

PATH Celebrations: Feb 2010

We have just returned from our February Expedition in Ethiopia. We are thrilled to report to you that the children and youth of the PATH Center are doing well.



We did not conduct individual interviews on this expedition, but instead shared an experience of learning through dance and public health education seminars.

The health education seminars this trip were based off questions that the youth and staff provided to Dr Northcott and Dr Patterson ahead of their meetings. They felt the session in October had left many unanswered questions, and wanted to have another chance to discuss this topic. The session lasted about 2 hours. It is impressive to see how much education and candid discussion with these youth help them to become more confident, and able to learn in other areas. Thank you to both Dr Northcott and Dr Patterson for their contributions to making the sessions a success.

One of the volunteers from the Feb expedition is a dance instructor- and so the PATH Center eagerly accepted the opportunity to have dance exchange workshops. One of the challenges in doing this was the number of children, and the fact that it rained on one of the two days this workshop was happening. Despite this- the efforts resulted in a fun and enthusiastic experience.



The PATH children were divided into several groups – so as to be able to work within the space that they have. The young children were very quick to pick up the steps to the FIFA Soccer theme song for 2010 by KNAAN Troubador “Wavin Flag” The PATH youth already knew all the words and melody and were very enthusiastic to learn hip hop steps to it ! If you want to hear this song you can on line at

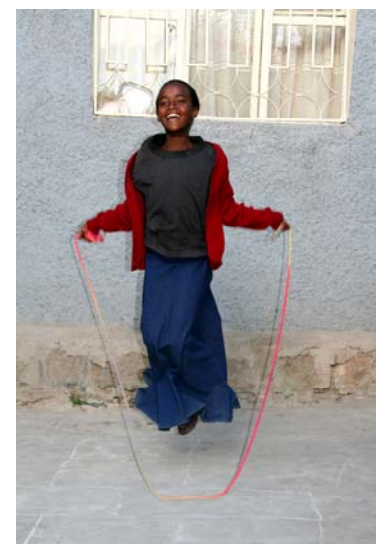
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iC8V8S_REhk&feature=fvw

The young women wanted their own special class- and held this inside the center. The young men not only learned quickly, but had

some songs that they had prepared with break dancing to share with the center which everyone loved.

The children have some new program managers, with the new appointment of their former manager, Bisrat Sime, as the Canadian Humanitarian representative. They are doing well. Bisrat continues to volunteer several afternoons a week, to continue to support the efforts of the center.

It was wonderful to be with the children again, and see how well they are doing.



I wish you could have been there to witness what your sponsorships are doing for your child or children. With this description and pictures we are doing our best to try and share with you what a wonderful program this is for those registered in it. If any of you are ever able to travel to Ethiopia to see it for yourself, you will know for certain that your monthly contributions are making a difference in the lives of these young people.

Thank you for your continued support of the PATH program.

