



Agape Mobility Ethiopia

Working today for a brighter and better tomorrow

Summer 2021

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GOAL
100,000
Wheelchairs
by 2030

Fundraising Dinner Gifts Total \$7,000

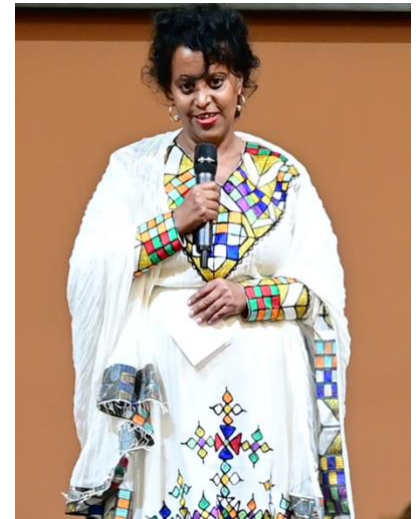
Hope and dignity are the true gifts of the heart shared by friends of Agape Mobility Ethiopia (AME) at the June 11 fundraising dinner. The gathering brought in \$7,000 for the collection, shipment and distribution of mobility devices in Ethiopia. Nearly 100 guests enjoyed authentic Ethiopian cuisine and fellowship, bid on silent auction items, and sang worship songs, including a song in Amharic, led by Greta Ehlers and Vicki Snyder.

“This is part of my life,” said Saba Teklemarcos, Founder and Executive Director. “My heart is broken for people who are unable to walk. I contracted polio when I was young. My mom took me to many doctors and tried many things. At age 6 I walked by holding my knee, and only began walking good at age 12 because I had a good family. But I see people with no families and no hope.”

Saba said the work of AME erases social stigma and provides dignity to those in need.

“There was a point when I wanted to give up. I thought I had distributed my last wheelchair. But the Lord literally spoke to me and said ‘If you don’t do it, who’s going to do it?’ And so, if you hear the Lord’s voice, you cannot escape.”

In rural areas, sharing hope through mobility devices is the only way we can go to share the faith and love of Jesus. People in Africa assume those who can’t walk are cursed. “So to give them that love from Jesus, not from me, from Jesus, it is an honor to do this ministry,” Saba said.



Saba Teklemarcos, Founder and Executive Director, AME

See a **FULL PAGE** of photos from the dinner event in this newsletter!



Nearly 100 guests worship together at AME’s first fundraising dinner at Alliance Community Church, Fort Wayne.

Looking forward: Wheelchair Clinic in Ethiopia

Agape Mobility Ethiopia has a new vision to create a wheelchair clinic in Ethiopia. The clinic would produce and distribute the “Honey Bee” tilt and recline stroller-style chair. Staff would build the chairs and custom fit them to the recipient. The Honey Bee chair is more durable than a standard wheelchair and can last 5-10 years or more in

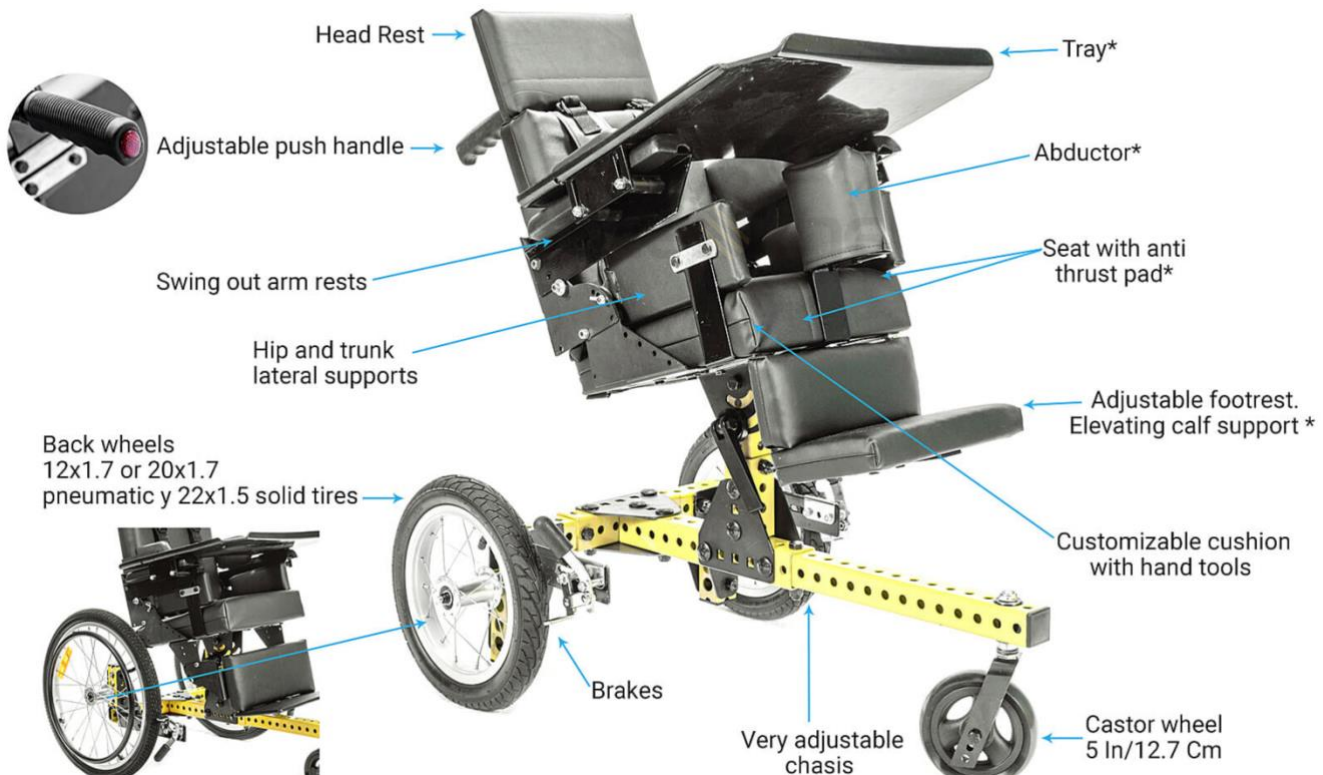
Ethiopia’s rugged rural terrain.

Saba Teklemarcos, Founder and Executive Director, AME, recently visited Guatemala for one week to learn from a similar clinic there.

“I’m praying the Lord will help me to open a clinic so people don’t have to suffer.

That’s my vision. I want you to be part of it. It’s not about the money. I want you to share this vision with others!

“Your participation in this vision provides the dignity everyone deserves,” Saba said.



The Honey Bee® wheelchair by Beeline Wheelchairs® is fully adjustable. Photo courtesy of Beeline, BeelineWheelchairs.org.

2021 Distribution Trip places nearly 400 wheelchairs

Agape Mobility Ethiopia distributed nearly 400 wheelchairs in regions throughout the country earlier this year. The chairs and other mobility devices were welcomed with smiles like that of Jamal Syed, featured in the story below.

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Thanks to generous donations from people like you, Agape Mobility Ethiopia has distributed more than 800 wheelchairs since operations began in 2019!



Meet

Jamal Syed

I am a 22-year old living in Ben Shagoul Gomez.

My disability lies in my hand and leg. I have lived with this disability since birth and have gone through much suffering.

For example, going to school to get an education is something I have always wanted. I always wanted to go to school with my friends. **Because** of the gift of a wheelchair many years ago, I was able to go to school up until third grade. But because the school is very far away from our village and the road was very bad, the wheelchair broke down. So, because I couldn't do anything about that, I just started staying home. I ended my education in third grade and went into deeper trouble because I couldn't go to work.

But because of Agape Mobility Ethiopia, I was able to get a wheelchair and with their support, I am able to get outside of my house and into the village. I am able to work and earn money for food. In the future, if I have the strength and ability to do so, I would like to open a mobile shop.



Agape Mobility Ethiopia

AME Fundraising Dinner

June 11, 2021

... time of praising God for his goodness and sharing the love and fellowship of friends and family.



The feast of Ethiopian cuisine.



Greta and Vicki.



Auction winner!



Children of all ages!



Servers.



Friends and family make it all happen with Saba's vision.



John Paff, dinner event emcee and volunteer



Sarah Lobacz, Treasurer



Michael Panther, Founder and Executive Director, Living With Hope



Steve and Sheila Harrigan, AME Board



Our Purpose

With your partnership, we provide mobility and dignity for the immobile in Ethiopia. "No more crawling on the floor!"

Donate online at agapemobilityethiopia.com or by mail to Agape Mobility Ethiopia, 10017 West Palo Verde Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46825.