The Fregenet foundation

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Educating Needy Children for Success

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



THE FREGENET FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2010

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Imagine it is Fall 2004. The Fregenet Foundation has gone from dream to reality and our first 31 children walk through the school doors. For them and their families it must have seemed like a dream as well. But doesn't it feel like just yesterday? Yet here we are again to report to you the highlights of our accomplishments of 2010.

In the final months of 2009, as mentioned in our reports, permanency of location was our biggest challenge. We indicated to you that we would be working very hard to find a solution. A capital campaign was initiated and we set forth the challenge for the foundation to work its way from being a renter to becoming a property owner.



The other outstanding accomplishment of 2010 is that we proudly graduated our first group of students from the Fregenet School from fourth grade to fifth grade and to the world beyond. There were 31 students who started with us in Kindergarten 1 in 2004, and 29 of them completed fourth grade after six years of studies.

Read on to learn more about the work, success, and change that you and your support have made possible.

Highlights of 2010:

Local Support Grows

Supporters in Addis Abeba came together to form a local fundraising committee in early 2010. Their first activity was to present the Fregenet School and its mission to attendees of the Grand Trade Fair and Christmas Bazaar. Committee members were happy to have a chance to raise awareness about our school and students among leading businesspeople and local citizens.



***Love on Holiday* Shows Love for Fregenet School**

On July 19, 2010, the producer and actors of the popular play *Leireft Yemeta Fikir (Love on Holiday)* donated all of the proceeds of that day's performances to the Fregenet School. The Ethiopian National Theater and the National Theater Administrators also provided their support.

Talented Manager Joins Fregenet School Staff



January also brought good news to the Fregenet School in the form of Mrs. Selam Nigussie, who assumed the position of manager of the school. In addition to her years of NGO experience, Mrs. Nigussie has a bachelor's degree in theatrical arts and a diploma in library science from Addis Abeba University. Within a year, she has done a terrific job in managing the day-to-day activities of the school and has accomplished a lot that make us all proud of her.

The Great Ethiopian Run—L.A. Style

In March 2010, Fregenet Foundation president Tafesse Woubshet, Chris Kurtz of Portland, Oregon, and Daitchi Ito from Latham & Watkins in Los Angeles, ran all 26.2 miles of the L.A. Marathon, along with other board members and friends. They raised a significant amount from sponsors.

A Great Day



July 10, 2010, was a day of celebration and festivity when more than 30 KG2 students advanced to first grade and 28 fourth graders became the first graduating class of the Fregenet School. The graduates started as a group of 31 KG1 students in the fall of 2004. Their hard work, optimism, and strength was highlighted in a yearbook created in their honor. The Fregenet School sent them off with good wishes (as well as continued support) to fifth grade at a nearby school. This was a great moment for the students, their families, and the staff of the school. We were all so proud.

Lasting Connections—and Lunch



Our first graduating class made a smooth transition to the fifth grade at a nearby government-run school, the Felege Yordanos School. The Fregenet Foundation continued to pay for the cost of the students' uniforms, books, and stationery supplies (which would otherwise have been the very expensive responsibility of the students' families). In addition, the Fregenet School dedicated a staff member to bring the class from their school to ours and back every day so that they could continue to eat lunch.

Teaching Teachers



A group of teachers from seven U.S. states visited our school in the summer of 2010 and led a one-day bookmaking program with our teachers. This was a wonderful experience for both Ethiopian and US teachers and hopefully will continue on yearly basis covering different topics.

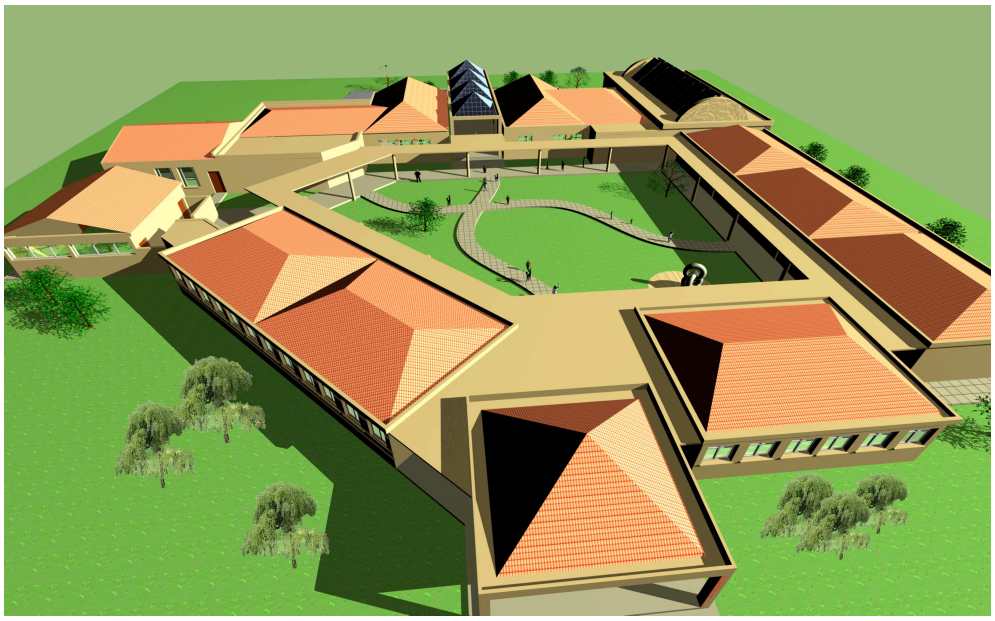
Visitors and Volunteers

The Fregenet School received visits from several interns, students, families, and individuals from the U.S., Canada, and Europe in 2010. These guests worked with, taught, and visited with Fregenet School staff and students. You can read some reflections from these interns and visitors in our VIVA (Volunteers, Interns, and Visitors) Newsletter at www.fregenetfoundation.org.



A Vision of a School Home

At the beginning of December 2010, the Fregenet Foundation launched a Capital Campaign to raise funds to purchase land and buildings for the Fregenet School, rather than continue to face uncertainty in a rented location. With leadership gifts from USA for Africa ($25,000) and Jim Mitchum ($10,000) the Capital Campaign got off to a great start and will continue as we build our school and assure our permanency in the community we serve.



Financial Reports

Our revenue and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2010 (January 1–December 31) amounted to $121,632. Out of this, $56,000 consisted of in-kind donations of administrative, accounting, and web-design services. Actual cash contributions amounted to $22,721, for operating costs collected through our Student Sponsorship Program, L.A. Marathon sponsorships and donations from individuals and business supporters, and $42,910 in restricted account for capital funding.



Using the donations collected during 2010, less our overhead expense of just 2.2%, Foundation income supported the following: Fregenet School rent, staff salaries, maintenance of playground equipment, classroom furniture, school uniforms, office administration expenses, school supplies, utilities, and general maintenance. A detailed income and expense statement for the year ended December 31, 2010, is available upon request.

We are hoping to build upon the $42,910 capital funding we already secured in FY 2010 and add more to it in the following years to realize the purchase of property.

In Conclusion

No one needs to tell you, our supporters, that difficulties and challenges abound in Ethiopia. But we can say with the confidence born of experience that a group of dedicated people can succeed when they decide to come together. They can succeed when they decide to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children. And they can succeed when they decide to create a space where dreams can be dreamt and hope takes a place at the front of every classroom. That success would not be possible without you. Thanks for your support.

The Fregenet Foundation

The Fregenet Foundation

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Or

Donate online at www.fregenetfoundation.org

Together we can make a difference!!

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Educating Needy Children for Success

The Fregenet Foundation and its School Fregenet Kidan Lehitsanat admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin, gender, disability and religion to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, gender, disability or religion in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.