

Keeping Hope Alive: One Woman – 90,000 Lives Changed

WELCOMING DR. HAWA ABDI TO COLUMBUS, OHIO

Please join us for a book signing event for Dr. Hawa Abdi's new book:

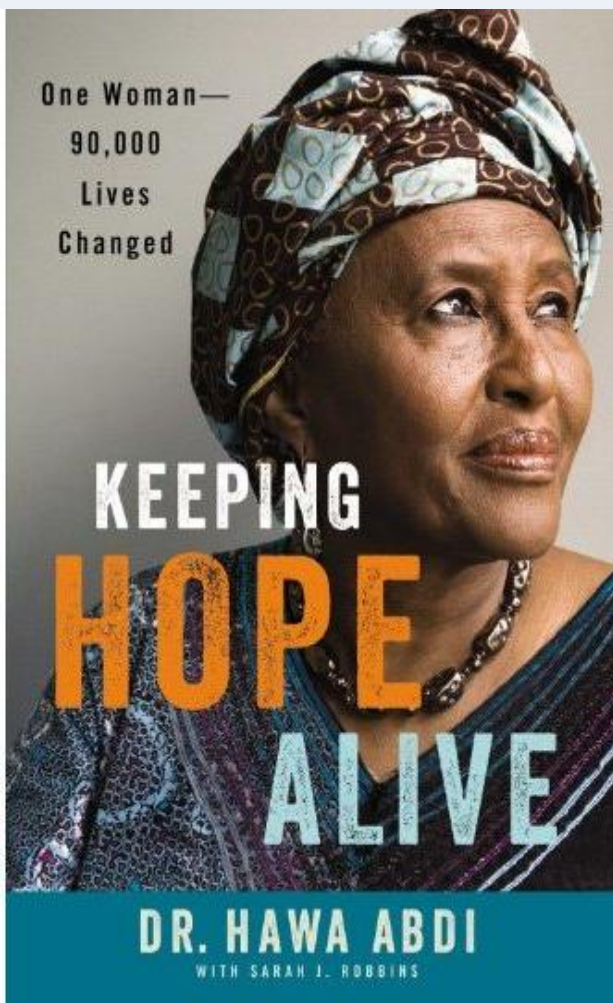
Keeping Hope Alive: One Woman—90,000 Lives Changed

Date: Friday, April 12, 2013

@ 2:30pm —4:30pm

Location:

**The Ohio State University; Union Building, Round Meeting Room
1739 N. High Street Columbus, OH 43210;**



“Compelling does not begin to define this story; it is simply, sadly, impossible to put down.” says Colleen Mondor ★ in a starred review for Booklist.

For more information, contact:

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DR. HAWA ADBI DIBLAWE

Dr Hawa Abdi Diblaawe was born in 1947 in Mogadishu. Her father was a worker in the city's port and her mother died when she was very young. As the eldest child, Hawa was forced to raise her four sisters in conditions of poverty. But she never lost hope sight of her dreams.

"My father was an educated man," she recalls, "He made sure I had the chance to become a doctor."

With the help of a Soviet scholarship, Hawa studied medicine in Kiev and soon became Somalia's first female gynecologist. She then completed a Law degree at the Somali National University in Mogadishu, where she later became an Assistant Professor of Medicine. She soon opened a clinic on her family's ancestral land in the Afgooye Corridor, using the profits from her family land to provide free health care to all of her countrymen.

When the civil war began in 1991, Dr. Hawa started housing her employees on her land, feeding them and caring for them. Soon their friends and relatives came seeking shelter, then after the friends and relatives of their friends and relatives. Dr. Hawa welcome them all, providing shelter to all those who came regardless of where they came from. In 2012, Dr. Hawa's land housed more than 90,000 refugees, most of whom are women and children.

Today, Dr. Hawa Abdi continues to fighter for the women, children and elderly people of the Hawa Abdi Village. With the help of her two amazing daughters, Deqo and Amina, both of whom are doctors who have followed in her footsteps, Dr. Hawa continues to keep a candle of light lit for the people of the Afgooye Corridor.

Dr. Hawa has won numerous distinctions and awards, including the John Jay Justice Award, Vital Voices' Women of the Year Award and a nomination for the Noble Peace Prize in 2012. U.S Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has called Dr Abdi "a perfect example of the kind of woman who inspires me".