

THE SLAIGHT FAMILY FOUNDATION & CANADIAN FEED THE CHILDREN CREATE FUND TO REDUCE FORCED MIGRATION FOR GIRLS IN ETHIOPIA

TORONTO (March 2, 2020) - Canadian Feed The Children (CFTC) has partnered with The Slight Family Foundation to create **The Slight Livelihood and Gender Equality Fund**, which will champion the human rights of women and girls in Ethiopia and help end their forced migration.

In Ethiopia, many girls and women must choose between forced early marriage, hunger and poverty at home or migrate to the capital Addis Ababa to find work. They often encounter trafficking, violence, homelessness and abuse en route or upon arrival into the city.

To combat this, the Slight Livelihood and Gender Equality Fund will help girls finish their education and support new female-led sustainable businesses. The Fund will also support community-led advocacy campaigns to promote women and girls' rights, as well as a much needed study on child migration to inform future prevention efforts. This multipronged approach will help reduce discrimination against women and girls, and empower them to build an economically stable future in a country where only 6% of rural women have access to credit.

CFTC is one of 15 organizations chosen by The Slight Family Foundation to help improve human rights and opportunities for women and girls worldwide.

"The aim of this gift is to improve conditions for women and girls living in difficult circumstances, who represent some of the world's most vulnerable populations," said Gary Slight of The Slight Family Foundation.

"This partnership furthers CFTC's important work to increase Ethiopian women and girls' economic participation and promote their rights," says Jacquelyn Wright, President & CEO of CFTC. "We thank The Slight Family Foundation for this timely and important gift, and are proud to partner with them for this initiative."

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Canadian Feed The Children is a non-governmental organization that works to unlock children's potential through community-led action in Canada and around the world. Canadian Feed The Children partnered for child-focused food security, education and livelihoods in Ethiopia for over 15 years. Learn more at canadianfeedthechildren.ca

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