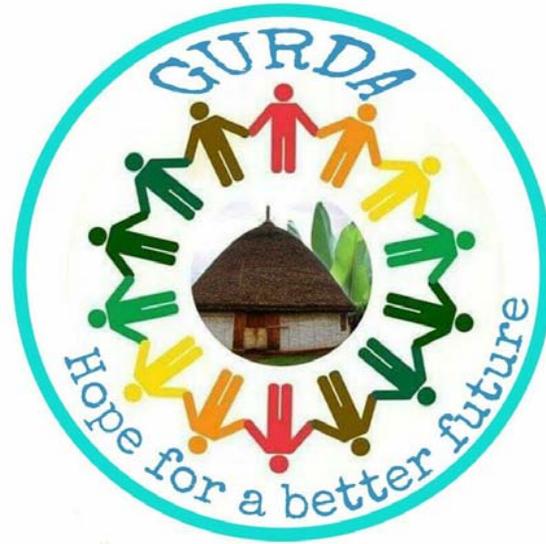


“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

Mark Twain



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www.gurdainc.org

GURDA



What is Gurda?

Gurda is a 501 (c) 3, tax exempt, not for profit organization whose main goals are to provide development assistance to the impoverished communities in Ethiopia. It all started with a routine discussion among a group of friends who observed the ever increasing economic and health problems affecting our communities. The originators of the idea happen to be from the area of the Gurage Zone in Ethiopia. Thus, we started to reach out to others that would share our ideas, primarily to people from the Gurage region. Using various communication technologies such as Viber and WhatsApp, we were able to enlist many members that would share our views. Taking advantage of the momentum created, our group then decided to have a name for our organization and we called it Gurda. Gurda is a Gurage term and means promise, covenant, oath, pledge, vow, assertion, or assurance. We chose this name for its traditional value and appeal in keeping and honoring a commitment to our family, neighborhood and society. In the culture of the Gurage, it is customary that one who gets in Gurda (promise) is expected to uphold and fulfill his/her promises, vows or commitments without fail. Thus, our group found the name Gurda to fit the values we promote and the commitments we would keep and so decided to adopt it.

What Does Gurda Do?

Gurda has a number of projects in mind that are to be accomplished in the future. Among the many project ideas the following are prominent: building a boarding school for the visually and hearing challenged/impaired, building healthcare facilities, schools, bridges, enhancing development in technology, agriculture, preserving all forms of Gurage languages & cultural assets. These project ideas will be addressed according to their urgency. As its primary project goal, amongst many prominent ideas, Gurda has taken on the challenge of building a boarding school for the visually and hearing impaired children in the Gurage region of Ethiopia.

What is Gurda's first project?

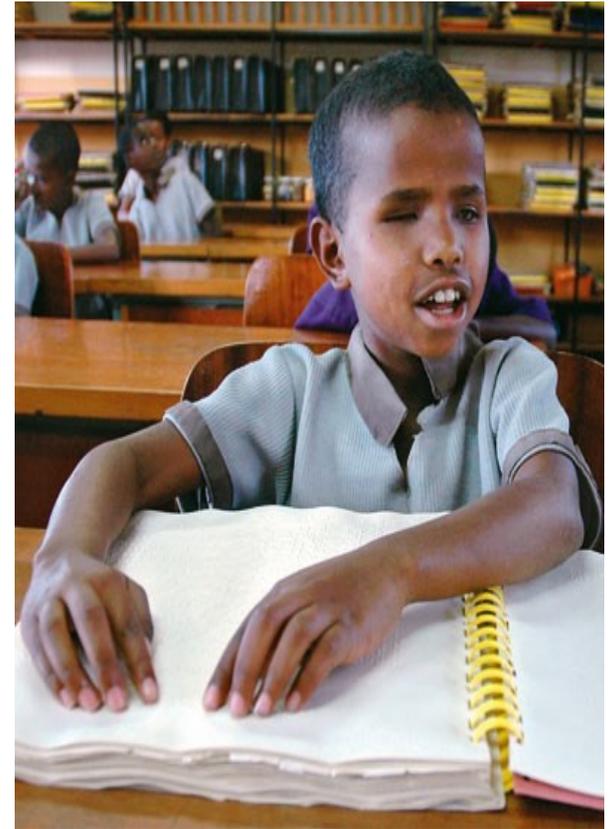
Gurda's very first project, Project #1, is building a boarding school for the visually and hearing impaired children. The reason why Gurda decided to take on this problem as its primary mission is to address the dire need for an educational institution for the visually and hearing impaired children in the Gurage zone. There is no governmental or privately owned institution in the area to address this issue. Yet, the number of children with visual and hearing impairment is growing in an alarming rate. These children have no opportunities to lead their lives independently. They are condemned to live the life of penury. Many of those children become totally dependent on the already weakened family support system and eventually end up becoming panhandlers. For these reasons, Gurda took on this challenge as its number one (Project #1) priority.

How does Gurda plan to raise funds?

Gurda is a 501 (c) 3, tax-exempt, organization in the state of California. Gurda has various plans to raise funds for its projects. It will collaborate with other similar organizations. It will hold various fund raising events. However, Gurda's fund is largely expected to come from the generosity and commitment of its membership from dues, donations and grants.

What are the criteria to become a member?

Anybody can join Gurda regardless of his/her ethnic origin, background, geographical location, political or religious affiliation. However, Gurda, has a strict organizational policy not to engage in and promote any political or religious activities in its organizational platforms.



How can I get more information?

Please visit our website to donate by simply going to <http://www.gurdainc.org>. Or you may send a check or money order to the following address:
Gurda, Inc., P.O. Box 10754,
Silver Spring, MD 20914

For further information please contact us at contact@gurdainc.org or call

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