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THE ETHIOPIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH MEKANE YESUS
ILLUBABOR BETHEL SYNOD

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 METTU, ILLUBABOR

To PC/USA
 Harrisonburg, VA
USA

Dear friends in the Lord,

Def: - **Presenting the first half report of HIV/AIDS Education and Youth Leadership Training Project**

As you know you have been assisting us to start IBS AIDS Education project since few months. Per the information we have received from you about the approval of the project, we immediately resumed implementing it after learning the release of some initial funds.

Here attached, please find the activity report prepared by our Youth and Sunday school Section and the financial report made by our Finance Department.

God bless you abundantly for cooperating with us to do the work of the Lord in many areas of our challenges. We are indebted and grateful for all your assistance.

With kind regards,

Mersha Seyoum / Rev.
 Executive Secretary



CC:
 IBS DASSC
 IBS Finance Department
 Health Section
 HIV/AIDS PCP Section
Mettu
 BESCO
Addis Ababa

**The Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus Illubabor Bethel Synod
Youth & Sunday school Section's
AIDS Education Project Activity report**

Activities performed:

Trainings, seminars, and familiarization and awareness raising programs were undertaken in several places among which Darimu presbytery, Mettu presbytery, Salle Nono area work, Masha Presbytery, Hurumu Congregation, Darimu Congregation are the significant places, during the last quarter of the first phase of the project. There was also IBS University/College Students and Youth Leaders Workshop on which HIV/AIDS Education was one of the major area of concentration during the workshop.

The Youth Festival Against AIDS organized in Mettu has played a major role in raising HIV/AIDS awareness among the community in Mettu and around, as the result of the air coverage given by Ethiopian Radio and Mettu Radio. During this event, the participants of the festival had raised 283.50 Birr as a contribution for few AIDA patients and orphans. A total of more than 426 youth leaders and Sunday school leaders, young students as well as more than 3000 adult Christians were addressed during these activities.

Target groups:

- Youth and children
- Youth and Sunday School leaders
- High School students, University/college students

Methods of training:

Lectures about HIV/AIDS, drama, songs, sermons, panel discussions, experience sharing by AIDS patients, group work, questions and answers, and demonstration/marching on the streets were the major techniques we used so far during facilitating AIDS Education programs.

Integration:

IBS Evangelism Department, Youth and Sunday School section is organizing this workshops in collaboration with the Synod's Health Section and HIV/AIDS Prevention and Controlling Office. The Synod's health Section/HIV/AIDS PC Section is supporting Youth Section in appointing professionals to give trainings.

Other efforts:

The 30th Executive Committee Meeting of IBS has endorsed the proposals presented by the Synod's Youth and Sunday School Section in relation with AIDS Education, that;

1. HIV/AIDS Education for the Youth and Children shall continue in all levels of the Synod. (Presbyteries, Parishes, Area works, Congregations and Out reach areas.)
2. Church leaders, ministers (pastors and evangelists) shall give due attention and teach the youth about gender issues and sex education transparently, in their respective Congregations.
3. The Youth in the Church must be encouraged to go under medical check up (screening anti-body test for HIV infection) **BEFORE** marriage.

Out comes observed:

- There are several significant improvements in different presbyteries and congregations, that young people who have an access to HIV/AIDS blood testing center are voluntarily testing themselves before marriage.
- Young peoples in many of the congregations and Synod Units that were reached during this first term of campaign have developed a spirit of transparency in discussing about HIV/AIDS in the church context.
- HIV/AIDS awareness among the Christian Youth is being highly raised.
- The capacity of IBS Youth and Sunday School ministry has been strengthened.
- Christian Youth leaders and Sunday School leaders are equipped by ample knowledge that helped them to teach their fellow congregants at the grassroots level.

Challenges encountered:

- A little delay of funds, and some confusion at BESCO, Addis Ababa, finance Department during the wiring of the fund because, the purpose of the fund and the name of the supported Synod seems to be not mentioned on the check.
- Overlapping of different workshops at IBS and shortage of Trainers, and medical professional.
- Unable to facilitating Seminars in some of Synod Units during rainy seasons.

Future plan:

Continuing organizing trainings and seminars that will raise HIV/AIDS awareness among the youth and Children, in all the 16 Synod Units, in the coming two and half years of the remaining project periods.

Note:

This activity report includes the activity undertaken from September 2003-March 2004. Some of the works were started from before getting the fund for AIDS Education, and the money is being replaced after the fund has arrived.

Acknowledgements:

Finally I would like to thank: -

1. PC/USA for funding the project.
2. IBS Evangelism Department for giving due attention to the implementation of the project.
3. IBS DASSC Health Section and HIV/AIDS PCP office for cooperation with Youth and Sunday school section in providing professionals.
4. IBS Finance Department for preparing financial reports.
5. BESCO for releasing the fund and informing us the arrival of the fund.
6. Mr. Doug Sensabaugh for his concern to Youth ministry and exerting his effort for the realization of this project.

Respectfully presented,
April 30, 2004

Prepared by
Amanuel Teferi

Amanuel Teferi



Approved by
Mersha Seyum/Rev./

Mersha Seyum

**EECMY-IBS AIDS EDUCATION PROGRAM
PRELIMINARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD OF SEP.1,2003 - MARCH 31,2004**

INCOME:

Earmarked Grant	34,884.00	
Available Fund		34,884.00

EXPENDITURES:

Travelling	1,137.00	
Mileage	680.00	
Audiovisual Supplies	110.00	
Stationeries	754.00	
Taking vidio film & writing posters	1,699.00	
Operational Supplies	244.05	
Food and accomodation	7,422.50	
Allowance for guests' teachers	1,490.00	
Administration Charge	947.56	
Total Expenditures		14,484.11
Fund balance as of 31, March 2004		20,399.89

Prepared by  Checked by 

