



## **BBF Trustees and Staff Visit Haiti**

In the first half of November 2011, Brother's Brother Foundation (BBF) Board members B.J. Leber, Drew Harvey and Ron Miller and Advisory Trustee Stan Cohen, BBF President Luke Hingson, BBF Director of Finance Amy Langham and BBF Medical Coordinator Liam Carstens, as well as representatives from BBF partners at Food for the Poor (FftP) and Regina Birdsell and Michael Savage of the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) visited Haiti. The primary purpose of the trip was to view the school reconstruction projects that BBF, FftP, and CAS supported. Mr. Carstens also visited ASAP, a partner in the city of Cap-Haitien that receives medication, equipment and supplies from BBF.

The group arrived in Port-au-Prince early on the morning of Monday, November 7th, and went directly to the site of the Georges Marc School. There, they participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the new school building. BBF, with FftP and CAS (CAS contributed over \$160,000), has committed money to the reconstruction of three schools: Georges Marc, Marie Clarac and Jean Marie Guilloux, which was recently completed and the next stop on the itinerary. The delegation toured the reconstructed Jean Marie Guilloux School. All were impressed with the order, cleanliness and dedication of students of the schools visited by the group.

Nowhere are the challenges of education in Haiti more evident than at the site of Marie Clarac School. Its teachers and students hold class everyday in tents while they await approvals and permits for the reconstruction of their school. The group visited Marie Clarac School on Tuesday morning before they made the drive to Hopital St. Croix in Leogane, the epicenter of the earthquake that shook Haiti in January of 2010.



*BBF Trustee B.J. Leber, BBF President Luke Hingson, Georges Marc School Principal and Michael Savage of CAS at groundbreaking ceremony*

Hopital St. Croix is a hospital that BBF has supported through the years with the help of Medical Benevolence Foundation. After the earthquake, BBF committed funds for some of the reconstruction needs of the facility as well as for new generators. Hopital St. Croix still has many major deficiencies; the desire is that the eventual clearance through customs of the generators and the completion of construction will allow the facility to address other critical needs.

On Wednesday, November 9th, the group set out to visit hospitals. First, they stopped at Hopital Bernard Mevs in Port-au-Prince. Hopital Bernard Mevs is a smaller facility but serves as the primary trauma hospital in the capital. With limitations on space and resources, the hospital is able to do a great deal and will be able to do even more once a planned third operating suite is completed.



*Students of the Marie Clarac School in Haiti*

The group departed Hopital Bernard Mevs impressed, and with a better understanding of its needs. The group then made its way to Hopital Albert Schweitzer (HAS) in Deschappelles. HAS is the large referral hospital in the Artibonite River Valley in central Haiti. Among other things, the group examined ways to improve the relationship between HAS and FftP, which could be quite beneficial to HAS in reducing its total expenditures for supplies and medications purchased. Everyone was impressed with the level of care and the organization of the hospital.

On November 10th, Mr. Carstens traveled to Cap-Haitien, a port city in the north of the country, to visit with the Board of ASAP, an organization that has received the majority of BBF's medicines in Haiti in the nearly two years since the earthquake. ASAP, an organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Cap-Haitien, maintains and supports a number of hospitals and dispensaries in Northern Haiti, including the two clinics and three hospitals that were visited: Dispensaire Sacre-Coeur, Dispensaire Caritas, Centre Medical Bethesda, Hopital St. Francois de Sales and Hopital Bon Samaritain du Libmbe. In addition to serving as a reliable distribution partner for medications, supplies and medical equipment, ASAP has agreed to work with BBF and FftP to get more medications into Port-au-Prince as well. All members of the group were impressed with the work done in Haiti by BBF and partners.

## **BBF Medical Program Coordinator in Guatemala**

by Liam Carstens

In December of 2011, as BBF Medical Coordinator I traveled to Guatemala to visit with BBF partners Food for the Poor and Caritas Guatemala. Over two days, I visited hospitals and clinics that receive requested pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment from Brother's Brother Foundation. While there, I also noted a great need for medicines such as antibiotics and over-the-counter vitamins, in addition to a need for more specialized pharmaceuticals. BBF will continue its work with Caritas and Food for the Poor in Guatemala. A container holding ultrasound equipment and medicine will be shipped in January. Its contents are for San Juan Bautista Hospital, a facility supported by BBF in Jalpatagua, Jutiapa, Guatemala.

## **Country Updates: December 31, 2011**

During 2011, BBF shipped supplies to 65 countries including Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### *Inside*

**President's Report**  
2

**In Memory Gussie Hingson**  
2

**Donor Thanks**  
3 - 4

**Gift-in-Kind Thanks**  
4

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The official registration and financial information of Brother's Brother Foundation may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999.



## President's Report

by Luke Hingson

BBF had a wonderfully productive year in 2011. The product contributions of medicines, medical supplies, textbooks, emergency hygiene kits and other supplies totaled over \$237,500,000. Requested shipments went to 65 countries in need and were valued over \$230,300,000. BBF received over 2.5 million bottles and/or tubes of pharmaceuticals as well as over 2.2 million textbooks and other teaching aids weighing over 1,900 tons. These materials, along with our humanitarian program materials, were shipped in 236 ocean-going shipping containers. In addition, we provided donations for 270 hand-carried mission trips.

I am pleased to announce that Forbes magazine placed BBF in a tie for most efficient charity among the 200 largest U.S. charities. BBF was given a 100% rating in fundraising efficiency, charitable commitment and donor dependency.

In November, I received an award from the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania (JASP). Just hours after the March 2011 disasters in Japan, JASP and BBF were busy connecting the generosity of the people of Western Pennsylvania with the needs of our friends who were suffering unthinkable tragedy. We are proud that the supporters of BBF and JASP have donated over \$500,000 for Japanese reconstruction relief to hospitals and orphanages.

I want to thank the staff, Trustees, contributors and overseas partners of BBF for their tireless efforts to make the work of BBF efficient and responsive to needs around the world. On a personal note, I want to thank the many who expressed their condolences at the time of my mother's passing in December. She truly was a great lady.



Senior Vice President and General Manager of Sumitomo Corporation of America Toshiaki Murai, Ambassador Hiroki and BBF President Luke Hingson at JASP's 25th anniversary celebration where Mr. Hingson was honored.

## In Memory Mrs. Gussie Hingson



Mrs. Gussie Hingson

In 1963, Mrs. Gussie Hingson, wife of BBF founder Dr. Robert Hingson and mother of current BBF President Luke Hingson, gathered and shipped 100,000 books to Liberia and thus started the Brother's Brother book program.

Nearly 50 years later the program has shipped over 91,000,000 books to over 100 countries.

Gussie Dickson Hingson, 95, of Ocilla, Georgia died Sunday, December 11, 2011, in Seneca, South Carolina.

Mrs. Hingson was born July 23, 1916 in Osierfield, Georgia to the late George F.P. and Gussie Henderson Dickson. She grew up in Fitzgerald, Georgia, graduating from Fitzgerald High School in 1933. She graduated from Georgia State College for Women in 1938 and received her Master's Degree in Nutrition from Case Western Reserve University. Mrs. Hingson was a homemaker and a former dietician for Philadelphia General Hospital. In 1984, she and her husband, Dr. Robert A. Hingson moved from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Ocilla to live in the ancestral farmhouse built by her grandparents. Mrs. Hingson was a member of the Ocilla Rotary Club and supported Brother's Brother Foundation. She was of the Baptist faith. Mrs. Hingson, along with her husband, was a participant in international medical philanthropic work including mass immunization, seed and book distribution in developing countries and the United States. In the early 1960s she was knighted by President Tubman of Liberia. In 1968, she was awarded the Alumni Achievement Award by Georgia State College and University, formerly Georgia State College for Women.

She is survived by a daughter, Roberta Hingson-Gates of Seneca, SC; sons, Dr. Dickson James Hingson of Flagstaff, AZ, Andrew Tobian Hingson of Cornwall, CT, Dr. Ralph Waldo Hingson of Boston, MA and Luke Lockhart Hingson of Pittsburgh, PA; grandchildren, Robert Hingson-Gates of Atlanta, Dr. Alyson Hingson-Gates Miletich of Hickory, NC, Luke Hingson of Washington, DC, George Hingson of Erie, PA and Ava Augusta Hingson of Cornwall, CT; great grandson, Isaac Miletich of Hickory, NC. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Dr. Robert A. Hingson.

## BBF Educational Program Coordinator Honors Mrs. Hingson

by Carol Taylor

It must have been quite daunting being the wife of a very active Doctor traveling about Africa in the early '60s bringing life-saving medicines to countries still stricken by smallpox and other life-threatening diseases. This was where Gussie Hingson found herself; sometimes sipping tea at a vice president's home or sitting out in the open chatting with the women of the various tribes. It was one such conversation with Mrs. Victoria Tolbert, the wife of the Vice President of Liberia, which gave birth to BBF's International Book Program.

Her work was initially to gather books from schools, universities and the community to be repacked and sent to those tribes in Africa she had visited. Shipping books was no easy task without the technology we rely on so heavily today. Her work was done by phone and mail and Telex. In those early years of the '60s Gussie was able to get more than \$200,000 worth of used books shipped to various countries in Africa, an amazing accomplishment at that time.

As the current Education Coordinator, I am so pleased to be able to carry on her vision. The program has changed in many ways. Now about 95% or more of the books we ship are new books from publishers' excess and overruns. Computers, instantaneous international communication and efficient shipping networks make the work easier and much faster. I hope that Gussie would be pleased that in 2011 we sent over 167 loads or about 2.2 million books to recipients all over the world. I am sure she would be quite surprised to learn that about 20% of those books went to Native American Tribal schools, Head Start Programs, University Outreach Programs in poverty stricken inner city programs and private schools, here in the US. Children all over the world, including young girls, have benefitted from her pioneering work in international education. Thank you Gussie.



School student in Somalia

## Mission Trip Program 2011

In 2011, BBF supplied 270 mission trips to 48 countries.

## Thank You Donors

This issue of Field News expresses our thanks to the many donors who contributed to Brother's Brother in the year 2011. Many thanks to all BBF's friends for their outstanding contributions to our work "Connecting People's Resources with People's Needs."

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