In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Cross Catholic Outreach partnered with the Brothers of Good Works to fund the Maternal and Infant Department at the St. Gabriel Catholic Health Center.

The ministry comprises lay professionals and religious brothers, who encourage women to deliver their babies in the safety of the center rather than at home as most poor women do. Women receive free infant checkups and immunizations. The devoted Catholic staff at St. Gabriel’s treat each woman with dignity, love and the compassion of the Lord.

This project is also committed to providing proper health education within the community, and it puts a special emphasis on reaching expectant mothers. Every morning, a member of the staff visits people in the waiting area to share important health information. When women come seeking prenatal care or to get checkups for their children, St. Gabriel also includes TB and HIV/AIDS testing of the mother as part of the standard routine.

If a mother tests positive for TB or HIV/AIDS, the center provides counseling and medical treatment. These mothers are invited into a private, nonjudgmental support group that meets for tea at the center where staff members dispel common myths about HIV/AIDS. While the trained staff at St. Gabriel explain the truths about HIV/AIDS and give treatments, they also reassure these women that they are not alone and that God loves them.

**With financial support from Cross Catholic Outreach donors, 197 babies were delivered!** St. Gabriel Catholic Health Center was able to continue these important medical and spiritual services to mothers, offering life-saving health care and Christian love and generosity.
**Funds Distributed: $30,000**

**Description:** Cross Catholic Outreach provided support for the Maternal and Infant Department at St. Gabriel Health Center.

**Impact:**

- **172 babies born** and 237 given immunizations.
- **441 women** provided with ANC service.
- **172 mothers** received delivery services.
- **2,380 doctor’s visits** for children under the age of 5.
- **27 staff salaries** partially supported by Cross Catholic Outreach.