

Delivering Better Lives



July 2016

Letter from the Executive Trustee

A Journey to Deliver Better Lives

It is now more than 16 months since **Marius Viljoen-DSV Country Manager-Malawi** was approached, along with many others, to help create a better medical care facility for the people of Malawi in the capital city Lilongwe. This approach led Marius to visit the Bwaila Hospital and to see the challenges of delivering medical care in a very densely populated city with little high quality medical infrastructure.

The focus of his attention, then became the Bwaila Hospital Outpatients (OPD) department, where Marius encountered a disaster. The OPD is much more than a traditional OPD. It is the first point of contact with every patient who visits the hospital except for maternity patients. The hospital has up to 1700 patients per day – yes that is correct 1700 per day. Patients begin lining up early in the morning and see a medical technician sometime later in the day, the wait can be 8 hours and sometimes even more. Patients suffer from all the basic ailments we all experience, but there is also a significant occurrence of Tuberculosis, HIV and Malaria. Patients wait in all weather conditions, and medical services are provided without hot water electricity and basic sanitation.

So Marius approached **DBL** with a proposal that we rebuild the OPD a journey that has been challenging from the beginning. Shortly after making the decision to go ahead with the rebuild of the OPD the government condemned the existing building, significantly increasing the urgency of a new facility. Before work could commence on the new OPD, the previous one had to be demolished as the new building had to be erected on the same site.

This posed a serious concern that while there was no OPD, there was also nowhere for patients to attend to seek urgent medical care. A solution was need in the interim and a temporary OPD was constructed using shipping containers and tents. This temporary OPD is now operating and you can see from the photographs that it did not take long to receive many patients. This temporary OPD while far from what is required is ensuring that patients can receive treatment. The old OPD has now been demolished and foundations laid for the facility.



When working with community projects such as the Bwaila Hospital in regions with complex issues, projects often face unexpected challenges. We must be prepared for any scenario and flexible enough to adapt to ensure that a community is not further disadvantaged or is able to continue to receive a service.

Despite the challenges faced on this project, the end result will be a new facility for Malawi and will ensure the community receives a level of care they deserve.

Glenn Mills

New Projects in Q2

Chrysalide

DBL will join with the Mauritian government and the team at Chrysalide to create a Women In Distress Hostel, that is capable of accommodating 25 women and their children who are HIV positive, sex trade workers or substance abusers. Their primary focus is to rehabilitate these women back into the community.

Slovo Day Care Centre

This will project will see *DBL* fund the construction of a new day care centre and toilet block to replace an existing building in disrepair. The current facility in Johannesburg, South Africa, is dedicated to improving the lives of children from pre-school to early teens.

Galim School Science Class Project

Galim School in Israel, is a special education school that works to reach children with a broad range of disabilities and learning difficulties.

DBL will fund the creation of a Science Classroom at the school.

BMS Partnership

This partnership involves funding, managing and distributing bicycles to healthcare workers in Africa treating HIV patients in their

homes. The provision allows the workers to treat 10 times the patients they can in a day and ensure that patients are taking their anti-retro viral drugs correctly.

Lost Food Project

The Lost Food in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, seeks to claim unused food products from hotels, supermarkets, restaurants and other venues and redistribute this food to people in need. The available food supplies and distribution needs have exceeded the groups ability to deliver with their personal vehicles and *DBL* will now work to purchase a refrigerated truck to allow them to reach more needy people.

Sipol School Project

DBL will work within the slums of Manila, Philippines to fund the provision of two pre-school teachers for a period of one year until longer term funding can be sourced.

Nha Dai Village Junior School

Nha Dai Village School in Vietnam is in an extreme state of disrepair, with damage to the roof, walls, and building foundations eaten away by termites. *DBL* will work to rebuild 3 existing classrooms, build three new classrooms, build a toilet block, and level playgrounds to make them suitable for play.

Completed Projects in Q2

Tan Phuc, Hamlet 4

Tan Phuc Village in Vietnam is a large community with 5 Hamlets that are home to between 1500 and 2000 people each. Each Hamlet has a kindergarten but Hamlet 4's facilities were in terrible condition and with population growth were forced to reject many children from education, as they simply could not accommodate them all.

DBL, led once again by Thao Huyhn funded and managed the construction of 2 classrooms, constructed a roof over the schoolyard for protection from the weather and to allow for the area to be utilized for classes as required. For classes, constructed new fencing around the school and constructed a new kitchen with installed water supply.



Completed Projects in Q2

Laila Alghofariyah-

On May 24th a closing ceremony took place in Amman for the Laila Alghofariyah Basic School project. The school teaches 1115 students for the morning shift and 1150 students for the afternoon shift.



The idea of this project, led by Iman Hashem Bykrat (-UTi-Jordan, came from previous very successful experiences where “*Delivering Better Lives*” worked in collaboration with the “Promise Welfare Society/Promising Hands Team for Community Service (like _Al-Azubaidya School , Mu’ta School in Marka, Um Al-Orook Arwa Bint Abdel Motalib and Cerebral Palsy Foundation School). This Organization was created almost 26 years ago, by a group of Jordanian women volunteers led by HRH Princess Alia.

Promise engage approximately 300 students from local private schools that work to enhance communication with youth, educating and allowing more affluent youths to understand their role and duty towards their communities.



DBL supported in this project with the improvement of the school infrastructure including classrooms (painting (26 classrooms), maintaining 100 student desks, electricity, ceiling fans, sound system), teachers’ room (20 chairs, curtains, painting the room and meeting tables), school kitchen (wall cupboards, paving the floor and the walls, providing the room with electric heater, providing a sink and a water mixer tap), the kindergarten (providing a TV, curtains and maintaining the door) and finally the library (data show, smart board and computer).



The local team in Jordan has been heavily involved in supporting this one and previous *DBL* projects.

Juan Manuel Santos-Program Manager-Europe & The Middle East

Children’s Day for Go Vap Vocational Centre

Thao Huynh and the team at *UTi* in Vietnam recently joined the children at Go Vap Vocational Centre to celebrate Children’s Day in Vietnam. The children were provided with food and entertainment to brighten their day.



Small Donation leads to LARGER DBL Partnership

It started with a collection of winter mittens and hats and turned into a partnership of effort to promote good will and the chance to Deliver Better Lives.

The Detroit office has annually donated winter hats and gloves to local charities / schools, but the past donation took on a different and distinct direction than others. The donation of winter accessories to Vista Maria opened eyes and hearts of the Detroit Branch. The Winter Holiday of 2015 had past, but the Branch saw opportunity to do MORE for the future.



132 years ago in Detroit, the Sisters of Good Shepherd found themselves caring for hundreds of the city's young girls living in desperate conditions. They founded an orphanage which has become today's Vista Maria. Their legacy of rescuing and restoring women and children provides their mission today: "To deliver innovative care, support, treatment, and education so that the vulnerable youth heal, believe in their worth, and build skills needed to succeed."

Vista Maria has since expanded their outreach to include Foster Care, Adoption Services, Youth Assistance, After School Activities, and Human Trafficking Treatment and Recovery.

Detroit Branch Manager-Steve Troost saw an opportunity. After on-site visits to Vista Maria, it was decided that our Branch would take aim to aid in the mission of Vista Maria and their cause. The Branch responded in action by internally raising \$7500. In late February Steven Troost worked with **DBL** Program Manager, Kathy Blount, to complete and submit a Project Proposal for additional funding from **DBL**. **DBL** approved 2 projects for Vista Maria totaling just over \$54,000 the very next month!



The on-site visits gave the Detroit Team a visual of the buildings on the Vista Maria campus.

The buildings are older and showing wear. The insides of certain buildings had an 'air' of being institutional. This spawned the idea for our project to provide a more 'comfortable' setting for those within the buildings. A chance to turn 'old and cold' into 'new and warm'. Furniture was worn down and lacked comfort. Entertainment amenities were in need of a refresh. Wall color was drab and dreary.



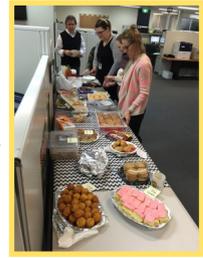
The DTW freight forwarding team went to work establishing volunteer options; a Saturday in May or June to offer some sweat equity by painting entertainment rooms (6+) and take care of outside common areas. The employees rolled up their sleeves painted and slung mulch in the summer heat. A 3rd day of volunteering is on schedule to assemble furniture and move into the rooms. New sofas, loveseats, chairs, throw rugs, entertainment systems are all on schedule to be delivered in July to increase the coziness and give some simple pleasures and comfort to girls of Vista Maria

Vista Maria caters to 800-1000 children each year. We have only scratched the surface of the help we can offer.

From hats and mittens to comfort and better living (what we often take for granted) for the very deserving girls of Vista Maria.

UTi-Melbourne- “Morning tea”

The UTi team in Melbourne, Australia recently gathered to take part in a morning tea fundraiser, to raise valuable funds for the work of DBL. Their contribution is an example of a small time commitment contributing to a larger outcome for a need community somewhere in the world.



St. Vincent de Paul- Madrid Literacy Workshop- Community Day



Team members from the Madrid Branch (Spain) took part in a Community Day at the St. Vincent de Paul Society as part of the Literacy Workshop for Adult Immigrants Projects.

They dedicated a day to assembling the shelving and furniture provided as part of the project to furnish the room used by the migrants when attending Literacy lessons (with their children in most of the cases).

This project is inspired by previous very successful cooperation experiences with the St Vincent de Paul Society (or as it is often known - the SVP) in Madrid, an international voluntary organization dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to those in need.

The organization work in wide range visiting & befriending those in need, providing a food bank, provision of social integration centers, legal protection and support, and psychological support, that is often specially aimed towards women and families.

DBL supports the Literacy Workshop for Adult Immigrant’s Project, promoted by the Madrid team to improve immigrants knowledge of the local language, a crucial factor for integration.



The current ongoing program provides schooling to 25 people (23 women) on a twice weekly basis. Most of them attend the classes taking their children with them, as otherwise they would not be able to attend class.

Juan Manuel Santos-Program Manager-Europe & The Middle East

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