BBF President Luke Hingson and Assistant Director of Medical & Programmatic Initiatives Neal Walker in Haiti

In early March, over a 48 hour period, BBF President Luke Hingson and Assistant Director of Medical & Programmatic Initiatives Neal Walker traveled to Haiti to visit medical partners. Messrs. Hingson and Walker toured hospitals and clinics in the southwest region of the country, including sites in Chantal, Fond de Blanc, Jacmel, and St. Croix. These sites received BBF-donated medical relief and assistance following Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Since last October’s hurricane in Haiti, BBF has sent supplies and pharmaceuticals with 48 medical hand-carry trips as well as nine shipping containers and four air shipments. Partner recipients of these shipments include Community Coalition for Haiti, Food For The Poor (FFTP) and the Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF). Messrs. Hingson and Walker visited all three of these organizations during their time in Haiti.

The trip allowed BBF to meet with Food For The Poor Haiti Director of Medical Distributions Gaelle Fils-Aime. Establishing local connections is a critical part of how BBF works. Javier Ramirez from FFTP showed BBF staff how and where donated pharmaceuticals were being used. A large portion of the trip was spent traveling with Medical Benevolence Foundation President Andrew Mayo.

BBF Remembers Mr. Hugh McCormick, Jr. Long-Time Friend and Supporter

It is with sadness that the family of Hugh Perry McCormick, Jr., 96, of Ocean Ridge, FL and Baltimore, MD, announces his passing away peacefully in his home, surrounded by loving family on February 14, 2017. Mr. McCormick was an active BBF Advisory Trustee and donor from 1984-2016.

Mr. McCormick worked his entire career at McCormick & Company of Baltimore, MD, the spice company started by his great uncle Willoughby McCormick, in 1889. Long active in the Baltimore civic community, Mr. McCormick was a Director of Heritage Savings Association, Trustee of the Baptist Home of Maryland, and an Advisory Council member of the National Food Manufacturers Credit Association. He was also a member of the Navy League, the Reserve Officers Association and the Johns Hopkins University Alumni Association Executive Committee. A pillar of the University Baptist Church of Baltimore, he also attended the First Presbyterian Church of Delray Beach, Florida. He generously supported numerous charities, establishing a faculty Chair for Endocrinology Research at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Family was the center of his life. He will be remembered by all as a modest, kind, engaging man who lived life fully and, as his dear late wife Joy had always said, “wanted to dance every dance.”

A celebration of the life of Mr. McCormick will be held on Friday, March 31st at 11:00 AM at University Baptist Church, 3501 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the ALS Clinic or the Division of Endocrinology at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Building Families for Children of Children of Columbia, MD or the Brother’s Brother Foundation of Pittsburgh, PA.

Countries Served in 2017

In the first two months of 2017, BBF shipped requested supplies to 29 countries including Belize, Bhutan, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ukraine, United States of America, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.
President’s Report
by Luke Hingson

In the first two months of 2017, product contributions totaled $16,170,270 and product shipments totaled $25,584,793. Direct shipments and mission trip support went to people in need in 29 countries.

Incoming medical donations for the year are valued at $13,212,505, which includes 303,182 bottles and tubes of medicine. Medical containers sent to countries in need during the year totaled 14. BBF’s Education Program sent eight shipping container equivalents holding more than 65 tons of library books, textbooks and teaching materials.

Since December 2016, BBF has sent three shipments to Cameroon in cooperation with the Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services. These shipments carried basic medical equipment including 28 hospital beds, 28 personal energy transportation carts and 16 exam tables. More shipments are planned as BBF strengthens this partnership.

During the winter meeting of the Board of Trustees, BBF recognized the significant contributions of three individuals who have been dedicated to the work of the organization. BBF Trustee Dr. Barry Byer has worked tirelessly to support the organization’s expansion into the National Capital Area and to connect the organization with new partners in Honduras in 2016. BBF Vice President of Finance Mr. William Davis, was honored for being a key part of the organization’s growth and development.

On Tuesday, February 21st, BBF was pleased to have five volunteers from the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh’s Voom Volunteer program. The enthusiastic team spent its time sorting medical supplies and managed to break down, sort and re-box an entire pallet in 90 minutes.

Connecting Pittsburgh to the World

On Thursday, February 23rd, BBF Director of Medical Missions and Organizational Initiatives Sarah Boal served as a panelist for a discussion on "Connecting Pittsburgh to the World” at Duquesne University. The panel, moderated by local Peace Corps representative Lori Frola, brought together organizations in Pittsburgh doing work that connects our local community to the greater Global community. This talk provided students and attendees an opportunity to learn about organizations serving the world and how they can become more engaged. BBF thanks Lori Frola and BBF Assistant Director of Medical and Programmatic Initiatives Neal Walker for coordinating the event.

BBF & Pickering Energy Solutions Bring Solar to Remote Liberian Clinics
by Chip Pickering

In 2008 the Liberian Minister of Health, Dr. Gwenigale, asked Pickering Energy Solutions (PES) to develop a solar power program for remote clinics in Liberia starting in Bong County, an area in the vicinity of PES’s ongoing power program at Phebe Hospital.

In 2009, PES began by placing 19 donated refrigerators and two solar systems. It also trained maintenance workers at Phebe Hospital how the systems work, as well as how to install, troubleshoot and maintain them. Since that time, PES has developed a standardized installation package that is expandable for clinics as they move to 24 hour operations, pumping water and operating laboratories.

In 2015, PES began to install solar systems for orphanages and schools around Liberia. These larger systems require more complex operation and integration. At that time, PES also began to focus on the sustainability of its systems by providing training for the operators and service personnel, as well as providing spare parts and battery replacement.

PES now has 41 systems in Liberia, including nine clinic systems yet to be installed and includes systems for clinics, orphanages, medical-related schools and NGO housing for missionaries and visiting doctors.

PES’s team just returned from Liberia on February 6, 2017, having been in country for approximately 10 days where it provided training and visited several installations. The Ministry of Health directs the solar priorities among its clinics and PES expects to move out of Bong County in 2017-2018 into neighboring counties.

BBF, with the help of Advisory Trustee Robert Peirce, contributed to the financing for many of these solar power projects in Liberia.
BBF-Supported Medical Mission Trips

Far-Eastern and American Nurses and Allied Professionals Association in the Philippines

The Far-Eastern and American Nurses and Allied Professionals Association (FANA) has been assisting indigent communities in the Philippines for over a decade. In January, with donations from Brother’s Brother Foundation, it embarked on its annual medical mission trip to Calasiao, Pangasinan Province, Philippines. Each year the organization determines its destination based on the greatest needs of the population as well as ensured safety for its volunteers. In planning this year’s trip, the residents of the local community as well as community leaders have participated in every step of the process. It was considered by Calasiao as a major event in helping the economically disadvantaged people of the area.

FANA’s medical mission team consisted of primary care physicians, pediatricians, surgeons, dentists and, new to the team this year, optometrists. The team treated an average of 800-1,000 patients per day over the course of three days. It treated high blood pressure, cardiac issues, high cholesterol, diabetes, skin infections, etc. but most importantly placed an emphasis on vision and breast cancer awareness.

Filipino women have the highest incidence of breast cancer in the region and are among the top ten worldwide. Due to this concerning statistic, Mayor Arman Buzon and the local community are making great strides in establishing a Breast Cancer Awareness Program. During FANA’s visit, the team screened 300+ females and trained five local nursing graduates in the proper procedure for breast examinations. Mayor Arman Buzon plans to make the Breast Cancer Awareness Program a component of the community’s Health and Wellness initiative.

Eye health is no different. Due to misconceptions, lack of information and limited accessibility, eyecare has taken a backseat in many Asian countries. The National Center for Biotechnology Information stated that, “The most common cause of visual impairment in both adults and pediatric patients worldwide is nearsightedness which affects 90% of young adults in Asian countries.” Based on feedback from past medical trips, FANA perceived a great demand for optometrists. This was the first year an emphasis was placed on eye health and it was a great success! Six optometrists saw 1,300 patients over the three-day mission and it was the busiest section of the clinic! FANA was able to send every single patient home with a pair of properly fitted eyeglasses!

Brother’s Brother Foundation began its partnership with FANA in 2016 and looks forward to continuing to support its work. This recent trip received $74,975 in donated medicines and medical supplies from BBF.

Montana Outreach Clinic in Mexico

Montana Outreach Clinic from Lincoln, Montana recently returned from a medical mission trip to the Santa Maria Medical Clinic in Colon, Queretaro, Mexico. The team provided medical, dental and vision care to over 200 patients with the help of 61 bottles of medicine and 20 pounds of supplies donated by BBF, all while educating its patients in better health practices.

Lohada/Kesho in Tanzania

Lohada/Kesho, an Ohio-based medical mission team, recently sent news from its medical mission trip to Tanzania. The team provided medical care at the Golden Grace Dispensary, a facility in Shinyanga that is hoping to expand into a full hospital. BBF-NCA supported this trip with 40 pounds of medical supplies.

BBF’s Mission Trip Program in 2017

In the first two months of 2017, BBF supplied 61 medical mission trips to 20 countries.
Eagle Scout Project

John Martin of McMurray, PA recently completed his Eagle Scout project. He displayed leadership and team management skills by organizing a medical equipment collection with his fellow scouts. BBF was honored to be the recipient of his hard work! Many thanks to John and all the scouts from Troop 4.

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 the first two months of 2017, BBF received 35 gifts in honor or memory totaling $2,806. For additional information about BBF honor or memory cards, please call 412-321-3160.

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. 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, 95% of donations go toward shipping and distributing medical, educational and humanitarian resources to those in need.


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 Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401, phone 410-974-5521. For additional information about this organization or a copy of its license, call the North Carolina Secretary of State, 1-800-332-4483 and can be obtained upon request.

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. 1-800-552-9953.

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 document 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.

60th Anniversary 2018 Gala Planning

BBF is turning 60! In celebration, two events are now in the planning stages. Event are in the works for BBF-NCA in the spring of 2018 and for BBF in Pittsburgh in the fall of 2018. BBF is welcoming volunteers and potential committee members to help. For more information, please contact Karen Dempsey at 412-321-3160.

BBF Pittsburgh’s Young Professionals Board Upcoming Event - Cheesy Charity

Join the BBF Young Professional’s Board in Pittsburgh for a celebration of National Grilled Cheese Day! We’ll be holding a happy hour celebration at The Yard in Market Square on Wednesday, April 12th from 5-7pm. Your $15 ticket includes appetizers and drink specials. This cheesy event will highlight the work of Brother’s Brother Foundation and ways to get involved.

International Recognition

Forbes

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

BBF is a member of InterAction.

Brother’s Brother Foundation Thanks:
H.J. Heinz Retired Volunteers
Allegra Print & Imaging, Pittsburgh