



Dear Friends of HANDS,

It is our sincere hope that you had a pleasant year in 2015. We wish you and your family a peaceful and joyful holiday season.

HANDS is a nonprofit organization with a primary goal of helping upgrade neonatal care in Ethiopia by exchanging experiences with local Ethiopian health professionals. The attached [video clip](#) shows our progress made over the last 4 years in Jimma University and Hospital, located in western part of Ethiopia. The first 4 babies in the initial clip are one of the main reason HANDS was founded 4 years ago. The babies are born from 4 different parents. As you can see, they are very sick with no monitoring device, no diapers with urine and feces all over the bed, no breathing support and their intravenous fluid is being given in the most inaccurate way leading to fluid overload or fluid depletion. Most of these babies will never make it home.

With the help of our sponsors, individuals and organizations, HANDS members and volunteer medical professionals were able to make a significant difference in neonatal outcome. HANDS sent medical teams to Ethiopia, delivered donated life-saving equipment and shared experiences with the local Ethiopian healthcare professionals. Now, in Jimma Hospital, most babies admitted to the neonatal ICU are wrapped well and kept in individual cribs, with proper monitoring devices. The latest breathing machines (Bubble CPAP) supports each baby and intravenous fluid is being accurately administered using intravenous pumps. Describing the progress, one of the local Jimma physician said: “ 4 years back, 4-5 babies were dying everyday in our NICU. Now, 1 baby dies every 2 to 3 days.” This is a tremendous improvement and very encouraging news, but we still have more work to do and more lives to save.

As we embark on the New Year, we need your continuous support to fulfill HANDS 2016 mission. Our goal is to continue delivering life-saving equipment, send more medical teams to visit the hospitals in different regions of Ethiopia and share our experiences. We have team of doctors, nurses and respiratory therapist that are ready and willing to donate their time to travel to Ethiopia. Generous donors like you are the key to our success and make it possible for HANDS to provide critical medical care that saves many vulnerable lives.

For more information please, visit our website <http://handsforbabies.org/> or our facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/HANDSforBabies>.

To donate, please go to <http://handsforbabies.org/get-involved>.

Please click [here to view video clip](#).

HANDS Team

***“The Legacies we leave behind define our success in life” MWS.***