewardship is recognizing the invaluable role played by our members and benefactors. Their steadfast commitment and unwavering encouragement provide us with the bedrock of support upon which our progress is built. Their belief in our mission and their consistent contributions provide us with the necessary financial means and infuse us with the motivation and drive to propel our projects forward. As we navigate the complex landscape of our initiatives, we understand that resources are finite and must be wielded with precision. This is where our commitment to minimizing overhead costs comes into play.





# 2023 GROWTH PLANS & OBJECTIVES

## COUNTRYWIDE ASSESSMENT TOOL

We are pleased to announce that our organization will be introducing new assessment tools for children aged from birth to five years old. These tools have been carefully developed to address the lack of a comprehensive, effective, and applicable assessment for this age group. Currently, we are in the process of adapting the tools to meet the specific needs of this population. By utilizing these tools, we aim to better understand the developmental milestones of our youngest citizens, with a special emphasis on social emotional and language and literacy standards. Our organization strongly believes that these tools will allow us to provide enhanced care, education, and training to this important demographic.



## GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

We're looking to expand our organizational goals by actively engaging with and supporting programs that focus on serving the under eight years old population with a particular focus on the first five years of life. By doing so, we hope to enhance and set standards for exceptional care, education, and training of early educators. One of our most significant assets is our outstanding board members. They come from diverse experiences, educational backgrounds, and practical knowledge and have extensive expertise in children's early care, development, and family involvement.





# THANK YOU!

**“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL  
WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO  
CHANGE THE WORLD.”**