



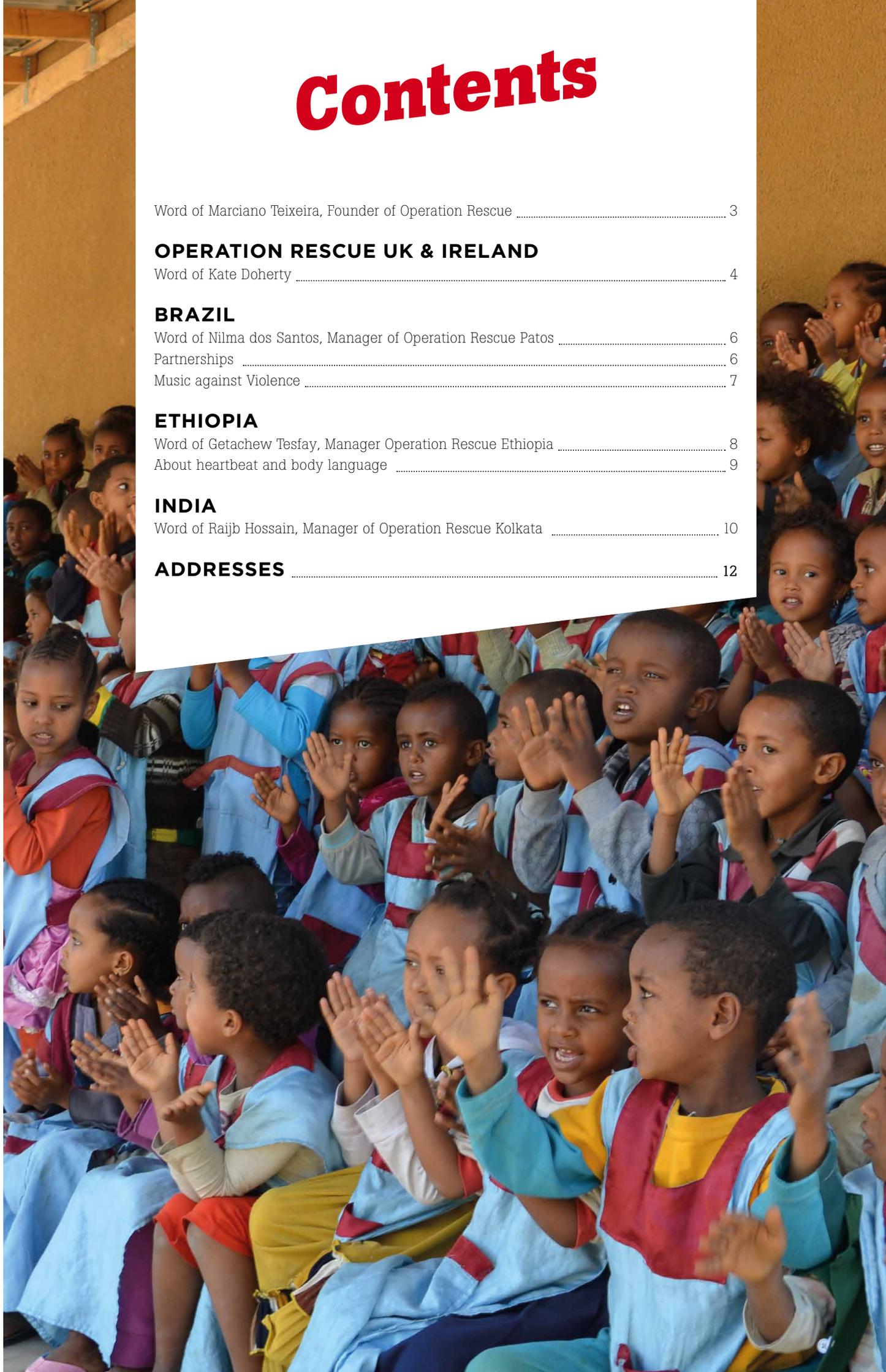
OPERATION
RESCUE CHILDCARE
PROJECTS



Annual Report
2017

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I BELIEVE IN MULTIPLICATION

I hope that we can establish one Operation Rescue project at least in each continent in my life time. From there it should spread to other countries around - I believe in multiplication. I see the project as an organic body that should have life and growth. It is a special model of child care, because we care for orphaned and extremely poor children within their extended families.

We now have projects in Africa, Asia, and South America with seven established projects. In Ethiopia the first was in Mekelle and now there are projects in Adigrat and Adwa with the fourth in Maichew in the planning phase. In Brazil the first project was in the city Patos; now they are established in São Paulo and Campina Grande. From those places the local leaders have had the courage to expand to the other places without my direct intervention. And we hope that from those places they will also go to other places and so on. One of the factors of growth is that Operation Rescue develops projects always through existing local leadership. The local knowledge of culture, language and values is extremely important for us. We believe in empowering the local task force and delegating autonomy for day to day running tasks.

The other factor is local autonomy. Each country has some autonomy to take day to day decisions and to run the project as their own, while we supervise and recommend as necessary. They participate in the day to day decisions and decide according to local needs. In the past 18 years seven projects have been established, and more than one thousand children and their extended families benefited. Looking to the future, we believe that now much fas-

In the past 18 years seven projects have been established, and more than one thousand children and their extended families benefited.



Marciano Teixeira in Ethiopia

ter multiplication will happen and many more children will be able to be assisted. The needs that are there in those countries are enormous and, because we care, we would love to be there as an answer for those needs, reaching as many as our capacity allows us. Thank you for being part of this network and for enabling us to be there touching the lives of those families. Much was

already possible and much is still to be done.

Marciano Teixeira

Founder and CEO of Operation Rescue



ORE UK & Ireland

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

As is clear from the accompanying financial report, during 2017 just over £33,000 has been sent to Operation Rescue to enable them to continue with this work. Reference to the grant request forms completed by the General Manager Getachew Tesfay, to which our organisation has responded, gives an indication of the wide usage of the monies which have been sent. They include the following:

- Provision of food for the midday meal
- Education supplies including school uniforms and materials
- School fees for children
- Health care and hygiene expenses
- Sports materials
- University students monthly financial support
- Students' vocational training
- Christmas gifts for the children
- Design and planning costs related to the proposed new centre at Adwa.

The impact of the activities carried out by the project was clearly in evidence to the two students from Northern Ireland who visited the project in June 2017 [one student being a trustee] and worked with the staff and young people for a month. Unmistakable evidence of the loving care of the children and how its work is valued by the beneficiaries themselves was there to be seen. The needs of the children who are the beneficiaries were laid bare as the students visited the homes of some of the children. The benefits to the children include:

- Receiving a substantial meal each day
- Being given a school uniform and school materials as well as tutorial support to help them make educational progress
- Having access to showers and hygiene materials,
- Having access to the health centre and a trained nurse – a facility open to the children and their families.
- Having access to Bible teaching and advice on moral and ethical issues
- Support from a project social worker who visits each home each month and assesses whether additional support is required.

Other benefits are less easily quantified but all who visit ORE centres testify to the loving care shown to each child and the adherence to the vision of the project to enable each child to develop fully physically, mentally emotionally and spiritually.

It is noteworthy that some young people who have come through the project are now employed by ORE in various capacities and give enthusiastic and committed service. There are also now many students who have emerged since 2000 with third level/vocational training qualifications. Many return on a regular basis and make clear their immense gratitude to the staff at the project. I refer here to an email received from Getachew Tesfay, general manager at ORE in January 2017:

Dear Friends of ORE,

As you all know in the past years many children who have grown up in Operation Rescue Ethiopia were graduating from different departments from different universities and Colleges in the country and most of them now are in good job positions. As usual this morning we had a graduation ceremony but what it makes special today is a young man called Abrha

Woldu graduated as a first medical doctor of our Child Care project Operation Rescue Ethiopia from Mekelle university college of Medicine. Therefore I would like to say congratulations to all communities of ORE for such kind of achievements and I encourage you to continue all your unlimited supports to keep this victory.

God bless you All

Getachew Tesfay

Operation Rescue welcomes teams from many countries who support the project and come to deliver programmes for the children. For some years they were accommodated in a rented guesthouse which was proving a drain on finances. Operation Rescue UK & Ireland gave considerable assistance, especially during 2016, to enable the building of a guesthouse at the centre which was opened officially in the spring of 2017. One trustee has stayed there and testifies to

its value. Having the guesthouse on site allows teams to operate more effectively, provides a source of income as well as employment opportunities.

The year ended with detailed exploration of the option to work towards building a fourth ORE centre in a very needy city called Maichew. The trustees have engaged in fundraising activities such as talks to church and other groups, applications to trusts and to UK Direct and a considerable sum has been raised. The main problem has been the acquisition of a suitable site for the new centre. The Maichew authorities are very keen to see the project established in their area but to date, sites suggested have been deemed unsuitable as children would not have easy access. The alternative option is to rent premises and begin the work in that way, as was the case with the original centre in Mekelle.

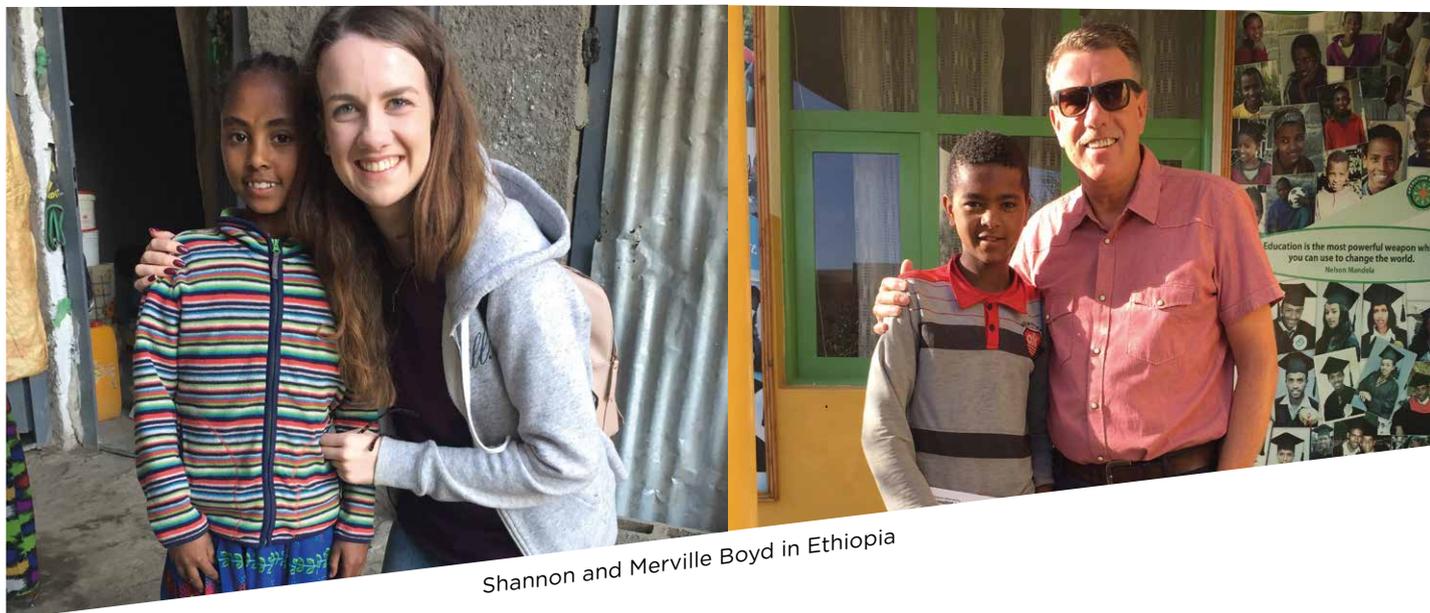
Towards the end of 2017, the trustees were made aware of the fact that the rental costs for the centre at Adwa had risen considerably and shortly after that came the news that the Adwa authorities were willing to make available a site for a new centre. Very strict regulations were attached to this offer requiring that the planning process be completed within 3 months and the building constructed within 2 years.

This produced a dilemma for the trustees as they were very keen to support this initiative in Adwa but were aware that much of the money garnered during 2017 was ring fenced in the minds of the donors to be allocated to the building of the new centre in Maichew. We discussed and agreed that we could afford to send £10,000 to the Adwa project and to await the results of discussions held between Getachew Tesfay, General manager of ORE and two trustees Merville and Shannon Boyd who were due to visit ORE in January 2018 before further decisions are made regarding allocation of the monies received.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities during 2017 the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities have helped to achieve the purposes of our charity and provided benefit to the beneficiaries of the charity – the many children supported by Operation Rescue in Ethiopia.

Kate Doherty

Operation Rescue UK & Ireland



Shannon and Merville Boyd in Ethiopia



Brazil

Recently Brazil and also the area where our project is, have undergone some change. In a large part of the country, including Patmos, children are now in school for the whole day, and activities such as sport and crafts are offered. Even our area has seen a huge change – in the past few years a children’s day centre has been opened and a leisure centre with sports ground and play equipment built. That has an effect on the community and also on Operation Rescue: for a long time our project was the only place for children where they could access different activities and try our hobbies. Now they can use what schools and the leisure centre are offering. In addition, the children have less free time because they are in school all day so in the past year fewer children have attended the project.

For that reason we have worked on new ideas so we could adjust to the new situation and differentiate ourselves from the public schools. We see ourselves as partners to the schools, and don’t want to be in competition with them, but we are interested in the children being helped and guided as much as possible- and there is as always a lot of potential there. So we’ve been seeking opportunities to broaden our offer, visiting other organisations and exchanging ideas with educators.

With the help of a team of volunteers from Switzerland we’ve re-organised our classrooms. We still offer help with schoolwork, but now the focus is more on educational play so that the children can

develop their knowledge of dance, music and games. At the same time this develops their creativity.

We’ve made one of the classrooms a reading room, with a relaxed atmosphere where the children feel comfortable and enjoy reading. There is also a room with several workstations where the children learn reading and writing in a playful way. In the cinema room the youngsters can watch a film about a specific theme, and then analyse it afterwards in the ‘chat room’ as well as composing text and drawings relating to the contents

of the film. As before, activities such as Dance, Judo, Music, Football and other games, as well as a daily meal, are offered. In the meantime the number of children and young people attending the centre has risen significantly- currently there are more than 150 attending the centre in the afternoon and 80-100 in the morning.

However we also get to experience how children and young people who have grown up in the same social context resist the temptations and are able to choose the right way.

PARTNERSHIPS

We have received full grants for two of our students, David and Edivania, from the FIP, a Patos university. Up till now the Project had paid the study fees for them both but in conversation with the

Newly designed movie room



Valuable teachings from students

faculty leaders we received this generous help. The university has offered to fund the study of two more students in future. In addition experts from the university are offering their services through the project to local inhabitants: Dr Paula, our contact at the faculty will receive and treat patients once a week. A social worker and a legal expert advice and support the inhabitants as required, dentists offer treatment and computer experts are helping further develop our Portuguese web page.

In the nine years since Operation Rescue began we've seen many children and young people grow up. Unfortunately, amongst them are some who have not grabbed the chance offered by operation Rescue. Some have ended up in the drug trade, in prostitution or in crime, a couple of them are in prison or have even died. Others have become parents at a young age and have had to break off their education, some have started taking drugs and are now fighting the effects of their addiction. Wherever possible we still support these young people.

However we also get to experience how children and young people who have grown up in the same social context resist the temptations and are able to choose the right way. That is great encouragement for us and confirms for us that we should continue.

These days some of them invest their time in helping the children in the Project- for example, Luiz, who helps with computer science lessons and is employed part time so that his school work is not affected. Natalia, an intern, who helps teach literacy is doing a course at FIP. Sergio, a young man, has decided to work as a caretaker at the Project. Jose is a firefighter and helper at the Project and hopes to be able to do further study. David is our music teacher and psychology student. Edivania teaches ballet in the Project and is a trainee PE teacher. Daniel plays trumpet in the Project's percussion band and helps the conductor. Thanks to the support of the Project he was able to train as a hairdresser and even has his own salon in the area where he gives the boys from the Project the coolest haircuts. Douglas got a job in a shopping mall thanks to support from the Project.



Nilma dos Santos with her youngsters

We also invest in Sport as a means of changing lives – for example Maria Eduarda is the judo champion of the province of Paraiba and has qualified for the national championship.

We hope we can keep improving our work and continue to offer the children, young people and families in the district of Mutirao the chance of a better future.

Nilma dos Santos

Manager of Operation Rescue Patos

MUSIC AGAINST VIOLENCE

In the community workers Antonio and his wife Claire we had two professional musicians as volunteers in our centre. Antonio is chief organist of the French church of Bern, a lecturer at the University of the Arts, Bern and the Head of Department for Church music. Most of our children had their first contact with classical music and even with music from their own Brazilian culture through them. Claire and Antonio, through creative activities, awakened a new interest in music and an emotional response to it- rarely have we seen such lively children sitting quietly for so long while Claire and Antonio played music. In the music room they set up they offered music lessons where they showed the children how they could express emotion with sound – something that at the beginning few could master without reverting to violence. Violence is ever present in the environment here and deeply ingrained in the children even if they have seen improvement through the Project in the past years. And are finding new ways to cope with their challenges.



Antonio Garcia teaching music lessons



Ethiopia

JOURNEY OF THE YEAR 2017

First of all I would like to praise the Almighty God for his grace and unlimited support for Operation Rescue Ethiopia over the year. Honestly speaking, the year was not easy: a big challenge and shock last year was the unexpected death of Goitom, one of the children from one of the Operation Rescue Ethiopia Cell family houses. Even though he was HIV - positive, physically he was healthy and in good condition but then he suddenly passed away. It was shocking and frightening to some other HIV - positive children at the centre. But God was so courteous to everyone and helped strengthen the entire ORE community again.

Behind every challenge there was a success: 2017 was also the year of many blessings for

ORE. When The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Charity and Society Agency granted a property transfer from similar NGOs among the 81 candidates in the country, ORE was ranked in 5th place and was given a Toyota Land cruiser used vehicle. The other success for ORE in 2017 was that we acquired new land for the Adwa centre. Currently, acquiring land for projects is very complex and difficult but in 2017 ORE was granted 400 square meters from the government to build facilities for the children in Adwa. Moreover the dream to have a 4th project centre in Ethiopia in a specific area called Maichew (120 kilometres south of Mekelle) will come to fruition. We have been given the green light from both our generous donors in Northern Ireland and from our government. Currently we are almost at the final stage before starting to build the project. ORE was also blessed

ORE was blessed by having many volunteers from different countries in 2017.

by having many volunteers from different countries in 2017. We had individual volunteers as well as teams from Switzerland, Germany, USA and Northern Ireland. ORE benefited from all their volunteering services and their generosity to the needy children in Ethiopia.

As you may all remember, every year we have graduating students from different colleges and Universities, but in 2017 our first medical doctor Abrrha Woldu graduated from Mekelle University and was offered a post to work as a physician in Axum town.

Although it means ORE management team & staff are extra busy with increased responsibilities, we made a historical decision that increased the number of beneficiaries from 300 children to 500 children at ORE's Mekelle centre during 2017.

Finally I would like to convey my great appreciation to all our generous donors, board Members and all friends of ORE for their unconditional & genuine assistance in all aspects. Last but not least I would like to conclude my yearly message with great gratitude for Mr. Marciano Teixeira and his family for his remarkable coaching, mentoring, follow up and advice in times of difficulty, as well as in times of success from the beginning until now. The flexibility of ORE's structure for improvement, growth and better services remains excellent.

God Bless Operation Rescue Ethiopia & our entire world!

Getachew Tesfay

Manager Operation Rescue Ethiopia

400 square meters of building land in Adwa



Getachew Tesfay with his wife





Volunteers of the Church In Action of Frankfurt

ABOUT HEARTBEAT AND BODY LANGUAGE

What will happen in Ethiopia, what to expect in this foreign country? It's the 9th of November 2017 and I have just boarded the airplane in the direction of Africa having no idea what my next three months will look like.

Warm hearted children and employees were waiting for me at Operation Rescue Ethiopia (ORE) and I felt at home from the first moment. I did not have a concept of what I would be doing workwise or what my daily routine would look like. My mother mentor, however, led me straight to the youngest, the kindergarten students, my "Tigers". Right from the beginning we had no problems understanding each other even though I didn't speak a word of Tigrinya! I just felt how much they needed a hug, someone to take care of washing their faces and blowing their noses... and just having fun together. In fact it was mostly attention they needed. So in no time we got very close, with hardly any words and mostly in body language conversations our heartbeats connected.

Each day I started my work at 8 am by welcoming the children and playing together until they had to go to classes at 9 am. Then, after a good breakfast I went visiting the children's families together with the social workers of the project. Our goal was to help the families to solve their individual daily problems. It was an amazing experience to see how families have to live under poor circumstances, how they are facing challenges to simply survive each day but still manage to have a smile on their faces. Even more, they were generous, hospitable and shared the little things they had. From the poor we can learn how to share.

Those visits did not make me feel sad, but gave me strength and



The kindergarten crowd

inspired me to help and care, to motivate them, to share humanity and give them the feeling of respect. We can't change the world, but with our help we can change a family's living standard, can help them to find an income to bring up the children and to find a way into a better social life.

The rest of the day I just helped where help was needed: in the kitchen doing the dishes after the children's lunch, cleaning the premises and doing garden work, reorganizing and sorting out gifts from charities, playing with children before they were picked up by their parents and also helping in the guesthouse. There were so many things that had to be done every day!

Now I have only two more weeks in Mekelle until I have to leave. As I



Swiss Volunteer Andrea at her outreach in Ethiopia

look back, I can say that it was a very happy, warm-hearted stay with many adventures and experiences, laughter, homesickness and tears, body language and smiling in a country with wonderful people.

I don't need to feel bad going back to my life, to my way of living in a rich country. I know there are so many people suffering but I am also sure that with a little help we can give them so much. Even little things can make their lives easier and give them the possibility of bringing up their children with a good education to live an honest life for a better future. That's the wish of all parents around the world. I'll be back soon in ORE, Mekelle and it will be a coming home!

Andrea Amendra-Hauser

Volunteer from Switzerland



India

Our registration process took more than one year to complete. We faced lots of problem due to Government policy for the registration process. In 2017 after getting the final registration papers we were in a search of new place inside Kolkata and focused on working among the street children. Because in India, and especially in Kolkata, thousands of people are living on the street on almost every corner of the road, they don't have a roof over their heads, they don't have any proper place to live or proper food. The unhygienic environment leads to several health problems, they don't have proper clothes to wear; some of the people work as a rickshaw pullers some of them work as a house maids, and some of them work in a grocery shop as helpers. But nobody has a permanent job to earn for their family. Due to the socio- economic condition lots of children work to support their family. These street children don't have a secure and safe environment to study and to develop physically and mentally, not even the 60% of street children that are able to go to school due to some Government help and support.

Finally in August at last by the grace of our almighty God and due to the hard work of Sir Marciano and brother Allem we found a new place for the project in central Kolkata where within 1km radius, hundreds families are living on the street. God gave us the opportunity to serve them. The apartment has 2 classrooms, one kitchen, one office room and two toilets. But the rooms were totally unclean and dirty, especially the toilets. A team of 8 members from the Church in Action Frankfurt, Germany who came with Marciano performed a great job by cleaning all the rooms and toilets and painted everything. They provided all the furniture such as cupboards, fridge, stove, ventilators, office tables, and white boards, games for the children, pen and pencils for the students. The team also provided the plastic cover that serves as a roof for the 120 local families of pavement dwellers of the region. We are grateful for the team's contribution to our project!

A lady has been hired as a community worker. As she is from that community and has experience of working with them, it is helpful in understanding them better and in communicating in a better way with the local people who are living on the street.

This is what we do in our day to day activities:

- Before starting class students can clean themselves up, sometimes they take a bath.
- We provide a good lunch every day for the students. They get

- good quality rice, vegetables, egg and chicken etc.
- Students learn regular subjects like Maths, English, Social Studies as well as very good art and craft, music, and dance practice after finishing their study.
- Here children get a safe and adequate place to do their study. They enjoy spending time with our teachers and the team.
- Parents and especially the children are getting mental support to carry on their studies.
- Children are making friends with others, which is helpful in removing the cast problems.
- We celebrated the 1st children's day on 14th November 2017, providing very nice shoe and lovely snacks for the students
- We also celebrated our 1st Christmas Day with the children on 22nd December and we gave very nice blankets, toys, water bottles and tiffin boxes to all the students. We enjoyed that day because the students performed songs and danced.

Overall my vision is to educate the children and guide them in such a way that they can help others to overcome the same situation.

Rajib Hossain

Manager of Operation Rescue Kolkata



Rajib Hossain



Marciano on the rooftop of our centre in Calcutta



Life in the streets of Calcutta



Thank you

FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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Fields Of Promise

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cod IBAN:
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Financing

The project Operation Rescue is done through donation and sponsorship of families.
Sponsoring one family costs chf 50 | € 30 | £ 20 monthly.



The independent quality mark of the Ehrenkodex foundation certifies an impressive quality of work as well as careful use of donations.