

The Team Tesfa Transitions Charity for Teen-Age Women

The Transitions Charity is an Ethiopian NGO that provides housing and oversight for the general well-being of promising and committed but homeless girl runners in Addis who become members of Team Tesfa. The charity is registered with the Ministry of Justice. It is the idea of three of the original Team Tesfa team members who, with the assistance of Tesfa Foundation (link) staff, filled out and filed the paperwork for registration. It is staffed by two of the original Team Tesfa members, Meseret Asfaw and Amsal Kelemwork, who led the recruitment effort for the first six girls, and a member of the Tesfa staff, who assists them.

Meseret and Amsal did the footwork in finding the house for the teens and their 'house-mother'. They have helped the teens to settle in, orienting them to the house, the program, and the team. They will continue to provide oversight, guidance, counseling, and hands-on help to these six girls for the next three years. Additionally, Tesfa staff will train Meseret and Amsal in business management, fundraising, and money management. Within three to four years, Meseret and Amsal, who are still finishing school themselves but could not wait to find a way to “pay it forward,” will be secondary school graduates and experienced managers of a non-profit organization. At that time, they might launch themselves into independent careers in the non-profit sector; they might mentor the new transitions crew in managing the NGO; they might stay to manage the NGO and a career-counseling division that guides the new program graduates towards their own successes.

The Girls Gotta Run Foundation is proud to be able to provide part-time salaries for Meseret and Amsal, as well as a part time Tesfa staff person, as well as office equipment and supplies, to fund the start-up and administration of this charity.



Meseret Asfaw



Amsal Kelemwork