



# United in the Face of Adversity

BY OZZY SAMAD

The crisis in Ukraine perhaps exemplifies both the worst in humanity and our best in coming together to face such adversity. As the humanitarian situation continued to worsen and images of terrorized communities, displaced families, and mounting loss of life flashed across our screens, BBF became increasingly aware of the dire need for providing additional medical and humanitarian assistance to so many suffering in such desperate circumstances — and perhaps most importantly, how we as a community could support these relief efforts.

BBF's response began with supporting mobile medical clinics and medical teams providing emergency services in the affected areas. We then airlifted over 72 pallets of critically needed life sustaining medications, medical supplies, and equipment to Ukraine via Warsaw, Poland. As missiles struck an aircraft maintenance facility in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv, BBF's relief shipment was forcibly rerouted but still successfully delivered to the Ukrainian Ministry of Health (MOH). The four truckloads of Highmark/AHN medicines and medical supplies, complemented by Giant Eagle's medical donation, have been deployed by the MOH in areas ravaged by war. This was followed by Giant Eagle's donation of 25 pallets of relief supplies which was successfully delivered to Warsaw and is being distributed to refugees at reception centers on the Ukrainian border, with a portion sent to those in need in Ukraine itself.

This shipment will be followed by Highmark/AHN's second donation of medicines and wound care supplies, along with a mobile X-ray machine, combined with Grane Rx's pharmaceutical donation. BBF is also sending 20 pallets of medical aid from SOS in Louisville, KY, and has already shipped 16 pallets of humanitarian supplies and first aid kits collected by DT Care of Moon Township, in Pittsburgh. These are some of our efforts with a number of additional shipments scheduled.

The relief shipments go hand-in-hand with fundraising efforts from individuals, community organizations, and corporations. These include Excela Health's foundations and employees, who have made financial contributions and dedicated a day to celebrate traditional Ukrainian food, similar efforts from the Butler Health System and its staff, volunteering and donations by UPMC employees, a grass roots fundraising effort by the Lyndora Hotel in Butler, generous financial support from Matthews International, the William Penn Association, and the Tartan Devils Soccer Club, a donation and fundraising bike ride organized by Pittsburgh Hires Veterans, a Stand with Ukraine Concert to fundraise for BBF's relief efforts, and over 4,000 individual donations from members of our community.

**BBF will continue the Ukraine relief efforts in three ways:**

1. Flying additional shipments of medicines and medical supplies to the Ukrainian MOH for use in the affected areas.
2. Air shipments of humanitarian supplies for refugees at reception centers in Poland and Romania, and for internally displaced persons in Ukraine, along with in-country purchases of relief supplies and medications.
3. Continued support of local partners in Ukraine, Poland and Romania, who are operating medical facilities and providing humanitarian aid.

Brother's Brother Foundation and the Pittsburgh Technology Council launched a campaign to raise \$250,000 to aid Ukrainian humanitarian relief efforts — thanks to your generosity, this fund is now over \$1.6 million. 100% of donations received for BBF's response are and will be used to support emergency relief and logistics.

**Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. ■**

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# New Partnership Brings Hope and Opportunity to Ghana

BY STEVE GREENE, MD, FOUNDER AND CEO OF HOPE FOR GHANA

My recent five-week journey in Ghana was exhilarating, leaving village after village with a new sense of joy and hope. Eleven years after establishing Hope for Ghana, new projects and new partnerships have allowed Hope for Ghana to reach new heights.

I had the honor and privilege of meeting Brother's Brother Foundation at the end of 2021. What was clear to all of us at this initial meeting was that Hope for Ghana's vision was aligned perfectly with Brother's Brother Foundation's global vision.

On this most recent journey, Hope for Ghana's third school has reached the roof level. Progress is astounding, and when completed in July it will provide a kindergarten and primary school with seven classrooms, library, staff room, access to clean water, solar power, bathrooms and a sewage system.

Hope for Ghana continued providing access to clean, potable water in nine more remote villages where women and children previously walked long distances to fetch dirty water, ensuring a community's most basic need while significantly reducing water-borne disease.

An extraordinary partnership with Brother's Brother Foundation has provided the incredibly generous gifts of solar power, the drilling and construction of a water borehole, and an elaborate reverse osmosis machine that purifies the water at Hope for Ghana's new school site.

Brother's Brother Foundation has ensured the purest, cleanest, potable water without any impurities to school children and an entire village in Ghana. They have ensured electricity 24 hours a day, at no cost to an impoverished village. School children will be able to read in the library and study at the school well into the evening. This is a sustainability at its best and the greatest gift of life!

BBF and Hope for Ghana are excited to plan for a large medical relief shipment of desperately needed medical supplies to a most vulnerable community in Ghana. On my recent trip, plans were made with the District Medical Director and leaders of all the local hospitals



Thank you Brother's Brother Foundation for your vision and your commitment to transforming lives in the villages of Ghana.

and clinics to understand their most pressing needs, and to plan a seamless orchestration of Brother's Brother Foundation's life-saving gift in the next few months.

The hope and joy in Ghana is abundant and beyond words. The wonderful partnership between BBF and Hope for Ghana is priceless, bringing hope and opportunity to the villages of Ghana today and for years to come.

Thank you Brother's Brother Foundation for your vision and your commitment to transforming lives in the villages of Ghana. Together the possibilities are limitless.

**One village at a time. ■**

# BBF Supports Community Forge and Their Work in Pittsburgh

BY LIAM CARSTENS

BBF recently donated 110 Apple iPads and 45 Apple iPhones, along with cases and chargers to Community Forge in Pittsburgh, PA. Community Forge provides technical training, after school programming, community events, and more to youth and adults of Wilkensburg and the Greater Pittsburgh region in a state of the art, tech-enabled former school building. The donated devices will be used across Community Forge's various programs to allow students to do more work at home and in the classroom.

The devices were received to much fanfare from one of Community Forge's newer initiatives, the BootUpPGH Technology Pathways. An innovative program, BootUpPGH helps young people with a passion for technology start to build practical skills to give them an educational and professional advantage. BootUpPGH includes training in music, video, and podcast production and engineering; mobile app and website development; and graphic

design. Amil Cook, the Director of Technology Programs and Curriculum and who runs BootUpPGH, said the program is currently accepting applications and they will have rolling admissions continuing through spring. More information can be found at [www.linktr.ee/bootuppg](http://www.linktr.ee/bootuppg) or on Community Forge's website.

BBF wants to thank BBF Trustee, Dr. Rebekah Hughey for the introduction to Mr. Cook and Community Forge. We are pleased to be joining the organization in partnership. Additionally, BBF is grateful for the generous donation of the technology hardware from Eli Lilly and Company. ■



# Generosity Abounds From Ukraine Relief Fundraisers

BBF would like to thank the overwhelmingly generous response by donors to our Ukraine Relief Fund. In addition to the thousands of individual monetary donations received, numerous businesses held events and donated their proceeds. We heard from local small businesses like restaurants, florists and candy shops that donated proceeds from sales to large organizations and hotels that hosted hundreds at their events. BBF sincerely values the contribution of every donor. We are grateful for the support and partnership these fundraisers have provided. Thank you! ■



# Mobile Health Clinic Ready to Serve

Brother's Brother Foundation unveiled the mobile health clinic at the recent board meeting in April. The free mobile vision and diabetes screening and community clinic program is being run in collaboration with Highmark/AHN and Project Theia. It will assist

underserved and in-need members of our community who can often not afford to see physicians for even their most basic medical needs and will work in conjunction with Highmark/AHN community clinics. The first clinics are scheduled for South Braddock and

Allegheny Valley/New Kensington area. This will allow for continuity of care when patients are diagnosed with medical issues such as high blood pressure. BBF will also provide free reading glasses, wheelchairs, and walkers to the patients as needed. ■





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## New Partnership with Intas Pharmaceuticals / Accord Healthcare

BY LIAM CARSTENS

BBF is pleased to announce a new partnership with Intas Pharmaceuticals / Accord Healthcare. In early April, BBF received the first donation of medicines from Accord Healthcare and by mid-April, they were already prepared for shipment to partners in Latin America and the Caribbean. The donated pharmaceuticals included medicines for conditions such as Parkinson's disease, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol. We look forward to the future with Intas Pharmaceuticals / Accord Healthcare and continuing our partnership. Thank you Accord Healthcare! ■



## BBF Volunteers Assemble Hygiene Kits for Ukraine Relief



Thank you to the many volunteers who have offered their time to assemble hygiene kits for Ukraine refugees and victims of the crisis. Since the start of BBF's Ukraine response efforts, over 40 volunteers have assembled more than 1,000 kits! Thank you to the students, retirees, physicians and surgeons, and members of Pitt Football, UPMC Pharmacy Department and Arconic Corporation for your generosity. Many kits have already arrived in Ukraine and the others will soon follow. We appreciate your commitment to helping BBF's humanitarian efforts. ■

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### Combined Federal Campaign

BBF continues to be part of the Combined Federal Campaign. Many thanks to both new and renewing CFC donors.

Look for BBF on the Combined Federal Campaign website at <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov>. BBF's Combined Federal Campaign number is 12228. 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!

