



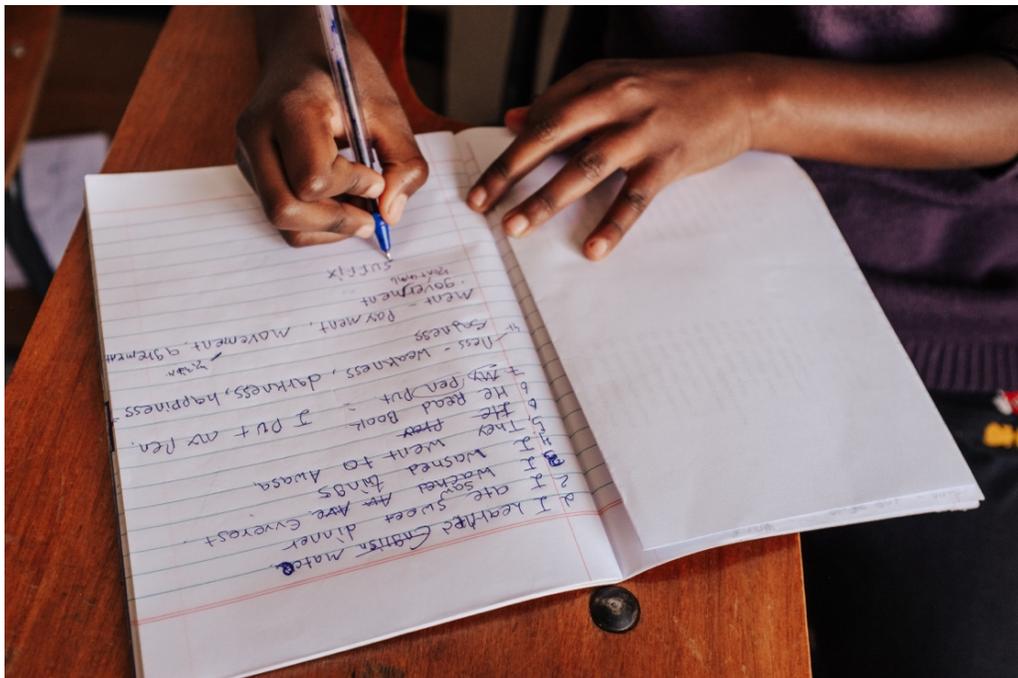
Team Members,

Some months back in a Team Update I mentioned that after our first full year of operations we weren't getting the traction that we wanted in our education program. The kids were coming for tutoring after school four days a week. We were teaching them on Saturdays and throughout the Summer. Still, when their report cards came, we didn't see the improvement we hoped for.

I am now happy to report that we are seeing the academic progress that we have sought, and that we have reason to hope even more for the future! I hope you enjoy reading the report below, knowing that you are playing a role in the kids' improvements and successes.

Thank you for your continuous support,

Lincoln Vallett
- Co-founder & Executive Director





Improvement

- At the end of the 2020/21 academic year, when we combined the averages of all the children, we determined that the average marks in our program came out to 70.1. We considered this to be our “organizational average”. At the end of the 2021/22 academic year, our organizational average had improved to 77.1.¹
- 70% of the children who have been in the program a year or more improved their average.
- The average grade improvement was 7.2 points.
- 5 students improved their overall average by 10 points or more.
- 5 students improved their math average by 10 points or more.
- 5 students improved their grade in English between 10 and 20 points.
- 2 students improved their grade in English between 20 and 30 points.
- 1 student improved his grade in English by 32 points!
- 4 students had an average above 90. (Last year we didn't have any)

¹ Note that the grading system is a more difficult in Ethiopia. A mid to high 70's average would be equivalent to a B- or B in the US.



Reasons for Success

When I last reported about our education program, we were processing the children's first semester report cards and comparing them with the previous year's. Four months later the kids wrapped up the school year and brought home positive results. What made the difference?

1. Hiring an Education Assistant

Saron joined our team in December of last year in a part-social work, part-education role. Every afternoon and Saturday, her primary role was as a teacher. Before this Abel, our education coordinator, was responsible for tutoring 20 children between grades 1 and 11 by himself. It was an impossible task.

Bringing on an additional education staff member allowed the children to receive the individual attention and assistance they needed.

2. Traction

When these children came into the program, they had little to no academic foundation. We first had to build that up, often at the expense of being able to teach them based on their current grade. We are now seeing that approach pay off. Now that they have a more built-up foundation, they are better able to keep up in school on their own!



Reasons for Hope

1. Momentum

Not only did we see these improvements in their 1st vs 2nd year results. A lot of students made big improvements between the 1st and 2nd semesters of last year. This showed that their growth trajectory was peaking at the end of the year. We have hope that they are entering their 2nd year with this upward momentum!

2. Summer Learning

On top of their momentum at the end of last school year, we also had a very successful Summer Camp from an education standpoint. We especially put a lot of focus on English, a foundational subject in Ethiopia, and saw them make strides in their speaking and comprehension abilities. Last year the children on average improved 9 points in English. We have even higher hopes this year after seeing the progress that they have made!