



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**--DENAN PROJECT RECEIVES RECOGNITION FROM ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS WITH NEW OPERATING THEATER FOR THE PROJECT'S SUCCESSFUL MEDICAL FACILITY--**

**-- Operating Rooms Will Make Surgeries and Additional Treatments More Readily Available to the People of Denan, Ethiopia --**

WOODBURY, CT, June 29, 2015 -- The Denan Project (TDP), the non-profit organization dedicated to helping impoverished people in isolated communities in Ethiopia, Peru, Burkina Faso and Mongolia, is pleased to announce that its medical facility in Denan, Ethiopia, which provides free health services to more than 2,400 people each month, was chosen by the Federal Ministry of Health and the Health Bureau of the Somali Regional State as the site for the expansion and creation of a 10-room operating theater complex. The new operating theater will allow TDP to offer a wider range of services to its patients, who currently must be sent to other hospitals out of the area for surgical treatment.

Dick Young, Founder and President of The Denan Project noted, "The recognition of the Ethiopian government, at both the national and local levels, for our work in Denan is extremely gratifying. Over the past eleven years we and our partner, the Ogaden Welfare and Development Association, have provided free, quality health services to over 200,000 people in Denan and its adjoining refugee camp. Our patient load continues to grow monthly, and we now are serving those within a 200 kilometer radius. The addition of an operating theater in this very isolated community will give the people of the region a better option for surgeries and other treatments, and, we are confident, save lives. With the ongoing support of the Ethiopian government, we will be better able to meet the needs of the region, and provide a wider array of medical services."

The addition of an operating room with additional beds will also change the official classification in Denan from a "health center" to a "hospital", which will allow the facility to become eligible for newer equipment and various medicines, including anti-venom snakebite medications, of which the local population is in particular need.

Young concluded, “We could not be more proud of our organization’s work, which is bringing real aid and support to people all over the world. Because TDP is entirely volunteer-funded, we are able to send nearly every cent (over 95%) directly to our projects. Of course, with greater responsibilities come greater need, and we appeal to our supporters to help us ensure that both these new projects announced today can be as successful as possible. The Denan Project was begun by neighbors in the small town of Woodbury, Connecticut who wanted to make a difference in far-away communities. Anyone wishing to donate or volunteer can go to our website at <http://thedenanproject.org/>, and we encourage you to sign up for our newsletter to hear more about our important ongoing work.”

### **About The Denan Project**

The Denan Project (TDP) is a 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Foundation based in Woodbury, Connecticut with the mission of providing health care, education and other critical assistance to highly disadvantaged people living in poor, remote areas of Ethiopia, Peru, Burkina Faso, and Mongolia. Beginning with medical care and then branching out to 1) education, 2) agriculture, 3) water resource development, 4) food security, and 5) microcredit loans, TDP works with regional governments and nongovernmental agencies in the countries they serve in pursuing long term sustainable solutions. Additional oversight is provided by local NGO partners in each of the four countries. Except for auditing costs to insure donor transparency, TDP is an all-volunteer organization with no overhead costs and minimal expenses. More information on The Denan Project can be found at: [www.thedenanproject.org](http://www.thedenanproject.org).

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