



## Malawi Update From BBF Trustee Charles Stout

by Charles Stout

I recently traveled to Malawi, Africa for a short visit. I was there from Friday, May 30, until Wednesday, June 4. While one of the reasons for the visit was to meet with officials of St. Andrews Secondary School (a school my church helped fund and build), I was also able to visit a hospital that BBF has assisted in the past and one that recently reached out to BBF inquiring about the possibility of acquiring medical equipment. Following is a brief summary.

On Saturday, May 31, I visited the Mulanje District Hospital. I toured the facility and met the lead Administrator, Dr. John Munthali. Dr. Munthali is a very impressive young man. He is only 27 years old but mature beyond his years. He is responsible for not only the hospital but several surrounding clinics and, ultimately, the medical care for 600,000 people in the District. I was able to see some of the positive effects that BBF has already had by seeing two newly-installed autoclaves (delivered five days after the old one died), mattresses, an operating theater table and lights. BBF's help has truly been appreciated, but there is so much more needed in Mulanje.



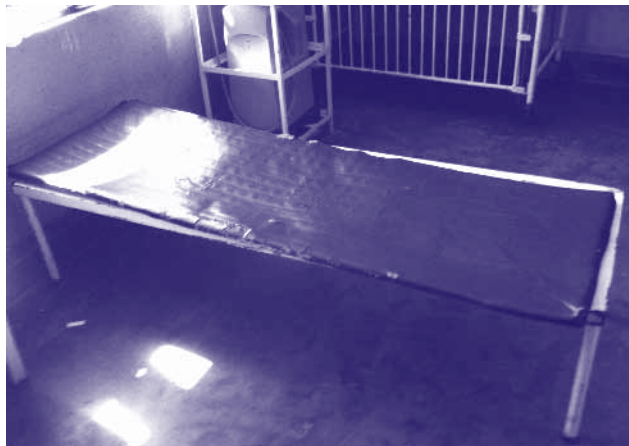
St. Joseph Hospital Executive Director Sister Mercy with BBF Trustee Charles Stout in Limbe, Malawi

On Wednesday, June 4, I visited St. Joseph Hospital in Limbe, Malawi. I met with Sister Mercy, the executive director of the hospital, and then had a tour. The hospital is located just outside Malawi's biggest city, Blantyre. While it's a Catholic hospital, there is little assistance from the Catholic church. The government pays the salaries for all medical and administrative workers and "user fees" are charged to pay for day-to-day expenses. The equipment in the hospital was old and mostly broken down. The one operating theater had an operating table that doesn't move up or down, theater lights that can't illuminate specific regions of a patient's body, IV poles that are taped together and missing wheels, an autoclave that is leaking badly,

beds that have extremely thin mattresses (and, in some cases, no mattress), no way to monitor vital signs of a patient in the operating theater's "Recovery Room," a laundry with no functioning washer or dryer, etc. The hospital clearly would benefit from working with BBF. It is located only an hour from Mulanje, where BBF will be sending a third container this fall. I was impressed with Sister Mercy and her "pro-active" approach. She told me that she learned about BBF by Googling "organization that deals with used medical equipment" and when she saw on our web site that BBF sent material to Malawi, she decided to reach out. At the end of the day, the hospital's needs are almost endless. I hope that BBF will be able to find a way to help.



Recently installed BBF-donated autoclave at Mulanje District Hospital



An example of a bed at St. Joseph Hospital's pediatric section.

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## Countries Served in 2014

In the first six months of 2014, BBF shipped requested supplies to 53 countries including Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, 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, Jamaica, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Malawi, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, United States of America, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## President's Report

by Luke Hingson

In the first six months of 2014, product contributions totaled more than \$100,767,500 and product shipments totaled more than \$101,010,800. Direct shipments and mission trip support went to people in need in 53 countries.

Incoming medical donations for the six-month period were valued at more than \$56,120,000, which includes more than 1,503,000 bottles and tubes of medicine. Fifty-three medical containers were sent to 18 countries during the period.

The value of incoming education donations January through June was more than \$48,440,500. Outgoing education shipments during the period totaled 1,162,950 books that were sent to 18 countries in 52 ocean-going containers.



Drew and Paula Harvey with Jean and Chuck Stout at the BBF/Virginia warehouse

BBF thanks Trustees Drew Harvey and Chuck Stout and their wives for their efforts in the BBF/Virginia warehouse. They helped process several pallets of materials.

In early June, I attended the CleanMed Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio. As a result, BBF is receiving renewed interest from hospital systems in the western Pennsylvania area.

On July 11, we celebrated the retirement of BBF Education Coordinator Carol Taylor. Ms. Taylor oversaw the shipment of 51,970,442 requested books and educational materials to 90 countries from mid-2001 through mid-2014.

## BBF/Virginia Progress Update

The May 3rd gala was a great success, raising approximately \$73,000. The gala also increased awareness of the work of BBF and generated new friends and colleagues.

Current BBF/Virginia suppliers include Fairfax Surgical Center, HCNCA, Mary Washington Health (Fredericksburg, Va.), Owens & Minor, Med Star, Medical Action, Johns Hopkins, University of Maryland Medical Center, Adventist Health, Health Synergy, Inova and Life Bridge Health.

In the past eleven months, fifteen ocean-going containers have been shipped, six directly to International locations and nine to Pittsburgh. Items received, for example, included: three container loads of IV poles (1,500) and 11 manual operating & delivery tables; seven containers of hospital furnishings such as patient recliners, crash carts, storage cabinets, exam tables, clinic chairs, wheel chairs and walkers; nine containers of miscellaneous medical supplies including two containers of surgical packs and one container of facemasks. As a result of all the positive publicity that BBF/Virginia is gaining, BBF is now negotiating with single country focus groups in the Washington D.C. area to directly send containers or partial containers to Congo, Sierra Leone and Haiti.

## BBF Responds to Ebola Outbreak in Africa

A terrible outbreak of the Ebola virus has struck the West African nations of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In response, BBF and the Toledo, Ohio-based West African Education and Medical Mission are working together to help combat the spread of the disease through continued shipments of protective medical supplies such as exam gloves, surgical masks and hospital gowns.

The outbreak began three months ago in Guinea. When Ebola was initially diagnosed, local governments didn't view the outbreak as significant. Now, nearly 500 deaths later, hundreds of infected, highly contagious patients have overwhelmed hospitals in two other affected countries, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

During a recent visit to Sierra Leone, BBF President Luke Hingson made a connection with Drs. Karen and Tom Asher. The couple serve as medical advisers to the Christian Health Association of Sierra Leone, which has aided and staffed 12 hospitals and 40 clinics. They are co-founders of the West African Education and Medical Mission and have spent nine months of every year in Africa since 2008.

This immediate assembly of supplies won't reach west Africa until the end of the summer, but the knowledge of the shipment is also designed to encourage affected hospitals, especially in Sierra Leone, to use more of their current supplies to protect their doctors during the Ebola outbreak. BBF is also sending protective medical supplies to Liberia.

The Ashers plan to return to the region this year, despite the risks, joining more than 150 teams of doctors that plan to assist in the disaster response.

"How can we not? I can count on one hand the number of American children that died in my decades here as family doctor," Dr. Karen Asher said when asked why they would return to Sierra Leone. "One out of every five kids will die in that country."

BBF President Luke Hingson echoed the need for immediate action, "We are small, but we are responding because we are part of the world."

## BBF Books in Ghana

by Emily Sikora

Brother's Brother Foundation and the Rotary Club of Tema, Ghana have been in partnership since the early years of BBF's education program. Every year BBF provides several container loads of donated books to support the Rotary's educational programs throughout Ghana. These programs include building libraries, supporting schools and universities and continuing adult education. In 2013, BBF sent four container loads, collectively holding 67,582 books, to support these programs in Ghana.



BBF-donated books being sorted for distribution in Ghana

So far in 2014, BBF has sent two container loads of 28,458 books to Ghana. For the most recent shipment, that left BBF's Pittsburgh warehouse on June 11th, Brother's Brother and the Rotary Club of Tema worked in collaboration with Duquesne University of Pittsburgh to send books to support a Spiritan university in Ghana.

BBF and the Rotary Club of Tema have also been working with the Peace Corps Office in Ghana to help support the Peace Corps Education Volunteers throughout the country by providing books to the libraries and schools where the volunteers work. Through the Peace Corps – Ghana Get Some Books initiative – BBF helped to provide over 25,000 books for 36 libraries in various regions in Ghana including Accra, Kumasi, Tamale and Wa.

Brother's Brother Foundation, the Rotary Club of Tema and Peace Corps hope to continue this relationship in the future in order to support even more educational programs throughout Ghana.

## BBF African Medical Initiative Update

In the second quarter of 2014, BBF sent eight ocean-going containers to various partners in Africa. BBF continued to support partners in Sierra Leone with three forty foot ocean-going containers of needed medical supplies and items specifically to address the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Additionally, BBF provided medical consumables for ELWA and Ganta Hospitals in Liberia and sent one shipment to the hospital system run by the Archdiocese of Arusha in Tanzania. Finally, BBF supplied two shipping containers filled with requested soap and medical equipment to the Zimbabwe Association of Church-related Hospitals (ZACH), a network of more than 70 hospitals throughout Zimbabwe.



Drs. Karen and Tom Asher receiving donations of exam gloves from BBF in June

## **BBF Medical Mission Trip Thank You Letters**

### **World Gospel Mission in Honduras**

5/2/2014



On behalf of our team, World Gospel Mission, The Ohio State University Colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy and Linworth Baptist Church, I want to thank Brother's Brother Foundation for your generous support. Your support of donated medications provided us with many resources to accomplish our goal of providing care to the underserved areas in Honduras. We received many blessings directly from the Hondurans we served and hope to pass them on to you. Words cannot express how thankful we are. I hope the pictures enclosed will show the need and appreciation of the folks we served.

Overall in our eight days of service, our medical team treated over 1700 patients for parasites. We directly evaluated, diagnosed and provided the necessary medication for nearly 1100 men, women, and children. Our first day saw us in the city dump site of Choluteca where we provided medical services to over 200 people living in and around the core of the city trash system. We held several medical clinics in rural areas around the southern town of Choluteca as well. Areas such as 7 de Mayo, Fisherman's Village, Mal Paso and Nuevos Colorados found our care most necessary as these villages often do not see mission groups locate them. Some medical members of our group visited a local hospital, Hospital del Sur, providing wound care to the patients. Our

team also sponsored a health fair where we provided poster presentations on different health care aspects.

Any medication that we did not use during our trip was signed over to The Transcristur Medical Clinic in Choluteca, which is run by the missionaries, Larry and Angie Overholt and a local Honduran physician. This clinic in Choluteca has a free standing pharmacy and will continue follow up with the patients in the villages we visited during our trip. Angie Overholt, a nurse practitioner, and Dr. Alexis Ramon Jiron, a local physician, will be completing most follow up care. We also held training sessions for some of the women in the region to provide some basic healthcare services.

Again, thank you for your generous support!

Jeff Huston, BS, DPh, RPh

Director of Student and Professional Development, Cedarville University, Ohio



## **Endless Mountain**

### **Medical Mission International in Kenya**

5/22/2014



Our most recent medical mission trip to Kenya was a great success. I led a team of 23 people, including 14 medical providers (6 Doctors, 1 RN, 1 referral nurse, 1 EMT and 5 pharmacists), to perform medical clinics for Kenyan people who could not otherwise afford appropriate medical care. We performed these during the period February 24–March 1, 2014. The clinics were performed in four regions in Nyakach District in Kisumu County (Nyanza Province). In total, 3500 people were treated. The mission had a significant effect on the villagers and those that were part of the team.

Your very generous support was an important part of our huge success. The Kenyan people treated at our clinics received diagnosis and medication free of charge. Thank you again for all your assistance. I look forward

to working with you again when we prepare for our next trip.

Sincerely,

Phenny Magann

Endless Mountain Medical Mission International  
New Albany, Pa.



## **University of California**

### **Global Medical Brigades in Honduras**

5/2/2014



Our organization, the Global Medical Brigades of the University of California in Santa Barbara, with the Global Dental Brigade of the University of California in Santa Barbara established a clinic in an elementary school in an underprivileged community in Honduras. The first day we unpacked suitcases and did medication packing. The local pharmacist helped us count pills to place in bags to distribute to diagnosed patients. The following day we did a holistic view of what other global brigades have done, for example public health or water, where they made filter systems or built bathrooms for the communities. In the following days Global Medical and Dental Brigade set up clinics. Ten physicians and 67 students were able to see 1,396 patients in four days.

Thank you Brother's Brother, for your contribution. It greatly aided our Brigade and we truly appreciate it!

Shandeep Ahdi

University of California, Santa Barbara, Global Medical Brigades

## **Mission Trip Program 2014**

*In the first six months of 2014, BBF supplied 158 mission trips to 40 countries.*

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FN 98

# BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION

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Issue 98 *Connecting People's Resources with People's Needs* [www.brothersbrother.org](http://www.brothersbrother.org) July 2014

## New BBF Staff and Interns

BBF welcomes to the Virginia office its new employee Richard Goddard and interns Jaclyn Olson and Riley Starrs. Mr. Goddard is handling donation pickups from the numerous medical and medical supply systems in the Baltimore, MD; Washington D.C.; Northern Virginia area. Ms. Olson is conducting outreach marketing to help expand the BBF/Virginia's supplies, supporters and media lists. Mr. Starrs created a database of the thousands of hand-carry items handled at the BBF/Virginia office and is testing a volunteer scheduling program.



Richard Goddard



Erin Belitskus

Erin Belitskus is excited to return to her hometown of Pittsburgh. She looks forward to working with the Brother's Brother Foundation community as BBF's development and medical mission trip coordinator. Ms. Belitskus is a connector who brings with her a deep understanding of international aid and development. Prior to joining the BBF team, Ms. Belitskus served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Romania where she worked as an English teacher. She also held various positions at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University working to bridge the researcher-practitioner divide in international

development. Most recently, Ms. Belitskus crafted regulations and policies for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. When she's not at work, Ms. Belitskus volunteers her time with civic and non-partisan political organizations that focus on youth development and leadership. She was recognized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders in 2013. Ms. Belitskus holds an MScEcon in Terrorism and International Relations from Aberystwyth University and a BA in Behavioral Science from Green Mountain College.

Ross Brown, BBF's 2013 summer intern, returned this summer after graduating from Colgate University. While attending Colgate, Ross was president of the Model United Nations Society. In his spare time, Ross plays the trombone and hockey. Ross is helping with BBF's hand-carry mission trip efforts this summer. He plans to become a lawyer focusing on international or criminal law. In August, Mr. Brown will begin teaching English in the Czech Republic.



Ross Brown

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### Brother's Brother Foundation Thanks:

H.J. Heinz Retired Volunteers  
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## 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-June 2014, BBF received 186 gifts in honor or memory totaling \$18,792. For additional information about the 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.

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**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.

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