



## How Can We Help You? A Response to Need in the Time of Ebola

By Richard L. McGough, III, M.D.

During late August and early September of this year, I was privileged to make my second trip to southern Malawi. Located in south-central Africa, Malawi is split by the Great Rift Valley, producing isolated towns and villages separated by mountains. I traveled with a group from Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA to visit multiple sites with which we maintain partnerships. I was also honored to put on a second "hat," and to represent Brother's Brother Foundation (BBF) when we visited the district of Mulanje.

Mulanje is a town located at the base of the Mulanje Massif. This structure stands alone on the eastern border of the country between Malawi and Mozambique. Mulanje developed a large population and infrastructure quite early, as it has a more temperate climate than the Rift areas of the country, and a correspondingly decreased incidence of malaria. While there, I was honored to represent BBF to three institutions: Mulanje School of Nursing, one of the largest nursing schools in the country; Mulanje Mission Hospital, a very old mission arm of the Blantyre Synod of the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian; and Mulanje District Hospital, the large government hospital located centrally within the town.

At each facility I was "tasked" with meeting with an appropriate official, and asking one, very important, question: "How can we help you?" This question, obviously, took different forms in different places. At the School of Nursing, I met with both the Dean and Chief Librarian, and asked them "What do you need?" "What books are you lacking that we might try to provide for you?" With the medical officers, I asked questions regarding beds, lights, and machines, as well as surgical tools, pharmaceuticals, and supplies. At this time, the Ebola virus was of great concern even in southern Africa, a distance of greater than 3,700 miles from the countries stricken in West Africa. This fear could be read on many of their faces as one of "How will we protect ourselves and care for our patients if this disease makes its way south to us?"



This protection question is of paramount importance. Developing countries are very inventive in creating multi-use and reusable products. The reason for this is poverty: single function or disposable items are expensive by definition, as they cannot be reused or used for another purpose. Unfortunately, current guidelines for Ebola protection stipulate not only single use personal protective gear, but head-to-toe coverage. This is not only expensive to make, it is expensive to transport, as the bulk volume of these items can be quite great.

At both medical facilities, I was able to give a gift. Before I left Pittsburgh, I was able to go through the BBF warehouse and select surgical instruments to bring with me. As a surgeon, I was reminiscent of a child on Christmas, as I searched through boxes trying to create the "perfect" surgical set with which a surgeon could perform many, many procedures. I was able to present these as a "complete" set to each facility for general use. Clearly, this did not supply all of their needs, but did symbolize what we could do, and would try to do, once we have received their own "wish lists."

With all of the media coverage of Ebola, near panic has stricken our country. People are fearful of flying domestically, let alone internationally. A mere mention that I was in sub-Saharan Africa this fall, and would be returning to North Africa shortly, produces obvious anxiety in my patients and others around me. It is in no way difficult to imagine the fears Africans have when no ocean separates them from this disease, and no avoidance of mass transit will suffice. As important as the work of BBF is for pharmaceuticals and other material supplies (as yet another container was recently shipped to Malawi), our work is vitally important as we move supplies of protective equipment to the stricken countries of Africa.

A lack of pharmaceuticals in southern Africa could certainly produce need.

A lack of personal protective equipment, which is unfortunately all consumed during EACH patient encounter, is deadly, and will compound the disaster that is occurring in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.

With our contacts and logistical plans throughout Africa, BBF is ideally situated to respond directly to this crisis with the most needed materials. This ability gives me justified pride when I introduce myself as a BBF Advisory Board member and ask, "How can we help you?"

BBF has sent 22 40-foot containers of medical supplies to partners in African countries since the beginning of 2014 including seven to Liberia and six to Sierra Leone. BBF received a written statement from the Ministry of Health in Sierra Leone stating that it will allow some shipments of pharmaceuticals. BBF is attempting to learn more about the restrictions and hopes to send requested pharmaceuticals. BBF continues to support other medical shipments to Africa, including one to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in September and one to Malawi in October.

Strong support from Brother's Brother Foundation's community of donors will allow us to continue to provide vital medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in west Africa. As BBF continues its efforts to provide timely shipments to our partners there, we need your help now more than ever. Please seriously consider making a donation to BBF's Ebola response fund.

### Countries Served in 2014

In the first ten months of 2014, BBF shipped requested supplies to 60 countries including Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Somalia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



#### President's Report

2

#### Education Program Update

2

#### BBF Trustee Medical Mission Trip Reports

3

#### BBF Spring Gala

4

#### BBF Officers

##### Board Chair

B.J. Leber\*

##### Vice Chair

Thomas Wentling, Jr.\*

##### Treasurer

Joseph Senko\*

##### Secretary

Austin Henry, Esq.\*

##### Medical Director

Deborah McMahon, M.D.\*

##### President

Luke Hingson

\*also a trustee

#### Other BBF Trustees

Barry Byer, M.D.

Roy Dorrance, III

Alvin Harper

Drew Harvey

Ronald Miller

Gordon Moore

Les Pitton

Linda Renninger

Frances Stephen

Charles Stout

Robert Verscharen

Robert Weber

James Wolf

#### BBF Staff

Luke Hingson

Thad Adkins

Ruth Anderson

Debbie Baucom

Erin Belitskus

Jessica Capretti

Liam Carstens

William Davis

Karen Dempsey

Donna Engelhardt

Ryan Gindlesperger

Richard Goddard

Antonella Hawchar

Rabih Hawchar

Richard Hines

Ryan Kondrot

Velimir Letoja

Kevin Meszaros

Robert Miller

William Shaffer

Emily Sikora

Dinita Thomas

Phone: 412-321-3160

Fax: 412-321-3325

mail@brothersbrother.org

website:

www.brothersbrother.org

## President's Report

by Luke Hingson

In the first ten months of 2014, product contributions totaled \$160,962,537 and product shipments totaled \$168,443,471. Direct shipments and mission trip support went to people in need in 60 countries.

Incoming medical donations for the ten-month period were valued at \$105,680,836, which includes more than 2,214,404 bottles and tubes of medicine. One hundred and four medical containers were sent to 56 countries during the period.

The value of incoming education donations January through October was \$55,171,832. Outgoing education shipments during the period totaled 1,536,382 books. They were sent to 23 countries in the equivalent of 64 containers.



BBF Advisory Trustee Dr. Graham Johnstone

In October, BBF Advisory Trustee Dr. Graham Johnstone went to Niger on a medical mission trip. BBF Trustee Dr. Barry Byer and BBF/National Capital Area Warehouse Coordinator Dinita Thomas left for Honduras on October 29th. Trustee Robert Verscharen traveled with Liam Carstens and me to call on 10 pharmaceutical companies in the eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey

area during the week of October 6th. After these visits, BBF anticipates strong 4th quarter donations, possibly exceeding 500,000 units.

BBF welcomes William "BJ" Shaffer who joined the Pittsburgh staff as Warehouse Assistant in September. Emily Sikora moved to South Africa in October to work for a year, but continues to help with BBF's Education Program in her new location. Jessica Capretti is working full time with BBF's Inventory and Education Program. Carol Taylor, who retired this summer, has agreed to be available to BBF as needed in the fall of 2014.

In early November, BBF's Vice President of Medical Programs and Strategic Initiatives, Liam Carstens, will visit with recipients and shipping partners in Tanzania. Among these partners are the Catholic Archdiocese of Arusha and the Diocese of Moshi that maintain hospitals, clinics and dispensaries in northern and eastern Tanzania. The trip will last nearly two weeks and will also include visits to agents who work with BBF on the process of shipping and clearing customs. BBF has sent nine 40-foot oceangoing containers filled with medical supplies and equipment to Tanzania since the beginning of 2013. Many of BBF's connections in Tanzania have come from introductions provided by professors and students at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

## BBF Congratulates Liam Carstens

Each year, Pittsburgh Magazine sponsors the 40 Under 40 event with the goal of recognizing 40 people under the age of 40 who are committed to shaping the greater Pittsburgh region and making it a better place for everyone to live, work and play.

Among the honorees celebrated on October 24th was BBF's Vice President of Medical Programs and Strategic Initiatives, Liam Carstens. Mr. Carstens's work at BBF involves coordinating donated medical supplies, equipment and medicines around the world, ensuring that each region's particular needs are being met. Mr. Carstens also serves on the board of directors of Global Solutions Pittsburgh which promotes international education and engagement.



Liam Carstens with his parents Noreen Kivlin Carstens and Dr. R.W. Carstens, and his brother Finnian Carstens

## Education Program Update

by Emily Sikora

The Philippines was the largest recipient country, receiving 15 containers of books so far this year and 20% of BBF's overall book donations. Eleven of those container shipments went to Makati Rotary and are being used to support rebuilding schools and libraries in the typhoon-affected areas of that country. Makati has partnered with other Rotary Clubs, such as Rotary of West Cebu, to aid in the distribution.

Shipping and clearing costs were supported through BBF's Philippine Typhoon Project Funds. Although BBF intended to pay for the distribution efforts throughout the affected areas, Makati Rotary was able to secure local funding for inland transportation.

Makati Rotary says there is still a need for books in the affected areas but there has been a bottleneck at the Philippine ports due to the fact that paperwork requirements have changed in order to reduce smuggling. Hopefully, these issues can be resolved quickly. An additional three containers were sent through EDC's USAID funded project in the Philippines and one container was sent through Life for Relief and Development.

## BBF Education Program Staff Changes

by Emily Sikora

There has been a lot of transition with the BBF Education Program over the past year. Carol Taylor retired in the spring, and now there are more staffing changes.

I have been very happy working at Brother's Brother Foundation and with the Education Program for nearly three years. Before coming to BBF, I had worked with the US Peace Corps in Mozambique for more than three years and since being home it became increasingly apparent that my heart and my ambition still belonged to doing development work in southeastern Africa.

Through a partnership between Peace Corps Response and a South African non-profit, Mpilonhle, I received the opportunity to return to Southern Africa. Over the next year, I will be working with Mpilonhle and the South African Ministry of Education to improve access to high quality math and science education in rural high schools through the implementation of electronic education resources, namely Khan Academy.

In my stead, Jessica Capretti, BBF Inventory Assistant, will be taking over the responsibilities of Education Program Coordinator. Thank you Jessica, for stepping up into the role!

## BBF/National Capital Area Report

by Thad Adkins

BBF/National Capital Area has had an incredibly eventful October. In this month alone, the warehouse has sent out three containers full of medical supplies and equipment, including one that traveled directly to Sierra Leone to assist in the fight against the Ebola epidemic. In addition to this, the hand-carry program has supplied a record 14 mission trips that have traveled to nine different countries. The BBF Young Professionals Board has supported the efforts of BBF/National Capital Area by sorting close to 4,000 pounds of donated supplies.

This continued success is due in no small part to our donors, both monetarily and of supplies. Many residents of the National Capital Area have been moved to action by the news of the Ebola outbreak in west Africa, and have joined BBF to work against it. Bobby Smith of Hope for Lives in Sierra Leone based in Germantown, Maryland, worked with Brother's Brother to send a full 40-foot container of medical supplies, equipment and protective gear to Sierra Leone. Concerned Sierra Leoneans, based in Baltimore, Maryland assisted BBF with several pallets of protective gear sent to Sierra Leone from the Pittsburgh warehouse. Second Calvary Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia, provided BBF with five pallets of gloves, masks and germicidal wipes which were sent to Liberia. Finally, just last week we received a pallet collected by St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Purcellville, VA. All of these groups prove that you can work in your neighborhood and make a global impact. BBF/National Capital Area is proud to be part of such a proactive community.

## BBF Trustee Medical Mission Trip Reports

### Mr. Drew Harvey in Zimbabwe



Dear BBF Staff,

I'm back from Zimbabwe. The trip was good and super busy each day.

When I met with Mrs. Vuyelwa Sidile-Chitimbire, the Zimbabwe Association of Church Related Hospital's (ZACH) Executive Director, she had only good things to say about BBF and is very appreciative of the relationship. She commented that the "Ministry" also acknowledges BBF as an excellent supplier.

The soap is a major hit and is being distributed among many hospitals. The large container is sitting in front of the ZACH offices and different hospitals come in with containers ranging from 5 to 20 liters and take a ration. They maintain a large book showing who has collected what amounts. They expect to need more in the future, but currently have an adequate supply.

The attached picture was taken at Nyadire Hospital showing one of the items sent via BBF. A surgical nurse at the facility expressed multiple appreciation and thanks. She commented that people from nearby hospitals periodically bring items

and use the donated autoclave. They love the autoclave - it's large, simple, and works great. The anesthesia machine works well, but both the doctors state that one is needed that includes more features - specifically blood pressure monitoring, pulse rate, and oxygen saturation. These features are not on this older machine, and they consider them essential for longer surgeries.

The Chikwizo Clinic is now complete and is already making an immense difference to the region. I have the list of equipment and furniture items needed but Nyadire Hospital staff members are checking on what they can find in Zimbabwe. I'll eventually discuss with you all to see what items BBF might provide - beds, bed lockers, and a desk are on the list.

Thanks,

Mr. Drew Harvey

### Dr. Robert Madder in Honduras

Dear Luke Hingson,

I want to personally thank you and your staff for the help you have given me over the years. Our trip to Honduras was again extremely successful. We were able to treat 1,984 people during this recent visit.

With the cooperation of the Honduran government, we were able to use five Army trucks to bring the patients to us. Prior to the use of these trucks, people would have to walk 4-5 hours one-way just to receive medical care. This has expedited the process and allowed us to see larger volumes.

We were able to provide a wider range of medical services including pediatrics, optometry, cardiology, gynecology and dental services. Our optometry care evaluated 197 patients during the week and we were able to fit 25 adults and 11 children with monovision glasses. Due to the use of the autorefractometer, we were very successful in achieving the right glasses for the patients. The success story was seeing a smile on a child's face when he or she hasn't been able to see normally for years and finally has clear vision.

We also were able to identify approximately ten different cancers and able to refer patients to the capital for surgical intervention.

BBF should be extremely proud of the work you do throughout the world. You enable many medical organizations to provide care that could not be done otherwise.

Thank you again for your generosity in helping with our mission work.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Robert D. Madder, DO



## Mission Trip Program 2014

In the first ten months of 2014, BBF supplied 224 mission trips to 49 countries.

# #GIVINGTUESDAY™

Last year, after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday more than 10,000 organizations in 46 countries came together to celebrate Giving Tuesday. BBF invites you to join the movement on December 2nd. Make your donation be felt around the world.

## 2015 Survey

In an effort to learn more about the supporters of Brother's Brother Foundation, BBF will be conducting a nationwide survey in January 2015. The more BBF knows about the needs and interests of its donors, the better BBF's publications, websites and events can be in the future.

The survey should take less than ten minutes to complete. Please be assured that all responses will be kept strictly confidential and used in combination with answers from other respondents.

Look for the survey in Field News #101 in January 2015 and on the BBF website. Thank you in advance for your time, consideration and support.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FN 100

# BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION

Cover With Address Label

Issue 100 Connecting People's Resources with People's Needs [www.brothersbrother.org](http://www.brothersbrother.org) November 2014

## Combined Federal Campaign

Brother's Brother Foundation is pleased to report that financial support from federal employees continues. Many thanks to both our new and renewing CFC donors. BBF is a member of Charity Without Borders, America's federation of emergency relief, development and humanitarian outreach charities. Look for BBF in the Fall 2014 campaign brochure. For donors who are not government employees, please remember



that some employers match individual donations. Ask about your company's matching gifts program. This is a great way to give to BBF. Thank you!



## Noteworthy

### Giving In Honor/Memory

Did you know? You can send a donation to BBF in honor or memory of a friend or loved one and BBF staff will send a personalized note at your direction. In Jan.-Oct. 2014, BBF received 365 gifts in honor or memory totaling \$32,359.50. For additional information about BBF honor or memory cards, please call 412-321-3160 and ask for Donna.

Find more Brother's Brother Foundation news on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/BrothersBrother>

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Brother's Brother Foundation's audited financial statements are always available upon request and at no charge, by contacting BBF at 1200 Galveston Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15233, phone 412-321-3160 and on our website: [www.brothersbrother.org](http://www.brothersbrother.org). In addition, some states require us to advise you that a copy of our financial report is also available through their offices. BBF never uses the services of professional fundraisers; 100% of donations benefit the mission of BBF.

**California** - 100% of your donation is tax deductible. 99% of donations go toward shipping and distributing medical, educational and humanitarian resources to those in need.

**Florida** - Registration - CH23511. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

**Georgia** - A detailed description of BBF's programs and activities will be provided upon request.

**Maryland** - Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitation Act are also available for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, phone 410-974-5521.

**New Jersey** - INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING (973) 504-6215. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT.

**New York** - A copy of Brother's Brother Foundation's latest annual financial report may be obtained, upon request, from BBF or from the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, 3rd Floor, New York, New York 10271.

**North Carolina** - Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at (919) 807-2214. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

**Pennsylvania** - The official registration and financial information of Brother's Brother Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**Virginia** - A financial statement is available upon request from the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. 1-800-552-9963.

**Washington** - Additional financial disclosure information is on file with the Washington Secretary of State 1-800-332-4483 and can be obtained upon request.

**West Virginia** - West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, West Virginia 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**Wisconsin** - A financial statement disclosing assets, liabilities, fund balances, revenue and expenses for the preceding year will be provided upon request.

## Global Problems Global Solutions

April 9-10, 2015

Global Problems, Global Solutions is a free, annual conference. BBF helps as a co-sponsor of the conference with local colleges, universities and non-profits known for their global activism. The conference discusses progress, plans and initiatives related to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, which seek to: eradicate world hunger; promote gender equality; strengthen universal primary education and establish environmental stability. LaRoche College will host the 2015 conference.

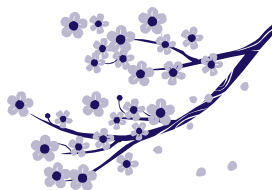


### GLOBAL PROBLEMS, GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

Caring through Crisis and Continuity

# Spring Gala

Key Bridge Marriott, Capital View Ballroom | April 25, 2015  
1401 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA | 6:00 p.m.



Guests will enjoy a reception and silent auction in a setting with breath-taking, panoramic views of the D.C. Metro area, followed by a dinner, program, and live auction.



## BBF's International Recognitions

# Forbes

Consistently rated with 100% fundraising efficiency and charitable commitment for nearly a decade.



Four-Star Rating for sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Brother's Brother Foundation Thanks:

H.J. Heinz Retired Volunteers  
Allegra Print & Imaging, Pittsburgh