

THIRD ANNUAL FISTULA FUNDRAISING EVENT

Brought to you by the Washington DC area Tesfa Ineste Committee

Date: Sunday, December 9, 2007

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Crystal Gateway Marriott ~ 1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy ~ Crystal City, VA



Tickets: Individual: \$35 ~ Sponsor: \$1,000 (10 seats + ad in program book and during event)

Program Features: Speakers ~ Awards ~ Short Film ~ Entertainment & more

Hors d'oeuvres & refreshments will be served

Tesfa Ineste Committee is committed to raising funds to build the Harrar Hamlin Fistula Center – a mini hospital in the city of Harrar in Ethiopia.



Harrar site – over 36,000 square foot to house large facility with 35 beds & separate building for nurse aides

What is fistula?

A fistula is a hole between a woman's birth passage and one or more of her internal organs. This hole develops during prolonged obstructed labor. The pressure of the baby's head against the mother's pelvis cuts off blood supply to tissues and leaves a hole in the bladder and/or rectum, causing permanent incontinence of urine and/or feces.

What are the causes of obstetric fistula?

In many developing countries where there are few hospitals, few doctors, and poor transportation systems, and where women are not highly valued, obstructed labor often results in death of the mother. In the United States and other countries where women have access to emergency obstetric care, obstetric fistulas have been eradicated for more than 100 years.

Who are the victims of Obstetric fistula?

Obstetric fistulas typically happen in rural areas to poor, young women during childbirth. Without medical help, obstructed labors result in the death of the mother, and when she survives, there is a great likelihood her child will die and she will develop a fistula. Most women who develop obstetric fistula are abandoned by their husbands and ostracized by their communities because of the resulting foul smell.

Can fistula be prevented?

Any woman who has access to emergency obstetric care such as a cesarean section will not develop a fistula. Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital is currently building outreach centers in five Ethiopian provinces to increase the capacity of regional hospitals to provide fistula repair surgery and quality emergency obstetric care.

Can fistula be "cured"?

Yes. An obstetric fistula can be surgically repaired.

For more information on Tesfa Ineste project and Fistula

e-mail to: tesfaineste_dc@fistulafoundation.org or visit: www.fistulafoundation.org/tesfa

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Event by Flawless Events – www.flawlessevents.net