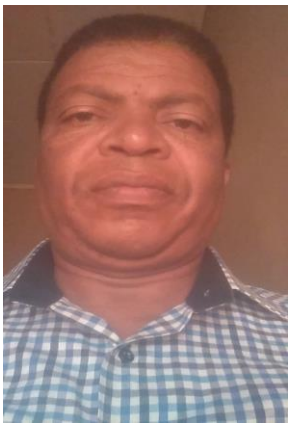
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Bridge For Development Organization

Annual News Letter February 2022 Volume 1

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Mr.Naji **Gebremariam Executive** Director @ BDO

Message from the executive director

Starting an NGO can be a very time-consuming process. It requires a strong vision and dedication from an individual or group that share a common concern about a community. If initiated correctly in an organized and strategic way, the services implemented to benefit the community can be very helpful and resourceful.1

Usually, startup nonprofits don't have stock capital to undertake every task intended to do. BDO is really challenged because of lack of funding for its human resource trainings, fundraising campaign, office operation, and volunteer engagement and management. Our fundraising effort is challenged. We are in a situation where it is difficult to raise money from donors, businesses and community groups locally because of the following challenges:

- The impacts of internal conflicts, Corona disease, the cost of living in the country and inadequate incomes of individuals and businesses
- Non-realistic standards set by aid agencies
- Local NGOs are supported by their previous acquaintances and partnerships with sponsors
- Worldwide shortages of donor funds

However, the reason of our existence to date is only because of our generous family members and friends.

The problems of poverty and inequalities of many kinds in Ethiopia cannot be solved by aid and the government efforts alone. Organized local community engagement and mobilization of resource is very crucial. Initiation, mobilization and advocacy on changing public attitudes towards the concept of generosity and philanthropy are very important and we need to take action in collaboration with schools, parents, as well as social institutions. The idea of generosity and charity is not given attention in our society and we need much to be done in terms igniting and building community self-initiated projects with its resources.

The fate of Bridge for Development is in your hands. Our mission can only be achieved by fans like you. You have the potential to change the lives of our society.

Please, Become My Hero Today with Your Generous Donation.

Donor story

We didn't get desperate and only pray what to do about the future when we became in dilemma when lack of funding overshadow the fate of implementing BDO's missions.

We kept on supporting ourselves and engaged in cultivating and requesting supports to our esteemed family and friends. Most approached supporters were positive and donated up to their capacity. And some declines when the issue of money donation comes. However, we don't have the belief that every supporter should donate money.

Among the notable supporter of BDO, we are delighted to mention two individuals. Dr. Getachew Wako and Mr. Melese Assefa. Both have similar out looks about BDO and both unreservedly went on contributing yearly donations.

1Srinivas, Hari. Starting an NGO from "The NGO Café: Kickstarting an NGO." Retrieved on June 24, 2008 from the Global Development Research Center <http://www.gdrc.org/ngo/start-ngo/index.html>

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Selected Major Accomplishments:

- ✓ Book donations for two needy public libraries and clothing donation for orphanage engaging volunteers to collect from the community
- ✓ Capacity development through engaging volunteers to create administrative and financial procedures and systems and also identification and furnishing of equipment for office
- ✓ Creating and developing critical and beneficial concepts and proposals for women, children and the youth in need in health, education, employment, and trainings.
- ✓ Strengthening the partnership with local and international NGOs with similar mission; and
- ✓ Strived to raise funding for financial sustainability and office operation from friends, family and volunteer staffs

Staff and Volunteering Spotlight

From the start, BDO's staffs are working voluntarily with the hope of the betterment of the future of our citizens.

The staffs, working voluntarily and donating and paying their money for expenses incurred to establish BDO. The support the board members given also incredible and they have continued their unreserved advises and supports. Also friends and family members have done more through fundraising activities in 2021 for the reason BDO to sustain it operation.

We are in need of more contribution and support from volunteers and we welcome volunteers of various experiences and skills to advance BDO's organizational capacity and outreach services.

Views and Advices on the Corona Pandemic

Corona pandemic has been causing a huge psycho social problems and death toll around the world.

The government of Ethiopia took several measures ranging from public health emergency response to the state of emergency. The government has strongly obtained various measures like lockdowns and public education platforms. However, it was not strict and has not been heavy-handed. However, the knowledge, attitude and practices are inadequate to fight and minimize the impacts of the pandemic. Recently, new cases and deaths are at increase. The government needs to strengthen those efforts to mobilize the public to minimize the impact of the pandemic. The issue voluntary vaccination is also in question. However, the access to availability of vaccines and the campaigning for more recipients is at increasing rate. What we learned from the transmission of corona disease is that the factors of transmission of the coved 19 in developed and underdeveloped countries is yet vague and needs more researches.

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However, the Knowledge, Attitude and practices are inadequate to fight and minimize the impacts of the pandemic. Recently, new cases and deaths are increasing. The government needs to strengthen those efforts to mobilize the public to minimize the impact of the pandemic.

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Spotlight on Partnership

Among the critical requirements for the growth of charities is development of partnerships with similar or organization that have mutual purpose.

We are in communication and seeking for partnership to work with local and renowned charities like HIDO, FHIDO, Hiwot Ethiopia. We need to work more to identify and be connected with more partners.

We consider our partnership has the following potential benefits for BDO and may include achieving organizational goals; development of human capital; improved operational efficiency better access to information; more effective services; enhanced reputation and credibility; legitimacy; and access to community services. As BDO is growing and passionate to learn and engage we need they share knowledge, experiences and with mentorship.

Ideas for action

We are grateful to convey our sincere thanks to the supporter for their unreserved appreciations and giving their optimistic and inspirational supports. Even some of them were giving money donations. We ask them to continue with their keen support as usual. We are grateful to family and friends at least try your giving hands once more to help us make sprint jump.

We are also in need to fill the vacant places for board members. So, it is indispensible to work on cultivating new board members. We encourage dear prospective board members to say yes to engage and contribute to the advancement of BDO.

Upcoming Events

Fundraising is one of the means of survival for BDO. Although an opportunity to raise money is minimal, it is the most important activity to struggle for and get even small amount. The current resource shortage limits us to do several activities such as fundraising, important staff trainings, and more.

We are always hopeful and continued striving to get funding. We never know what will happen in the New Year. Struggle is continued to solicit and a sponsor for fundraising event or campaign may take place this year. It will be announced when things take shape. More events may take place if resource is identified.

Donate and Spread the Words:

Call for donation: Please, help us to help others;

Please help us reach our immediate goal of US 100 000.00 within the coming three year. We want to implement the critical projects that benefit children, mentally ill people, and an advocacy and sensitization of community organizations, planning and resource mobilization initiatives.

Ways you can support:

You can donate using the accounts:

- Online: http://www.wegenfund.com/NGOs/bdo
- Buna International Bank: account n / o - 2809 **** 000033. (Bridge for Development Organization)
- Commercial Bank of Ethiopia: n / o - 1000221356989 (Naji Gebremariam)

We have no time to waste. As we are slower to take action, we get the people in difficult conditions, unemployed youth, women and children in poor health and people in need of education and training are denied and conditions get worsened. And I feel I can't fail for I'm committed to giving to others.

Spread the word: Use our social media

- Twitter: bdo_in_development; Telegram: t.me/bridgefordevelopment

Contact us:

Call : (+251) 911685306; Email : najigm52@gmail.com; b20d20o20@yahoo.com; b20d20o20@gmail.com; www.bridgefordevelopment.com;

1Srinivas, Hari. Starting an NGO from "The NGO Café: Kickstarting an NGO." Retrieved on June 24, 2008 from the Global Development Research Center <http://www.gdrc.org/ngo/start-ngo/index.html>