

2018 Was a Record Year for Mission Trips

by Gina Pearlman



From Our Lady of Mount Carmel's medical mission to Peru

Last year, BBF supported a record-breaking 363 medical mission trips, serving people in need in 59 countries. BBF's Mission Trip Program attracts all types of people from all walks of life. Retired doctors, college students on spring break and expats who want to serve the neighbors they left behind. The one thing they all have in common is the desire to help those less fortunate than themselves around the world.

BBF's Mission Trip Program is in demand. It has increased in size tremendously since its humble beginnings in 2005, when 37 trips received assistance. Impressive considering that it isn't advertised. It's heartbreaking that there is so much need in the developing world, but it's great that our name is getting out to the groups that need our assistance.

The program starts with people reaching out to us for aid. They often hear of us from other doctors and church leaders. Most are small groups of people who are going on short trips to mostly rural areas somewhere in the developing world. Two common types of organizations that come to us for help are church groups and medical departments at colleges and universities. If they meet our requirements, they are able to receive pharmaceuticals and supplies such as gauze, syringes, tubing, etc., to pack in their luggage.

Once they arrive in-country, they often run pop-up clinics in remote areas. Some groups we work with have permanent clinics to which they make multiple trips each year. Surgery groups will often work out of larger, urban hospitals where they perform procedures like cleft palate repairs and removal of cataracts. These clinics often are located in schools or churches and usually run for a week or two. They provide medical, dental and vision care. Public health education is also offered quite frequently. Often there are training sessions in different specialties for local health professionals of the countries visited.

Once they return to the U.S., we ask each group to submit a report and any photos it may have taken so we are able to see exactly who the people are and how we are helping them. It's nice to see the pictures and hear the stories. It makes our work that much more meaningful.

Hopefully, one day the Mission Trip Program won't be needed anymore, but until that day comes, we're happy that we are able to help as many as we do.



From Our Lady of Mount Carmel's medical mission to Peru

BBF's Ongoing Work in Puerto Rico

by Lars Peterson

Puerto Rico continues to slowly recover from Hurricane María and Brother's Brother has been hard at work in response. On a visit to the island in mid-January, I was able to tour three sites where BBF donations have made a substantial difference. In the northeastern town of Arecibo, I visited two facilities run by the Corporación de Desarrollo Económico Vivenda y Salud: a rest home for neglected elderly people and a women's shelter. Both were well managed and critically important. The next site was in the city of Arecibo further east: an emergency room and ambulance service supported by BBF through the Funcación Unidos para Servir (FUNPSER). There I met with a FUNPSER representative, various staff members and with the mayor of Arecibo, Carlos Molina. All expressed their gratitude for the Foundation's help. The ambulance service is in particular need of assistance as the only free option for the poor. At the time of the visit, it had only one working ambulance for the entire area and typically responded to ten calls per day, which highlights the precarious nature of social services on the island and the herculean efforts yet needed.



Lars Peterson is shown where BBF donations have helped replenish a hospital's emergency room



Lars Peterson is given a tour of the Oficina Municipal Manejo de Emergencias

by Neal Walker

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, BBF has supported reconstruction efforts for two schools in Puerto Rico – Agustin Stahl High School in Bayamón and República de Costa Rica Vocational School in Caguas. The two beneficiary schools were selected through a vetting process undertaken by two of BBF's closest partners on the ground in Puerto Rico: Droguería Betances and Luis Garratón.

Both institutions were selected because they were hard hit by the hurricane, suffering significant damage. Between the two schools, over 1,200 students were threatened by the physical condition of the buildings. As part of a multiphase recovery effort, the two schools fixed ceilings, replaced roofing, installed piping, painted outdoor areas, renovated basketball courts and restored air conditioning, along with many other repairs.

Each school presented a timeline and budget for reconstruction. As a result of this scheduling, the first round of funding and support began in the late summer of 2018, allowing students and teachers to begin classes on time. BBF continues to explore funding and support for hurricane-affected schools in Puerto Rico as we work towards ensuring a continuing education for all students affected by disaster.



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Brenda Rian

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Mary Ryan

Frank Seanez

William Shaffer

Brandon Simpson

Dinita Thomas

Neal Walker

Phone: 412-321-3160

Fax: 412-321-3325

mail@brothersbrother.org

website:

www.brothersbrother.org

President's Report

by Ozzy Samad

As BBF's new President, I'd like to first extend my sincere appreciation to the entire BBF family for all your support of our organization over the years. As in yesteryear, 2019 is off to a busy start! In January a team from Brother's Brother comprised of Board Chair Phil Jones, Trustee Ron Alvarado, Advisory Trustee Robert Mangino and BBF Executive Chairman Luke Hingson, visited Puerto Rico to assess our ongoing work on the island and consider new projects. BBF's efforts to support the rebuilding of schools and medical facilities in communities affected by the hurricanes of 2017 are ongoing.



BBF Trustees, staff and friends visit a hospital in Puerto Rico in January

One of our major focuses this year has been to formalize and strengthen BBF's E-4 Disaster Response Program. BBF has been developing the program under the guidance and direction of Trustees Chuck Stout and Darren Macioce and Assistant Vice President for Disaster Response and Strategic Initiatives, Sarah Boal. Chuck has been instrumental in helping BBF to obtain a capacity building and program development grant from the Eden Hall Foundation. BBF has already responded under the E-4 program to the hurricanes in Florida, the Carolinas and the fires across California. We are currently in discussions with food banks in eastern Alabama to consider the needs of the communities hard hit by tornadoes in late February. These devastating storms ripped through rural areas where residents already had limited access to resources.

On the operational front, in the first two months of 2019, product contributions received totaled \$15,730,750 and product shipments totaled \$17,056,121. Direct shipments and medical mission trip support went to people in need in 34 countries.

In other news, Brother's Brother will be unveiling a redesigned website this year. Taking into consideration the needs of our partners internationally and feedback we've received, our new mobile-optimized site will allow for streamlined navigation and display more stories of our work domestically and across the globe.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the efforts and contributions of the BBF staff in not only assisting with this write-up but with making our work to help others possible.

BBF Education Program

Thanks to a generous donation of textbooks in December, BBF's Education Program was able to provide numerous significant donations in the opening months of 2019. This donation, still being distributed, includes 319,600 books valued at more than \$12 million.



Recipients of the 16 shipments made to date include Food For The Poor's locations in Guatemala and Jamaica; Life for Relief and Development in Uganda, and Rotary Clubs in Ghana, West Africa as well as Cebu and Makati in the Philippines.

BBF Welcomes New Staff

BBF would like to announce and welcome three new members to the team. Krystle Campbell has joined as BBF's new Administrative Assistant. If you call the Pittsburgh office, it will likely be her cheerful voice you'll hear. Bea Jay Nix is settling in nicely as a dedicated Medical Supply Recover Worker, meaning she sorts through the massive amounts of medical supplies BBF accepts from nearby medical facilities, checks expiration dates and places them into bulk boxes for easy distribution. Laura Rittenhouse, based in Virginia as BBF's new Development and Communications Manager, will be working on creating fundraising opportunities for BBF, in particular, in the National Capital Area.



Bea Jay Nix



Laura Rittenhouse

Volunteer Thanks

by Richard Goddard and Becca Jones

As we near Volunteer Appreciation Month in April, BBF would like to say thank you to all of the volunteers that help our organization run so smoothly. Volunteers play a critical role in sending donations BBF receives to those in need. We welcome volunteers every day to help us sort and organize supplies to prepare them for shipment around the world. At BBF, we want to make sure that we are sending items of the highest quality and of most use; and are able to do so with your help! Individuals as well as corporations and community groups are all encouraged to volunteer. Our Pittsburgh hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays we also have evening hours 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering in Pittsburgh, please reach out to Becca Jones at 412-321-3160 or rjones@brothersbrother.org. Our National Capital Area (Fairfax, VA) hours are Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Both locations can set up evening or weekend opportunities for groups with advance notice. If you are interested in volunteering in the D.C. area, please contact Richard Goddard at 703-992-9210 or rgoddard@brothersbrother.org. To those of you who have volunteered with us, thank you so much for all of the amazing work you have done!



Volunteers from Carnegie Mellon University sorting medical supplies

Monthly Giving

Auto-pay is an amazingly convenient option for paying your bills, but did you know you can schedule monthly donations as well? Monthly donors create a reliable source of income for BBF. This allows BBF to continue the steady growth of its programs with confidence.

Monthly donations can be scheduled online at www.brothersbrother.org/donate by filling out the form and making sure that the "Recurring Donation" button has been pressed. Currently, BBF can receive monthly, quarterly and annual donations through the online form.

Also, you can sign up for the new e-newsletter, which BBF looks forward to start sending out later this year.



Countries and Territories Served in 2019

In the first two months of 2019, BBF shipped requested supplies to 34 countries and territories including Argentina, Belize, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Rwanda, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

BBF-Supported Medical Mission Trips

World Pediatric Project in Belize

Physicians from World Pediatric Project recently reported on a volunteer medical trip to the Karl Heusner Memorial Hospital and the Belize Endoscopy and Gastroenterology Center in Belize City, Belize. BBF provided 57 pounds of basic medical supplies in support of the team's specialized services, including Ear Nose Throat (ENT) surgery.

This specialty was particularly useful when a baby at the facility was born with a nasal malformation which prevented it from breathing on its own, as detailed below by a member of the team.

"Baby P., as the child will be referred to, was three days old when the pediatric general surgery team led by Dr. Patricia Lange arrived in Belize. Born at 36 weeks, the infant was diagnosed with Bilateral Choanal Atresia, a nasal congenital malformation that involves narrowing or total blockage of the airway by tissue or bone and tissue. Not able to breathe on her own, Baby P. was intubated and receiving tube feeds.



As there are no pediatric ENT surgeons in Belize, Dr. Lange stepped in and discussed the case with Richmond, VA-based ENT surgeons, one of whom also travels annually to Belize on a medical mission. It was decided, after the consultation, to try to open the right nasal passage and place a stent in the airway so that the newborn could be extubated. Anesthesia was induced, the procedure performed and the baby was returned to the NICU awake and stable. Baby P.'s mother was very grateful and appreciative that Dr. Lange

and her team were at the right place at the right time to assist with the treatment for her baby. Baby P. will require further surgery with that ENT surgeon in the future but, for now, Baby P. is able to breathe on her own."

Stories like these are not uncommon during medical missions and are at the heart of why medical professionals volunteer their specialized skills. Lives are saved and improved in staggering numbers and all of us at BBF are so grateful to be able to support their noble efforts.



Health&Help in Guatemala

Massachusetts-based nonprofit Health&Help reported that, on a medical mission to Guatemala, the team provided medical, dental and vision care to more than 1,200 patients. BBF donated 112 pounds of medical supplies and 348 bottles of medication to this mission of care. As part of its mission, the team established facilities to provide ongoing care following their departure. BBF is always happy to support great efforts like these.



Hearth to Hearth Ministries in Kenya

Last year, Ohio-based Hearth to Hearth Ministries, Inc. traveled to Kenya. The group's medical mission team provided medical and vision care to 210 patients across numerous pop-up clinic locations. The team also offered its services at schools



and even made home visits. This mission was originally going to begin at a clinic in Uganda and then proceed to the location in Kenya. Due to instability in Uganda, the team had to change its plans, which gave them more time in Rongo, Isibania and Norok in Kenya.

BBF provided 200 bottles of medication and 104 pounds of medical supplies to this trip. Most of this was used during the team's stay, with the remaining supplies being made into first aid kits for widows' groups and the children. The remaining medication was donated to Doctors Without Borders, a group you've likely heard of, to support its efforts in Homa Bay Town, Kenya.



BBF's Mission Trip Program in 2019

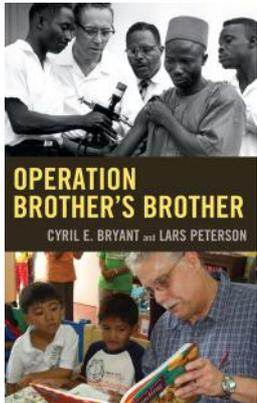
In the first two months of 2019, BBF supplied medical supplies and pharmaceuticals to 75 medical mission trips to 26 countries.

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BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION

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Operation Brother's Brother

Coming soon, a reprint of *Operation Brother's Brother* will become available. This book details the story of how Dr. Robert Hingson started BBF, with an update that will carry readers to the present day.

If you would like a copy or if your group would like to schedule a speaker for an event to learn more about Brother's Brother Foundation, please contact Lars Peterson at 412-321-3160.

BBF 21st Century Expansion - Part Two Brother's Brother's Future

While continuing its present work in providing pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and supplies, mission trip support and its book distribution program, Brother's Brother looks to help in other ways. The Foundation's board is ever mindful of the need to adapt in a world that is constantly in flux. Luke Hingson and Ozzy Samad wish to expand BBF to other medical hubs in the country. Luke has also expressed interest in the possibility of starting a biomedical mission—a team of medical engineers that moves from hospital to clinic in the developing world to help train technicians and repair equipment. This would allow the Foundation, and other organizations, to send more complex machinery without the fear of their irrelevance the first time something breaks down. Phil Jones, one of BBF's longest serving trustees and Board Chair, believes that wars, economic turmoil and especially climate change are creating an endemic global refugee crisis. This is a difficult world problem—likely to only increase—that the Foundation would like to find a way to ameliorate. As disasters increase, particularly with the uptick in hurricanes and floods, BBF Trustee and past Chair Chuck Stout has pushed for a focus on disaster preparedness. After many years of responding to catastrophes, BBF now aspires to build an infrastructure to respond immediately to major storms, earthquakes and humanitarian disasters.

Phil Jones summed up the Foundation's work starkly: "As long as there's a need and governments are slow to respond, we can be among the first going out there doing things and making that difference early on. There's not going to be an end to what we need to do." Phil's humanitarian work took him all over the world, allowing him to meet adults who had been helped as children by charitable efforts like those of Brother's Brother. BBF has constantly adapted to ever-changing global conditions—as one kind of inequality is eased it has shifted to another that has been made more acute. Brother's Brother Foundation, along with other charities, is engaged in nothing less than "recognizing the right to exist for people that are very marginalized. We have to keep finding them. They are out there." As Dr. Robert Hingson saw it sixty years ago, these people are our neighbors and the world our neighborhood.

Combined Federal Campaign

BBF's new Combined Federal Campaign number is **12228**

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 2019 campaign brochure. For donors who are not government



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



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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 the first two months of 2019, BBF received 46 gifts in honor or memory totaling \$6,149. 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, by phone at 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. 99% of donations go toward shipping and distributing medical, educational and humanitarian resources to those in need.

Colorado - BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION, COLORADO REGISTRATION NUMBER 20083008955, IS LOCATED AT 1200 GALVESTON AVENUE, PITTSBURGH, PA 15233, (412) 321-3160. 100% OF CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE. REGISTRATION BY THE COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT OF BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION OR THE CAUSES IT SUPPORTS. COLORADO RESIDENTS MAY OBTAIN COPIES OF REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS FROM THE COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, 1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 200, DENVER, CO 80290, (303) 894-2200 (OPTION 2).

Florida - BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION IS A 501(c)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION REGISTERED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 496 SECTION 496.405 OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION (CH23511) AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (1-800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE OF FROM ITS WEBSITE AT WWW.FLORIDAConsumerHELP.COM. 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.