

ETHIOPIAACT.ORG



BRING CHANGE AND BE CHANGED

MEDICAL MISSIONS



ETHIOPIA ACT



WHY WE LOVE TEAMS

A LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

I am frequently asked if I think hosting short-term teams is helpful and even if it is a good use of resources. Some people wonder how effective someone could be who doesn't speak the local language or know the culture. Other people think the money it takes to send a team could be better spent by just sending it to a missionary or project.

Short-term teams have been a vital part of the development of Ethiopia ACT and continue to be an important part of our ministry. In our early days, medical teams trained us in caring for people with AIDS and dramatically increased our knowledge of HIV/AIDS. Teams brought the knowledge and expertise we needed.

Teams also help us build relationships. When teams hold clinics and care for the most needy people in the neighborhoods we serve, they not only bring medical care to people desperately in need, they also build up our relationship with the local government and build our visibility and credibility with the wider community. When teams hold clinics with our partner churches, they help these churches grow in their vision for bringing the Gospel in word and deed to their communities.

Additionally, non-medical teams minister to the children of the project, encourage our support groups, counsel, teach the Bible and so much more. We are able to do more programs and creative activities than we could do without the help of teams. Teams have a spiritual impact. When someone travels overseas to come serve, locals are often willing to talk and pray with them when they wouldn't with one of us. When a physician or nurse puts their arms around someone who has been ostracized and rejected by their community, it opens doors for the gospel to be shared.

Teams have been, and will continue to be, central to the work of Ethiopia ACT. We love teams, and we are glad you have come to partner with us in Addis Ababa.

Your Partner in Christ,

Andy Warren

Andy Warren, Ethiopia ACT Founder

HOW LONG IS EACH TRIP?

Each trip, travel time included, is typically 8 days. Most teams depart home on Saturday and arrive in Addis Ababa on Sunday morning. Sundays are devoted to rest and orientation. After a week of serving (and time for souvenir shopping!), teams then typically fly out on Saturday evening, returning to the states on Sunday.

WHAT WILL WE DO?

We start with an orientation, including info on common illnesses, available pharmaceuticals, and diagnostic testing procedures. Clinics start on Monday. Triage is done by a US nurse alongside an Ethiopian nurse/translator for initial intake with vitals and primary complaint. We keep charts on patients who are our beneficiaries and notes on non-beneficiary patients. If patients need lab work, x-rays, or more complex testing, we send them to a local facility and then see them again with their results. For patients requiring ongoing care, there will be a follow-up day where we connect them with the local health system. A basic pharmacy is kept on site, and Ethiopia ACT purchases medications we don't have in stock..

WHERE WILL WE STAY?

The team will stay at a local guest house near the communities ACT serves. It will be safe, clean and comfortable. There will be a large dining area and sitting area. There is hot water and electricity (most of the time), and laundry services are provided by the guest house staff. It is our desire that when you leave clinic and arrive at the house, it is a place of comfort, safety, and respite. You have worked hard during the day to care for others, let us care for you when you are home.

WHAT IS THE COST?

Costs fluctuate due to flight variations. However, team members can expect to pay \$150/night for in-country costs including food, lodging, transportation, and other amenities. Team leaders will coordinate travel and ticket purchases.

WHERE WILL WE SERVE?

Ethiopia ACT currently works in several slum communities, and plans to continue expanding into new communities as resources become available and new communities are surveyed. Ethiopia ACT has served in Addis Ababa since 2002. Clinics care for anyone in the communities, not only direct beneficiaries of Ethiopia ACT.

WHAT MAKES AN ETHIOPIA ACT TRIP DIFFERENT?

Ethiopia ACT regulates the number of patients providers see to ensure the quality of care. The goal is not to see the highest number of patients, but to provide the best care possible to patients who otherwise may not be able to receive medical care. ACT treats each patient as an individual made in God's image and as such deserves to be treated with respect and generosity.

IS THERE SPIRITUAL IMPACT?

During clinic, some patients will be unwilling to pray or discuss spiritual things with you, but many will be open to prayer, counsel, and hearing the Gospel during your interactions with them.

We never want to force or manipulate anyone spiritually, nor do we want to give the false impression that someone's healthcare or support by Ethiopia ACT is attached to their spiritual response. However, where there is spiritual openness, feel free to pursue further conversation and prayer. Pray that God would continue this work of gospel restoration in the people to whom you minister during this trip.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE?

MORNING

Every day begins with a devotion led by a team member. Mon - Fri breakfast is served at 7:30am. Sat & Sun are self-serve.

DAYTIME

First day includes half day of home visits. Clinics run 8:30am - 5:00pm, Mon - Fri. Providers see 3-4 patients per hour. We break for lunch and coffee in the afternoon.

EVENING

Each day ends with dinner where the team will encourage one another, share stories and learn from each other's experiences.



THREE WAYS MEDICAL TEAMS MAKE AN IMPACT

Medical teams add vital resources to our efforts of engaging and reaching the wider community of Addis Ababa.

1

Medical teams **provide quality care**. Lab and diagnostic services, along with patient follow up, ensure impact.



2

Medical teams build our **visibility and credibility** in the wider community.



3

Medical teams have a **spiritual impact**. When a physician puts her arms around someone who has been rejected by their community, it opens doors for the gospel to be shared.



I'M READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEPS **now what?**

1

Am I eligible?

Health Care Professionals:

- Medical Doctor
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist

Medical & Non-Medical Professionals:

- Have a current passport (must be valid within 6 months of return)
- Physically fit enough to walk and work at higher altitude. Addis Ababa is around 8,000 feet
- Medical team members must be working, have current license and 3+ years of experience

2

Who do I talk to?

If you desire to **lead** a team, email us at info@ethiopiaact.org and we will begin the process to equip you and your team with all the necessary information for an amazing experience.

If you'd like to **join** a team on an already scheduled trip, you can visit ethiopiaact.org/get-involved for open trip availability.

3

What's Next?

Sit back and relax. We've got it from here!

Be on the lookout for information necessary to book your travel. While you wait for your trip, be sure to check the CDC website for current immunization requirements. You will need an Ethiopian Visa which can be obtained ahead of time online. In addition, the Ethiopia ACT staff will send you a trip preparation package full of helpful resources to prepare you for your trip in Ethiopia.

Finally, and most importantly, you can begin to pray that your experience in Ethiopia will be transforming for those you serve, yourself, and your team.

**IT'S TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
EMAIL US AT [INFO@ETHIOPIAACT.ORG](mailto:info@ethiopiaact.org)**