2017’s Very Rough Summer

On August 17th, Hurricane Harvey made landfall in Texas, starting a string of natural disasters that inflicted billions of dollars worth of damage throughout the Gulf Coast and the Caribbean. Despite the significant damage dealt to infrastructure, BBF was able to connect with partners within the affected areas to establish a path for aid to start flowing to damaged areas. BBF sent medical and construction supplies, water and other basic humanitarian aid. As with all BBF efforts, this response relied on the philanthropic spirit of individuals and corporations alike. The outpouring of support from the public has been incredible to witness. From all of us at BBF, thank you for letting us pass your good will along! Rest assured that 100% of your disaster-designated donations are already or will soon be put to use in helping those affected by the recent hurricanes.

As if hurricanes weren’t enough, an earthquake also struck in Mexico City. BBF responded to this disaster with partner organization Medical Bridges and sent donated respirators and hard hats.

Hurricane Harvey Response

Thanks to donor support, food banks, food manufacturers and BBF’s most frequent partner in responding to U.S. disasters, Cleaning For The World, 24 tractor-trailer loads of water, food, medical supplies and humanitarian items have been or are projected to be delivered and distributed in both Grapevine and Houston, Texas.

BBF also funded clean-up projects like the Lincoln, Nebraska’s Union College disaster response team that went door to door, providing cleaning services to residents overwhelmed by the destruction left in the storm’s wake.

Hurricane Irma Response

Hurricane Irma’s path through the Caribbean brought significant damage to Cuba, Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. BBF sent or anticipates sending, through Gleaning For The World and other partners, ten tractor-trailer loads of food and medical supplies to Florida.

Hurricane Maria Response

Two weeks after Irma, Hurricane Maria arrived to exacerbate an already difficult situation in the Caribbean. Puerto Rico in particular.

In the U.S. Virgin Islands, damage to the power grid and infrastructure created challenges in establishing effective shipping routes to the various partners BBF works with in the area. A viable harbor was secured on St. Croix, which became a distribution point for aid to flow to the rest of the U.S. Virgin Islands. BBF worked with partners to send five shipments of emergency relief and medical supplies through this channel and 10 more ocean-going container shipments are anticipated.

Response to Puerto Rico was especially tricky. All five shipments are anticipated.

The need is tremendous and it is safe to say that BBF will be working to provide aid to the island for quite some time. Some of BBF’s response was made possible thanks to partnerships with Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, Pittsburgh Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Pittsburgh Pirates and the family of famed Pittsburgh Pirate Roberto Clemente. (More information on BBF’s Puerto Rico response can be found on page 2.)

Hurricane season will soon be coming to an end, but the need for aid will continue into 2018. BBF, with your help, will continue to respond and support rebuilding efforts.

Countries Served in 2017

In the first nine months of 2017, BBF shipped requested supplies to 54 countries including Argentina, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
President’s Report

by Luke Hingson

I’d like to take a moment to thank everyone, supporters, partners and staff alike, for all that you have given during this difficult time. Despite the hardship, together we have made a real difference. Together, we will continue to do so for as long as there is work to be done.

In the first nine months of 2017, product contributions totaled $69,266,163 and product shipments totaled $87,960,633. Direct shipments and mission trip support went to people in need in 54 countries.

Incoming medical donations for the nine-month period are valued at $47,517,165, which includes 1,136,067 bottles and tubes of medicine. During the same period, BBF’s Medical Program sent 82 shipping containers of assistance to countries in need while BBF’s Education Program sent six shipping container equivalents holding more than 71 tons of library books, textbooks and teaching materials.

BBF Director of Medical & Programmatic Initiatives Neal Walker and BBF Director of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies Program Kevin Meszaros attended the Missionary Expediters Forum in New Orleans on October 11th, 12th and 13th. The focus of the conference was on the logistics of sending aid to conflict and disaster regions. Multiple international non-profits attended and spoke about their efforts to send aid to difficult areas of the world. Missionary Expediters staff also taught all the attendees about the organization’s new tracking system.

Finally, I’d like to thank BBF-NCA Advisory Council member Charlie Moore and his wife for their hospitality following the Board meeting held on September 30th at the Inova Conference Center in Virginia meeting in their lovely home on Chesapeake Bay.

2017’s Very Rough Summer (continued)

Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico as a high-end Category 4 hurricane on September 20, 2017. Over the next 24 hours, Maria caused catastrophic damage to Puerto Rico and its health system.

On September 28th, BBF responded with an initial air shipment of seven pallets of medical supplies to Bella Vista Hospital, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. Bella Vista had sustained little damage but was in need of medical supplies to continue to provide hospital care to patients.

Through a BBF volunteer, BBF was put into contact with Unidos por Puerto Rico (UPR) in Chantilly, Virginia. UPR is flying food and water into Puerto Rico in cooperation with the First Lady of Puerto Rico. A total of 42 pallets of medical supplies from BBF was sent by air to the Puerto Rico Department of Health through Unidos por Puerto Rico DMV.

Hurricane Maria also struck St. Croix prior to hitting Puerto Rico. The largest hospital on the island is Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center. The hospital sustained heavy damage with parts of the roof torn off and windows blown out. Water damage was extensive. The staff has worked hard to establish basic services with the assistance of FEMA and the National Guard.

BBF recently airlifted four pallets of medical supplies, including much needed IV solutions, to the hospital. BBF Board Chair Chuck Stout just returned from a weekend survey of St. Croix where he was able to visit Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center and other medical facilities and social service locations. BBF will continue to provide assistance in the months ahead to Puerto Rico and St. Croix.

BBF’s Bright Future

Brother’s Brother Foundation is looking forward to celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2018. As BBF ages gracefully as an organization, we are still always looking for ways to maximize our ability to fulfill peoples’ needs. Over the last few months we’ve been laying the ground work for exciting new opportunities in the year to come. Keep watching our newsletter for updates on new partnerships with universities in the Baltimore and Washington D.C. areas as we work with students to grow our programs.

BBF is also expanding its operations in Baltimore to recover medical supplies and equipment from an ever-growing network of hospitals and health care facilities. These new partnerships will allow us to provide work experience and internships domestically while simultaneously strengthening health care access in other countries.

Next year in Pittsburgh, BBF will be increasing the capacity of its supply sorting facility and working with more volunteers than ever before. As we look to the future and explore opportunities to impact global health, we’ll make the best of 60 years of hard work, experience and the generosity of our amazing supporters.

Thank You!

BBF would like to take a moment to say thank you to all of the supporters for their fantastic contributions during the recent natural disasters. The following are a few of the above-and-beyond donors that made significant contributions to this disaster relief effort.

Monetary

- Babcock Charitable Trust
- Duke Family Foundation
- Mark Cokella, M.D. Family Trust
- Eden Hall Foundation
- John Heher Family Fund
- Hincken-Emigh Family Charitable Foundation
- The Robert S. & Louise S. Kahn Foundation
- The Mister Charitable Trust
- Shear Family Foundation, Inc.

In Kind

- Clemens Foods/Phabundance
- Greater Cleveland Food Bank
- Giant Eagle
- Food for Others
- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Pittsburgh Food Bank
- Pittsburgh Pirates
- Riverbend Food

Global Problems, Global Solutions

La Roche College is pleased to host the 12th annual Global Problems, Global Solutions Conference focusing on Health Care: An Issue of Social Justice? This timely event will feature a special keynote address from Dr. Jim Withers, Medical Director and Founder of Operation Safety Net and the Street Medicine Institute. These organizations are dedicated to supporting the Pittsburgh region’s unsheltered homeless by delivering medical care directly on the streets. The success of these organizations has been recognized, honored and replicated around the world. Join us as we learn more about Dr. Withers’ great work and celebrate his accomplishments.

The keynote address will occur on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the La Roche College campus. Registration is required. With the support of the Brother’s Brother Foundation and UPMC Health Plan, a variety of other conference related workshops and activities will occur between November 15 -17, 2017 on the La Roche College campus. All events are free and open to the public. For a full listing and to register, visit www.laroche.edu/global.
BBF-Supported Medical Mission Trips

Pennsville Baptist Church in Panama

Earlier this year, BBF supported the Mt. Pleasant, PA-based Pennsville Baptist Church’s medical mission trip to Panama with a donation of 31 pounds of medical supplies and 123 bottles of medication. The team used this donation to provide medical care to more than 380 patients at the Curundu Clinic in Panama City as well as pop-up clinics in nearby villages including El Llano, Embera and Priati.

Hands on Global, Inc. in India

Montana-based Hands on Global, Inc. recently reported on its medical mission trip to the Zanskar Health Care and Sogwa Rigpa Research Center in Zanskar Valley, India. BBF provided 152 bottles of medication and 30 pounds of medical supplies in support of the team’s month-long stay, during which the team expanded on last year’s assessments and deepened connections with local health providers. The trip included a visit from the Dalai Lama, who also supports the facility.

Gold Coast Medical Foundation in Ghana

New York-based Gold Coast Medical Foundation reported on its mission trip to Ghana. The team utilized 365 bottles of BBF-donated medicine while providing medical and dental care as well as public health education for over 2,000 patients and training for local medical professionals. The team provided this care in Kokomlemle and East Legon in Accra, Akosombo in the Central Region, Asaman and Asekyerewa in Kumasi, as well as Abuba and Cap Coast in the Western Region.

New Hope Ministries International, Inc. in Haiti

Florida-based New Hope Ministries International, Inc. recently returned from a mission trip to Changeux, L’Asile and Decousee-Jacmel, Haiti. While there, the team provided medical care and public health education for over 1,000 patients as well as training for local medical professionals. In support of the trip, BBF provided 80 pounds of basic medical supplies and 568 bottles of medication.

BBF’s Mission Trip Program in 2017

In the first nine months of 2017, BBF supplied medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to 279 medical mission trips to 48 countries.
End of Year Giving

As you consider the year’s challenges and accomplishments, now is a good time to review and update estate plans. The following checklist of estate planning actions may be helpful:

- Review your current will and trusts.
- Take inventory and make a written record of the contents of any safe-deposit box.
- Review the beneficiary designations for your life insurance and retirement plans.
- Make sure your durable power of attorney for health care and living will is current.
- Finish charitable contributions by December 31.

As you think about special holiday gifts for family and friends, remember that making charitable gifts to organizations such as Brother’s Brother Foundation in their honor can be a heartwarming experience that also offers you tax benefits.

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 nine months of 2017, BBF received 354 gifts in honor or memory totaling $54,493. For additional information about BBF honor or memory cards, please call 412-321-3160.

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 2017 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!

International Recognition of BBF

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

BBF is a member of InterAction.

Best in Grantmaking 2017

Endorsement of America

May 19, 2018 • Inova Conference Center 3225 Gallows Road, Fairfax, VA
September 20, 2018 • Heinz History Center 1212 Smallman St., Pittsburgh, PA

Special notice about dates: