From the Desk of the Director

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” At ARAHA, we believe this to be true—education is the best way to combat war, poverty, and illiteracy in the Horn of Africa today.

When I visited Ethiopia and Sudan last month, I was overjoyed to see the results of our recent educational programs. In Ethiopia, we built an elementary school for Wabaro Village in the Dallo Manna district. Education in pastoral areas of Ethiopia is a dream for many families, but with your help we made it a reality. Parents and community leaders were so grateful for this project, which will no doubt bring a brighter future for their children.

In Sudan, I visited the high school for girls that ARAHA built in 2010—the first high school in this particular refugee camp. I was so pleased to hear that 30 girls are going to sit for the final high school exam. For the first time in the history of this largest Eritrean refugee camp in Sudan (built in 1985), 30 women will have the opportunity to go to college. This is a result of your generous contributions. You have made history. Thank you.

Our next step is to enhance the education of these children by expanding the schools’ resources with libraries, science laboratories, and computers. In addition, we want to create a college scholarship fund for the brightest high school graduates. Such scholarships will not only help these girls pursue their dreams of becoming doctors, nurses, or teachers and benefit their families, but they will send a message of encouragement to other girls in the camp that the doors are finally open for them to achieve their dreams.

Please join our cause and send a message of hope to children in the Horn of Africa. Make a donation to our education programs at www.araha.org today. Or, double your impact—see if your employer has a matching gift program for charitable contributions.

Mohamed Idris

ARAHA Headquarters News

Open House
On September 15th we welcomed friends, neighbors, donors, and supporters into our recently purchased office building for a tour of the space, an update on our programs, and some afternoon refreshments. Couldn’t make it? No problem—stop by any time to say hello.

ARAHA Selected for Second Capstone Project
In 2011 Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs Masters students conducted a semester-long capstone study on creating a strategic plan for ARAHA, a plan that informs our work every day. This year we are pleased to announce we were chosen again, this time for a project researching solar energy opportunities in the Horn of Africa. We’re excited to see what the team finds!

Annual Event: Celebrate the Horn of Africa
All too often, the media (and even NGOs) portray East Africa as a region of constant turmoil and disaster. We wanted to celebrate the Horn of Africa by showcasing the art, foods, and cultures of the area. Our Nov. 17th event brought nearly 200 guests together to learn more about this rich and diverse region.

Trips to Ethiopia and Sudan
Our last visits to the Horn were mainly focused on famine and drought relief in Somalia. In December of 2012, our Executive Director traveled to Ethiopia for the grand opening of the Wabaro Primary School. He also went to Sudan to inaugurate the new library and clinic for Shegerab High School for Girls, and met the first graduating class in the camp’s 28-year history. He also oversaw the distribution of dairy goats and cows in both countries. These animals will provide families with nutritious milk and a chance to earn an income from its sale in their communities.

Driving through the remote mountain villages of Ethiopia.
Feature: Education in Focus

Shegerab School News

First Graduating Class
We’re excited to announce the first graduating class of Shegerab Secondary School for Girls. This spring, 30 students will be the first to earn high school diplomas since the refugee camps were established in 1985. Watch our website and this newsletter for updates on this momentous occasion.

School Library and Mini Clinic
Through generous donations by EMC and Kind Heart, two groups dedicated to providing opportunities for Eritrean refugees to succeed, we were able to build a small library for the Shegerab Secondary School for Girls and shelve it with hundreds of books to supplement their studies. EMC also funded a “mini-clinic” complete with a school nurse to provide basic medical care to the students, as well as give educational seminars on a range of healthcare topics to the entire community. These projects will help ensure that the girls receive a well-rounded education and will not need to miss as much school due to health-related issues.

Executive Director Mohamed Idris speaks to parents while excited students wait to give their presentations.

Checking out the variety of books available in the new library.

Wabaro Primary School

Ethiopia
After a study of several rural villages in Ethiopia, we identified one area in particular where many children had no access to even a primary education. Due to the distance to city schools, parents were forced to keep their kids at home. Thanks to a partnership with Life for Relief and Development, we were able to build a primary school to accommodate 900 children from three villages in the Dallo Manna District. Community members pitched in labor and supplies to keep costs down and to show their commitment to investing in the education of their children.

Two of the new school buildings, open and ready for students.

A Boatload of Books

Somalia
Making sure students have access to up-to-date books is a major challenge in a place like Somalia. To meet that challenge, we delivered a container of books valued at $645,000 to universities in Borama, thanks to an in-kind donation from Life for Relief and Development.

The new books will keep university students competitive.
Food and Water

The Gift of Food is Enough

Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, and Sudan
While emergency food distributions are needed year-round in the Horn of Africa, having something special during the holidays is important for the people of the region. We were honored to deliver thousands of food baskets in three countries; host a dinner in Mogadishu at an orphan center; and distribute meat to people all over the Horn; many of whom had not seen any for months.

These seasonal programs help make things a little easier for families living in displacement settlements, drought-affected areas, and refugee camps because at least for a little while, they are able to celebrate with the rest of the world.

In addition to these special programs, we also distributed food baskets to families in the Qabribayah Refugee Camp in Ethiopia as well as to victims of severe flooding in Beladwein, Somalia. Overall, our seasonal and emergency food distribution programs benefitted an estimated 80,650 individuals since our last newsletter was issued!

All Water is Not the Same

Four New Water Wells in Ethiopia
On his tour of our recent projects in Ethiopia, our Executive Director was able to see first-hand the impact of a water well on a rural community’s health and well-being. At one site the old village water source, a tiny stream of dirty, discolored water ran along next to the new well. It was easy to compare the clear, clean water coming from the well to what villagers were forced to use before. Not only is water from a well more healthy to drink, it’s easier to collect and villagers aren’t forced to walk for miles when parts of natural sources run dry. We were able to visit the four newest water wells we’ve built in Ethiopia—wells that will provide drinking water to thousands of people for at least a decade. We also built 10 additional wells in Somalia, bringing our 2012 total there to 37 new wells!
**Dairy Goat and Cow Distribution**

**Ethiopia and Sudan**
One of our most popular sustainability projects is the granting of dairy animals to families in need. Part of the reason people like to give dairy goats and cows is because it’s such a simple yet effective way to help a family lift themselves out of poverty. Nourishing milk from the animals supplements the family’s food sources, and the sale of additional milk (especially in the case of cows) can cover expenses like clothing and school fees. While we were visiting Ethiopia and Sudan in December, we distributed 250 goats and 25 cows to families in each country. That’s a lot of milk to go around!

An elderly man poses proudly with the goats who will provide fresh milk for his family each day.

**Developing Opportunities**
These projects promote self-reliance by helping beneficiaries generate an income. Change a family’s prospects today—grant an income-generating project at www.araha.org.

**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

**ARAHA can be reached at:**

Phone: (763) 270-5351
Toll-free: (866) 99-ARAHA
Fax: (763) 270-5349
E-mail: info@araha.org
Web: www.araha.org
Office: 3900 Jackson St. NE
       Columbia Heights, MN 55421

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**WHAT?**

**is ARAHA’s mission**

**ARAHA’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**

[Map showing locations: Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan/Eritrea, Kenya]

**WHERE?**

**do we work**

[Map showing locations: Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan/Eritrea, Kenya]

**WHY?**

**the Horn of Africa**

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.

United Nations studies estimate that 13 million people in the Horn of Africa are in urgent need of food and other humanitarian assistance.

**WHEN?**

**was ARAHA started**

ARAHA was formed in the year 2000.

For over a decade, ARAHA 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.

**HOW?**

**do we help**

**ORPHAN SPONSORSHIP**

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

**INCOME GENERATION**

ARAHA has developed several projects like water tankers and dairy cows which promote self-reliance by helping beneficiaries generate an income. By making their own money, families don’t need to wait for another round of emergency aid to feed or clothe their children.

**the numbers**

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<th>Annual Revenue</th>
<th>No. of Projects</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$1.26m</td>
<td>27</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**annual revenue**

- $16k
- $37k
- $54k
- $29k
- $45k
- $209k
- $339k
- $684k
- $760k
- $860k
- $585k
- $1.26m
ARAHA’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 schools and computer labs, distributing textbooks and other essential supplies, and paying teacher salaries.

Over 50,000 people are served by ARAHA’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.

ARAHAs works tirelessly to help those in the Horn who struggle to find water on a daily basis. Thousands of people and livestock now have easy access to water that is necessary to sustain life, thanks to the dozens of shallow, hand-dug wells ARAHA builds each year.

ARAHAs brings relief to thousands in East Africa when drought, disease, or famine come to the region. Whether it’s setting up a mobile cholera clinic on the ground or delivering emergency water rations during severe drought seasons, our goal is to reach as many people as possible when disaster strikes the Horn.

ARAHAs got its start in 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, ARAHA would not be here today.

From the first person to pledge their support over ten years ago to the youth dropping cash into the boxes at conventions and events, every single ARAHA donor is an honored and valued part of this organization. We can’t say thank you enough to the thousands of people throughout the years who have put their trust in ARAHA to help those in need in the Horn of Africa region.

ARAHAs volunteers built this organization and continue to support our work in many ways. Whether helping to collect donations, stuffing envelopes for our mailings to our supporters, or staffing our tables at bazaars, the continued dedication of our volunteers is critical to our success.

Our operations have grown significantly over the years, leading to the hire of full- and part-time staff both here at the headquarter office as well as in our field offices in Africa. The people employed by ARAHA bring passion to their important work and carry a sense of obligation to the people we serve. Their contributions cannot be overstated.

**the results**

- **111** Water wells built
- Food distributed to over **353,650** people
- Over **$10.8 Million** in medicine and medical supplies shipped
- Built the **first** high school for girls in a refugee camp in Sudan
- Established computer labs in **5** high schools
- More than **160** orphans sponsored
- **600** families granted income-generating projects
- **Hundreds** of families given clothes, school supplies, shelters, and more.

**DONATE**

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

**VOLUNTEER**

Be a part of ARAHA by lending some time, energy, and skills to our work.

**TELL OTHERS**

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

**www.araha.org**

e-mail us: info@araha.org

call us: (763) 270-5351 or 1-866-99ARAH (toll-free)

write us: P.O. Box 141117, Minneapolis, MN 55414-9981
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.