



Dear Gift of Life members,

On behalf of our community in Ethiopia, US-based team, Ruth's Studio Samuel family and of course, Ruth, we are forever grateful to each and every person in this room.

When I was connected with JT over a year ago, I could never have imagined the journey ahead. The road was not easy, to say the least, and because of the integrity and dedication to Gift of Life's mission, you saved Ruth's life.

She was very ill and likely one of the most challenging cases due to age and various factors. Had Gift of Life not extended support, she wouldn't be with us today. That's a fact.

We don't choose where we're born. A girl born into poverty in a developing country is marginalized. Imagine being that girl and in addition, you have a health condition that isn't treatable in your country AND a global pandemic has just reached your borders.

This was Ruth's story in February 2021. In March of 2021, Gift of Life brought hope and positivity to Ruth's future. The next nine months were the most critical, uncertain, and challenging of Ruth's life. Gift of Life delivered the unwavering support needed for this incredible young woman.

After two open-heart surgeries in the US and returning to Ethiopia with a state-of-the-art pacemaker, Ruth has received promising news. Studio Samuel arranged for one of the best local cardiologists to take Ruth's case. They're familiar with her background and after monitoring her physical activity and needs, have adjusted her pacemaker accordingly, providing an additional 13 years to her life (at a minimum). This is only a bridge to Ruth's next steps in living a fulfilling life. Over the next 5-10 years, with technology and easier access to care, we're hopeful Ruth is no longer looking at *any* timeline but instead focusing on college, a career, and a future without the limitations she faced only one year ago. I don't say this lightly. It is only because of Gift of Life that this is possible.

We're truly in awe of the work you do around the world and are humbled for including us in your journey. We look forward to sharing Ruth's continued success with you through JT and are always available if you have any questions.

With immense gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tamara', written in a fluid, cursive style.

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