LONG LINES: FAMINE OF 2014

Famine Declared in Somalia
The Story of a Young Girl named Shaimaa
ARAHA is Given Highest Rating by Charity Navigator

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From the Desk of the Director

People always amaze me for their willingness to help others who they do not have any specific interest with, other than the desire to do good. The story of little Shaimaa, who ARAHA treated last month, is a great example of such generosity.

During my recent visit to Sudan, Shaimaa’s father showed me her picture and informed me about her need for surgery. Her chance to get the surgery was almost zero. Her family was very poor, the surgery was very expensive, and it had to be done outside the country. The image of this 5-year-old girl could not go away from my head. I imagined the difficulties Shaimaa would be going through, particularly at the time when she enters elementary school.

I decided to share her story with some of ARAHA’s donors. I sent an email to about 13 of them, along with a video clip that shows Shaimaa and her medical condition to see how they would respond. Within a few days, I was overwhelmed with positive responses. The last donor asked me about the remaining balance left to reach the campaign’s goal. He asked to stop the campaign because he was going to take care of it.

I called the girl’s father with the good news. Her parents were so happy to hear that their daughter would finally have the procedure performed. During the last 5 years, they tried everything to get help. They could not even get an estimate since that would require several trips to the capital, which they could not afford. As a result, they lost hope and almost gave up completely.

With the generous donations of our donors, we were able to send Shaimaa and her family to Jordan in September of 2014 to do the surgery. It took the doctors 7 hours to complete the surgery and the outcome was successful.

In addition to his generous contribution, our neighbor/donor, and businessman, Majdi Wadi of Holy Land Deli & Bakery of Minneapolis, MN offered his own apartment in Amman for the little girl and her family to stay in. He and his relatives back in Jordan took care of them for 45 days. On October 12th, Shaimaa’s family returned home safely after she fully recovered.

I would like to say thank you to those who helped little Shaimaa and I look forward to more partnerships with you to do good.

Mohamed S. Idris
Executive Director

ARAHA Special Projects

The Story of Shaimaa

We bring to you an exclusive story of a little girl from Sudan named Shaimaa. She is only 5 years-old and has had a serious condition from the time of her birth. Her parents were surprised to find out that she had a birth defect of which has caused her an imperforate anus. This condition has prevented Shaimaa from passing stools normally. She could only do so through a tube that was surgically attached to her stomach from the time of birth.

Shaimaa’s parents knew that a more permanent solution would need to be performed through surgery, but the amount of money was far more than they could afford as the operation would have to be performed outside of Sudan.

When ARAHA donors heard of Shaimaa’s condition, they were eager to find a quick solution to end her suffering and bring comfort to the hearts of her parents. They collaboratively collected about $15,000 of which would cover the cost of her surgery and travel with her parents to the city of Amman in Jordan, where the surgery would be performed.

Doctors assured the family that Shaimaa’s operation was successful and that she would be able to return to her home in Sudan. Shaimaa will be able to enter school now without such a difficult condition. It was because of great people like you that came together uniting for her cause and helping in all the ways that they could. Our salute and thanks go out to Majdi and the donors of Shaimaa for facilitating her operation and allowing her to have a chance living a normal life.

Mohamed S. Idris
ARAHA Special Projects
ARAHA Newsletter ARAHA Newsletter Issue 11 Fall/Winter 2014

Accomplishments

Charity Navigator

Founded in 2001, Charity Navigator has become the nation's largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities. Specifically, Charity Navigator’s rating system examines two broad areas of a charity’s performance: their Financial Health and their Accountability & Transparency. ARAHA was chosen by Charity Navigator to be evaluated and has awarded ARAHA with the highest rating of 4 stars. Donors use the charity navigator website to search for legitimate and transparent organizations to give their donations to. ARAHA is honored to be among the highest rated organizations on Charity Navigator. We have been rated at 100% in Accountability & Transparency and 94.02% in Financial Health, for an overall score of 95.77%! You can search for us on the Charity Navigator website at www.charitynavigator.org for a more detailed breakdown of the ratings.

ARAHA’s Rating from the Charity Navigator Website

![Charity Navigator Rating Graph]

The event also contained a photo exhibit bearing pictures of the effects of climate change in the region and all put together by our interns Barri Hussein and Muna Khalif. The two were also the organizers of this event and we all thank them for the hard work that they put forth to make it as successful as it was.

ARAHA Nursing School in Kismayo, Somalia newly built in September of 2014.

ARAHA truly believes that for a people to get out of the cycle of poverty, they will need to be educated. Inadequate health care is one of the contributing factors to people of the Horn falling ill or even dying. Therefore, we have built our first nursing school in Kismayo, Somalia to educate students in the nursing field of how to properly care for the sick. This is a crucial step in our Disease Prevention Program and we welcome this as an opportunity to other pursue related projects in the future.

Sustainable Projects

Donkey Cart
This vehicle is used to transport goods and people. It can generate enough income to cover the expenses of a family of 6 to 7 people.
Cost: $700

Dairy Cow
A dairy cow will provide milk to a family’s children and will allow them to sell milk to cover their monthly expenses.
Cost: $500

Dairy Goats
These goats become a source of milk for a poor family and their children and allow them to generate income from selling milk.
Cost: $200 (for two goats)

Water Tanker
A water tanker allows a family to secure their own drinking water and sell water in their community. The expected income that the family receives from the water tanker is $100 a month. Cost: $750

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ARAHÁ’s mission is to strive to alleviate the suffering from hunger, illiteracy, disease, and poverty in the Horn of Africa as well as to help the East African community in Minnesota.

WHERE? do we work

The Horn of Africa has become the land of hunger, war, famine, and disease. It is one of the poorest regions in the world, and ongoing droughts continue to plague this region. Long wars and ethnic conflicts have further complicated the already deplorable situation.

WHO? is ARAHÁ

ARAHÁ was formed in the year 2000 when concerned individuals decided that they could do something to help the people suffering in the Horn of Africa. They reached out to their friends and families for donations to start their first projects and used a home office for the administrative operations. Without the visionary leadership and hard work of these founders, ARAHÁ would not be here today.

WHY? the Horn of Africa

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WHEN? was ARAHÁ started

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HOW? do we help

ARAHÁ has developed several projects like water tankers and dairy cows which promote self-reliance by enabling those families to produce their own food, and saving them the expense of buying it from others.

FOUNDER SPONSORSHIP

Millions of children are orphaned due to war, famine, HIV/AIDS, and drought in the Horn of Africa. Our sponsorship process helps food, clothing, and school fees to ensure that children who have lost their parents are able to stay in school and look to their future.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Over 30,000 people are served by ARHA’s food distributions each year. We employ a rigorous process of working with local officials and trusted community representatives to identify the specific families that would benefit the most from our regular food programs.

SOLAR ENERGY

We have developed this program to supply the use of solar energy in the Horn of Africa. The Solar Stove is a great start and has been lended to other projects such as solar lighting.

WATER WELLS

ARAHÁ’s goal is to give families the opportunity to help break the cycle of poverty in the Horn of Africa through the building and maintenance of water and community irrigation projects, distributing textbooks and other educational supplies, and paying teacher salaries.

EDUCATION

ARAHÁ works tirelessly to help those in the Horn who struggle to find work or to sustain their homes. Thousands of people and livestock now have easy access to water that is necessary to sustain life, thanks to the dreams of what ARAHÁ enables for the Horn.

SELF RELIANCE

Whether it’s setting up a mobile cholera clinic on the ground or delivering emergency water ration boxes during severe drought seasons, our goal is to teach as many people as possible when disaster strikes the Horn.

WHO? can you do to help

Support ARAHÁ by giving what you can to save lives in the Horn of Africa.

DONATE

Be a part of ARAHÁ by sending some time, energy, and skills to our work.

VOLUNTEER

Spread the word about ARHAHÁ to your friends, family and colleagues.

TELL OTHERS

Email: info@araha.org
Phone: (651) 270-5551 or 1-866-99-ARAHA (toll-free)
Office: 3900 Jackson St. NE STE #10 Columbia Heights, MN 55421

www.araha.org

the results

174 water wells built.
Food distributed to over 400,000 people.
Built a NEW nursing school in Kismayo, Somalia.
More than 100 orphans sponsored.
Hundreds of families given clothes, school supplies, shelters, and more.

the numbers

ARAHÁ's annual revenue


ARAHÁ’s round of emergency aid to feed or clothe their children.

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About the American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa (ARAHA)

ARAHA is a nonprofit humanitarian organization based in Minneapolis, MN. For over a decade, the American Relief Agency for the Horn of Africa has been delivering the essentials necessary to provide relief to those suffering in the region from drought, disease, hunger and illiteracy. ARAHA also helps families lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty by developing opportunities for them to generate income and educate their children.

ARAHA provides humanitarian aid where it is needed; builds family shelters and community wells; administers a program that sponsors orphans and families; supports education; and collects and distributes charitable donations.

ARAHA’s programs serve those in need regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, religion, or any other discriminatory factor.

ARAHA is a registered 501(c)3 organization and, as such, all donations are tax-deductible. Federal Tax ID #41-1989714.