

DBL Newsletter

February 2014

UTi's Charitable Foundation— "Delivering Better Lives"

Working With the Bangladesh Community

"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."

Kahlil Gibran

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Delivering Better Lives recently visited Bangladesh to review a number of potential projects put forward by local UTi team members based on their life experience or contacts in the community. The Bangladesh team under the leadership of UTi General Manager Danusha Gunawardena with assistance by UTi Air Freight Manager Liton Rodrigues and UTi Ocean Freight Documentation Executive Atwar Rahman developed a number of potential projects in the communities in which they live and work. All projects are currently being evaluated and assessed against the DBL selection criterion.

Suggested projects are in Bangladesh as well as and the capital city Dhaka and vary from schools, to vocational training centres, to drug rehabilitation centers. All are extremely worthwhile projects capable of delivering enormous value to the people of the various communities.

We will finalize a project or projects to work on in Bangladesh in the near future and execute the selected projects via our normal processes.

The engagement of the UTi team and their commitment to *Delivering Better Lives* are of real significance to the needy communities in their country. This commitment and the spirit inherent in the team to make it happen will deliver far more value to the UTi teams and the people we work with than would otherwise be the case.

We commend **Danusha** and the UTi team on their philanthropic attitude and commitment to their local community.





DBL Project Updates

Azubaida Girls School - Amman, Jordan- Renovation and upgrade of existing facilities at a school that provides education to girls living in an area of high unemployment and subsistence farming. The project will be in partnership with Promise Welfare Society.

Boonchu Home for Children - Chonburi, Thailand- DBL has recently constructed a security perimeter fence at the facility and will now extend this project to construct a new dormitory for the boys who live at the home.

Linda Clinic - Munkolo Ward 12, Zambia - This project has been amended and will now see DBL partner with the local Lusaka Council to construct a new clinic in the ward that currently has no

Amendment: In the January 2014 newsletter we supplied a list of all projects completed in 2013.

Orphanage of Hope - Bratislava, Slovakia-DBL undertook work to upgrade the orphanage's facilities and provide new recreational and sporting equipment.

medical facilities. Unfortunately, one was omitted in error.

Boonchu Home—A Safer World for Children

Over the years, **DBL** has undertaken many different projects approved and executed on a model designed to provide better lives to the people who live in that community. These projects include: schools; clinics and hospitals; orphanages; refuges; vocational training centres; and similar facilities in communities in over 40 countries. Most projects are similar in that they involve construction of an infrastructure that enables communities to take control of their own destiny and build better lives. However from time to time, we are presented with projects that are different from the norm, seem easy to execute, but require **DBL** to access the real value of the project carefully.

DBL recently completed a project at the Boonchu Home in Thailand that involved the relatively simple task of building a fence, a very big fence but nevertheless a fence. When considering this project we took a long and hard look at the overall impact, and believed in the end that the value to be delivered warranted our involvement. This has proven to be the right decision.



The fence is now complete and as can be seen in the pictures included, is quite nice. To understand the real value of this project, you have to understand the services offered at the facility. Boonchu Home is an orphanage and day centre for children and young people with severe mental disabilities. Prior to construction of the fence these young people could wander off and get lost, walk or ride bicycles on to the busy road, and were at risk of being struck by one of the hundreds of cars and trucks constantly passing nearby roads. The fence makes the work and lives of the caretaking staff much easier and less stressful and is a real life saver for the children.

One of the lessons learned from involvement in this project is that not all is what it seems. Often the simplest concept can have the most profound impact in terms of value delivered.

"There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up."

John **Holmes**



Delivering Better Lives Through Literacy

Delivering Better Lives recently completed two projects, on different continents, with the same goal to increase literacy opportunities within disadvantaged communities. Both projects delivered books to communities who had little access to such vital educational resources. The books were provided by the **World Book Drive**, and **DBL** arranged all shipping and distribution within the community.

Malaysia

The first book shipment was delivered to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and distributed to schools and orphanages in and around the city.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

Aesop



Zimbabwe

The second project saw books delivered to Nyaure, Zimbabwe. These books were then distributed throughout the region to those in need.





New Trustee for DBL

The Board of Trustees of *Delivering Better Lives* is comprised of current and past UTi team members who give of their personal time at their own cost, to help the foundation achieve the objectives set to Deliver Better Lives to people across the UTi world. It also includes representatives of the UTi Executive Board who not only provide a direct link to UTi, but ensure that the Executive team is aware of the work of *DBL* while providing invaluable assistance in meeting the foundation's objectives.

"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little."

It is with pleasure we announce the appointment of InaMarie Johnson, UTi Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer to the Board of Trustees of *DBL* for a two year period. InaMarie joins Ed Feitzinger, UTi Executive Vice President of Global Operations who has been serving on the board throughout 2013. We welcome InaMarie to the team and look forward to working with her through the next two years.

The current Board of Trustees of **DBL** is:

- ♦ Glenn Mills Executive Trustee
- **♦ Thurso Barendse Honorary CFO**
- Alan Draper
- Carlos Escario
- **♦ Ed Feitzinger**
- ♦ InaMarie Johnson
- Simon Stubbings



Edmund Burke

Volunteering With Delivering Better Lives



Delivering Better Lives provides an opportunity to help those less fortunate within our own communities and countries both local and abroad. The support of the many **DBL** volunteers who have provided their time, energy, and fundraising efforts on many different projects around the world has proven invaluable.

Tom Gibson, UTi Freight Forwarding Ocean Operations Agent in Valencia Spain, recently took the opportunity to make a personal holiday to Thailand the experience of a lifetime. Tom volunteered at Lorenzo's Home, HIV Center for Children in Bangkok, Thailand where *DBL* is currently undertaking a number of projects to improve the quality of life for these children.

During his two week stay, Tom spent time working with Sa Waat, the local handyman at Lorenzo's Home. Together they constructed and installed the metal framework for two roofs that would cover the home's outside water tanks and a recreational trampoline. The work involved digging and placing the foundations as well as the cutting, welding, and painting of the frames. In the evenings, Tom assisted the children with their household chores cleaning up the facility, washing clothes, and gardening. He also shared his love and talent for music by playing guitar and singing with the children.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and all who support DBL, we thank Tom for his donated time and efforts to increase the impact of our work at Lorenzo's Home!



2014 Walkathon - Send Us Your Ideas

For the past four years **DBL** and UTi have run a week of community based activities and a Walkathon. This activity was designed to bring the global UTi family together in a healthy body, healthy mind activity that had a focus on helping others.

The Walkathon was originally designed as an event where we could join hands around the world to help others while enjoying our team mates and friends company. This has proven to be a great success for *DBL* in raising awareness of our work and raising much needed funds. These funds have enabled us to build schools, clinics, renovate orphanages, work in hospitals, and overall improve the quality of life for others. It is estimated that the funds raised from the Walkathon events have over the past four years is responsible for *Delivering Better Lives* to over 40,000 people – all through the efforts and generosity of the **UTI** team.

Plans for our 2014 Walkathon/Community Event are in the works and we look forward to your ongoing support and commitment to helping others. If you have any suggestions on how we might make the event more interesting or increase participation, please contact Glenn Mills at gmills@go2uti.com.

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the

Anne Frank

world."

Team Prepares for 2014 Bosphorus Swim



The 2014 Bosphorus Cross Continental Swim is scheduled for 20 July, and **UTi** will once again field a team of competitors to participate in the event and raise funds for **DBL**.

For anyone who would like to join the UTi team and take on swimming the strong currents of Turkey's Bosphorus Strait, entries are being taken through 1 April 2014. To join, please visit www.bogazici.cc. Anyone requiring further information on the UTi team may contact **Tuna Gursoy** at tuna.gorsoy@go2uti.com.



DBL is on Facebook providing a new opportunity to track the people and organizations we support across the globe. Join our following by typing **Delivering Better Lives Foundation** within the Facebook search function and selecting "**Like**."





Everyone on this planet has a right to

a roof over their head food in their stomach an education and basic healthcare

"Thank you to everyone who contributed to this edition of the Delivering Better Lives newsletter"

The opinions of the authors expressed herein do not state or reflect those of UTi.



Glenn Mills
Executive Trustee
UTI Charitable Foundation
gmills@go2uti.com

T: +61 407 265 201

