

ETHIOPIA'S TOMORROW: SHAPING THE FUTURE

By Maureen Haggerty

This June, I met Emmebeth Mischel, the founder of *Ethiopia's Tomorrow*. Before I decided on what to write for this issue, I toyed with many ideas, but the conversation I had with Emmebeth came flooding back into my mind when Ify Ezinwa, the editor of *Echoes Africa*, told me that the theme of this issue would be: Take Charge.

I met Emmebeth while working on a project that involved showcasing the businesses of female entrepreneurs. I do not know how, exactly, we began speaking on the topic of the “haves and have-nots,” but I know we began to speak about it immediately.

Emmebeth Mischel is the founder of *Ethiopia's Tomorrow Inc.*, an organization which provides resources such as shelter, food, clothing, medical and other supplies to African orphanages in remote villages. They also raise money in order to send supplies as well. I believe this is where our conversation took off as I mentioned that, one of the CUNY colleges for which I worked, would send container loads of books to Africa. Emmebeth did what any good businesswoman would do: she did not ask me to send more books; she asked me to come teach. It was this point which resonated with me as this invitation, and the way it was presented, was the hallmark of a take-charge individual. I was honored.

Just a little background: Ethiopia's Tomorrow, a charitable non-profit organization, supports, specifically, the work of the Abune Andreas Orphanage in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia, where Emmebeth was raised.

Emmebeth Mischel
founder of Ethiopia's Tomorrow Inc.

Photo/Ananda Lima in
collaboration with Brynn Hudson
for "It's Her Business."