

CARMICHAEL, CA 95608

THE VILLAGE THAT SMILED™

www.thevillagethatsmiled.info

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HANNAH FOLLOWS HER DRESS TO ETHIOPIA



During the summer between fifth and sixth grade, I went to the Wigginton's house to learn to sew. Kate Wigginton's Grandma Joan taught Kelsy Walker, Kate, and I how to make t-shirt dresses. A t-shirt dress is just a t-shirt with coordinating fabric attached to it. We measured the material, gathered it, and then attached to the t-shirt. The t-shirts were sent to Africa, specifically a small village in Ethiopia.



We sent our dresses and included a laminated card with pictures of us sewing the dresses which said, "From our Hands to your Hands." We received pictures back from the mother who gave the dresses to the young girls in the village.



My mom went to the village where my dress was delivered. She showed us pictures and video of the humanitarian expedition. When I saw the pictures and video I felt annoyed at first because my mom showed them all the time. We had people over and she kept showing it over and over and over. But when I saw the program about when Oprah went to Africa, then it was different. Mom's trip was just a mom thing...Oprah is better and she is real.

In April I will be going with my sister, Amelia to Ethiopia to do humanitarian service in the same village where the little girl lives that received my dress. The village has no electricity, dirt-floored huts, and no wells or clean water in the river. We will be working with the doctors in the medical tent washing babies, redressing them in new clothes, disinfecting little children who have scabies, teaching young girls how to use the treadle sewing machine, measuring heart rates using heart rate monitors of the girls who carry water 4 miles to



and from the river, and teaching mothers and daughters how to use the solar showers. We are also helping plant vegetable gardens at the village school. My sister, Amelia and I both sewed bags for education kits that went to the village.

We can only carry two seventy pound bags each which we will fill with 100 Coleman 5-gallon solar showers, 500 infant scrub brushes, 500 terry cloth wash clothes, thread, and soap. The reason we are taking solar showers is that the girls and women carry water from the river in 3-5 gallon containers. With the 5-gallon solar showers to haul water, villagers could use the hot water for cleaning. We are also requesting vegetable seeds. They have already planted 250 fruit trees.

Our website explains what our purpose and April expedition are all about and how you can help us collect the things we need to make the village smile.

Hannah Harper, John Barrett Middle School

EXPEDITION SUPPLIES

Coleman Solar Showers

Wash Clothes

Hotel Soap & Shampoo

Vegetable Seeds

Infant scrub brushes

Thread

Receiving Blankets, Booties, Hats in Ziploc Bag

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