

## Ethiopia ~ Hero

[Film: 4 minutes](#)

*A woman of boundless love abandons the life she knew to start an orphanage in Ethiopia. Starting with a child she picked up from a dead mother's body, she now cares for over 5,000 children. An inspiration to us all.*



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### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Grades 6 - 12

Health, World History

#### **Health - Standard 2. Know environmental and external factors that affect individual and community health**

- Know cultural beliefs, socioeconomic considerations, and other environmental factors within a community that influence the health of its members
- Understand how cultural diversity enriches and challenges health behaviors (e.g., influence of cultural factors on the treatment of diseases)

#### **World History - Standard 44. Understand the search for community, stability, and peace in an interdependent world**

- Understand efforts to improve political and social conditions around the world
- Understand influences on economic development around the world (e.g., why economic disparities between industrialized and developing nations have persisted or increased, how neo-colonialism and authoritarian political leadership have affected development in African and Asian countries, the continuing growth of mass consumption of commodities and resources since World War II)

#### **World History - Standard 45. Understand major global trends since World War II**

- Understand causes of economic imbalances and social inequalities among the world's peoples and efforts made to close these gaps

Resource - [McREL Content Knowledge – Standards & Benchmarks](#)

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ☞ *What does it mean to be a hero? Why is Abebech Gobena a hero? Describe another hero.*
- ☞ *What is HIV? How is it different from AIDS?*
- ☞ *Abebech Gobena says that education is the best way to prevent the spread of HIV. Why is that?*
- ☞ *What is your opinion on adoption of children from other countries? Should children be allowed to be taken from their native country and culture? Discuss the positive and negative effects of these types of adoptions.*

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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### Excerpts from the official website of [Abebech Gobena](#)

Abebech Gobena Yehtsnant kebekabena Limatt Dirijit (AGOHELD), is a registered and indigenous non-governmental and non-political humanitarian organization founded by a Lady Called W/ro Abebech Gobena during a severe drought that caused famine in 1980 in the northern part of Ethiopia.



**Abebech Gobena**

Besides institutional care and support of orphans, the organization has started different developmental activities in rural and urban areas. Over the past two and half decades, with the relentless efforts of the founder, dedicated staff and genuine supports of humanitarian organization and individuals, the organization has made tremendous progress.

Abebech's self-sacrificing venture attracted the attention and support of individuals and several humanitarian organizations and her individual effort has been transferred into a big institution providing improved and better services to 160 resident children as well as to nearly 12,000 non - resident children in the operational areas. In addition to the child care program, AGOHELD has been largely involved in rural and urban integrated developmental activities and supporting directly and indirectly about 600,000 marginalized segments of the communities both from urban and rural setting

#### Vision

To make children productive and responsible Citizens by satisfying their needs and protecting their rights, so that they can become self-supportive and contribute their share in the society

#### Mission

- Bringing up needy children by providing them with basic needs
- Reunifying children whose parents / relatives are identified
- Make the grown up children of AGOHELD, destitute women and youth to be self-supportive by providing them with various skills training.
- Undertake urban and rural integrated development programs, taking into account that the basic problems of children emanate from poverty.