

A great pleasure

in life

is doing

what

people say

you

cannot

do

Walter

Gagehot

### DBL newsletter

UTi's Charitable Foundation— "Delivering Better Lives"

### "Delivering Better Lives" – A Short Summary of the Year

As we near the end of another year we have taken the opportunity to look back and review what has been achieved over the past year and to think about the lives we have had the opportunity to change for the better.

So many new projects have been commenced and so many considered for our support that it is sometimes difficult to remember what has been achieved.

Over the course of the year some of the major works that have been carried out are:

- We have continued our work in Education with new or ongoing work at Tshabalala in South Africa, continued to develop plans for the new school in Burundi, completed the new school and associated facilities at Prek Ta Nong in Cambodia.
- Began the construction of the new orphanage in India.
- Helped with the purchase of a new hospice for cancer sufferers in Peru.
- Begun construction of the Training Centre at Medellin, Colombia.
- Are close to the completion of our partnership centre for special needs children in China.
- New housing and an Activity Centre under construction in Manila, Philippines

There are to many smaller projects to cover here but elderly citizens in Denver, disadvantaged and homeless in Madrid, orphans in Africa and children in many Countries have had their lives improved through the care and compassion of the family we are all members of.

In the new year we hope to begin new projects in Zambia, Turkey, Vietnam and Cambodia and continue to seek new opportunities to Deliver Better Lives throughout the UTi world.

While the numbers change regularly the extent of our impact this year is significant. Over 20,000 children with improved education or life opportunities, around 5,000 with better health opportunities and many thousands with improved lives as a direct or indirect result of the work of the Foundation

Thank you all for your support during the year and remember the work of the Foundation is your work, it is your Foundation and your compassion that has resulted in so much life changing work.

To everyone we extend our best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe 2010.

Glenn Mills
Executive Trustee—UTi Charitable Foundation

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Glenn Mills at our India Orphanage Project

# Orphanage in Mumbai India Receives Major Support

In a rural area north of Mumbai a wonderful lady named Joanna Buethelle retired from teaching to enable her to take in and support orphans who were living in the streets and receiving no support.

Children at nap time

Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea never regains it's original dimensions

Oliver Wendell Holmes Joanna commenced this orphanage in her small home and ended up with 70 children in her care. Joanna is yet another of the wonderful people we meet as we work around the world. Unfortunately Joanna reached the stage where she could no longer continue to support the number of children being referred to her in her small cottage and was forced into a position where she either had to get a new building or reduce the number of children she supported. She decided to build a new two story facility on the land she owned by demolishing the cottage but she had no money to do this - she simply believed that someone would come along to help her.

Well that someone is your Foundation. Raajeev Bhatnagar and I visited Joanna a couple of months ago and after seeing the need recommended to the Foundation Trustees that we provide the money to construct the new Orphanage and then work with her to ensure the children received the better life they deserve.

This work is well underway and will result in the children living in much more suitable accommodation and with Joanna and her team better equipped to deliver the love so badly needed.

This is a wonderful opportunity to improve the life's of these children and there is an ongoing opportunity for anyone in the area to visit the orphanage and meet these wonderful children.



Children drawing water.

## Walkathon, Our Major DBL Fundraiser Watch This Space

The Walkathon held in April this year was a tremendous success and enabled us to raise valuable funds for the work on Mashitsi Village School in Burundi.

Please remember that this will be an annual event, we will be advising the date for the event in 2010 early in the new year so look out for it and keep the dates free.



### **UTi Leaders Deliver Better Lives in Denver**

The participants in the 2009/10 Leadership Foundations Program commenced their program with a week of intense work in Denver Colorado in October. There was however an uplifting opening to the week with a day spent working with disadvantaged in the community.

Roy Patterson, Henry Cen, Peter Penseel, Eman Mohammed, Mitch Boico, Chris Timmons, Shawn Ragoobar, Usha Johnson, Murray Heyns, Yuvraj Sharma

The 40 participants in the Program commenced their week of intense mental activity by Delivering Better Lives to the residents of Westgate Towers a facility providing accommodation to low income older members of the community. Many of the residents have been homeless and most have experienced significant difficulties in their lives that have led them to Westgate. The Towers is managed and operated by Volunteers of America (VOA) and it was with VOA that the UTI team worked to improve the life of those living within the complex.

The work involved painting and renovating of all common areas including the community rooms and laundry. The group were also challenged with using small amounts of money to improve the quality of lives of the residents and this challenge was accepted with some really exciting work carried out – including a wonderful exercise which saw the team purchase a Plasma Television for the common room at a price which was close to theft.

The team interacted with the residents all day and shared a lunch with the residents that was cooked by the Leadership Team. This was a wonderful opportunity to share with the residents not only food but time ,time that was spent listening and demonstrating that people do care.

Every member of the team knew that the day had improved the quality of their life as well as the life's of the residents and left knowing that they had in fact Delivered Better Lives. But they also learnt a great deal about team work and the way in which outstanding results can be achieved by high performing teams.



**Roy Patterson** 

Demosthenes.

Small

opportuni-

ties

are often

the

beginning

of great

enterprises

### La Chinca Vocational Training Centre Taking Shape



The new vocational training centre

The Vocational Training Centre being constructed at the La Chinca Refuge in Medellin, Colombia is finally taking shape and will see the young women and girls supported by La Chinca using the facility before Christmas.

The facility will be used for a wide range of vocational training and the provision of skills based training in English Language and Computers.

This is a very exciting development as it is a program which equips young women for a life after the refuge which has become their home and will we believe assist them to lead much richer lives than would otherwise be the case.

La Chinca is a wonderful facility which has objectives very similar to those of the UTi Charitable Foundation and where lives are truly being saved and improved.



### **Aldimi Cancer Hospice - Now a Reality.**



The "New" Aldimi

Adversity reveals genius, prosperity conceals it.

Horace.

In our last newsletter we reported that a decision had been made to support the construction of a new Cancer Hospice for the poor in Lima, Peru. This project was to provide housing for 70 to 80 poor people who travel from the country to Lima for cancer treatment at the major cancer hospital in Peru. Unfortunately these people do not have the funds to pay for accommodation so their treatment is compromised .

The original plan was to construct a new building to house, free of charge, the patients. Land had been donated for this purpose and funding to construct the building had been committed by the Foundation and two other parties. Unfortunately the residents of the area where the building was to be constructed objected to the development, this plan had then to be shelved.

Because of the urgency of addressing the needs of these patients it was decided to purchase an existing building in Lima that met most of the requirements and was available for immediate possession. This purchase was completed on 9 November and it is planned that it be opened and established as a Hospice in December.

This is a wonderful outcome after a difficult month and will ensure the ongoing support of the impoverished cancer sufferers.

Delivering Better Lives has many different faces but all are about improving the quality of life of someone somewhere, if you happen to be passing through Lima please call in and visit Aldimi and meet with



The front entrance

Isabel the wonderful lady who runs the facility.

### Special Needs Children in China soon to have new homes.

The partnership between the Chinese Government, Half the Sky and the Foundation was created to enable the provision of family based care for special needs children in Chongqing, China. The Government through social agencies is constructing 18 new apartments to house special needs children with house parents ,the UTI Charitable Foundation is furnishing and outfitting the apartments and Half the Sky is providing the house parents and management of the facility.

This project has been underway for some months now as the construction of the multi story apartment building began early in the year. The building is now almost complete and we expect to begin outfitting the apartments in January with residents moving in during the first quarter of 2010.

This is an exciting project as it delivers high quality care to these wonderful children and it brings together three parties who all have a common goal in improving the quality of lives.

We will share the photos with you when the first children move in so that you can share in the joy the children will have.



The New Apartment Building



### **UTi family members Deliver Better Lives in Laos**

It all started with a Bangkok airways flight to the Lao city of Luang Prabang and what a pleasant surprise it was. This world heritage listed city surrounded by two rivers the Mekong and the Nam Khan, would have to be one of Asia's prettiest and most peaceful cities, not to mention the food with its French influence.

The project briefing conducted by Glenn Mills at Lotus Villas on Sunday, informed all of the volunteers of the work groups they were assigned to and of the colossal task we had confronting us. The vibe was great and all the months of planning, fund raising and estimating had come to an end, finally we were ready to make a difference. The importance of a good night's rest was apparent

On the Monday morning we all gathered outside the hotel to begin the first phase of the project – logistics. The transportation consisted of Tuk Tuks and as you would expect it all went well.

SIT OGG

Volunteer team arriving in Tuk Tuks

As we arrived at the orphanage some of the children working on the security gate opened the makeshift boom and as we proceeded it was apparent that none of the orphans were given a free ride. All the children were assigned a task to help with the survival of the large family. Whether the task was working in the garden, preparing in the kitchen or cleaning the class rooms you could guarantee it would be accompanied with an enormous smile.

Surprisingly the first day was fairly productive and as the second day approached, with most of the procurement and delegating behind us, sub projects were starting to take shape. By mid week, white ant infested beams had been replaced, bathrooms had been transformed from mold and

algae infested to something that the Romans would be proud of, doors and shutters were back to working order and the painting team were becoming as efficient as any major sub contractor. As the week neared its end the place was beginning to look fresh and modern with new electrical and plumping services such as kitchen sinks, bidet's, sweep fans, new switchboard, safety switches even a new water bore.



Children playing in the orphanage

On day 4 there was some time for tools down and a moment for some physical education, where the children were taught to use their new sporting equipment, sports such as cricket, baseball and soccer were played; the Laotians put up a spirited fight and showed lots of sporting talent. As the week ended we had gotten to know a lot of the orphans and I am sure each of the Volunteers had empathized with some more than others. For Jane and I it was a little boy that we had found earlier in the week lying in his bed holding his arm in pain, on closer examination the boy had a badly infected wound but by the end of the week and after daily treatment it had improved and it was a great sight seeing him happy and active again. We would like to thank Delivering Better Lives for the opportunity to volunteer to travel to these places I would otherwise not know a lot about and help make a difference. It was a great experience and we are sure these projects will be a part of our annual travel plans for years to come.

We would also like to thank the team from UTi Singapore office for their generous donations of clothing for the orphaned children.

Hayden and Kate Mele

Destiny
is not a
matter
of
chance,
it is a
matter
of
choice





**UTi Charitable Foundation** 

"Delivering Better Lives"



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\* Views expressed in this publication are not the views of UTi.



UTi Charitable Foundation

"Your Charity"

Become Involved
Suggest Projects
Raise Funds
Volunteer



"Thank you to everyone who contributed to this Edition of the DBL Newsletter "

# EDUCATION HEALTH HOUSING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

... THINGS MOST OF US TAKE FOR GRANTED BUT WHICH ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN MANY IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

THIS IS THE FIELD IN WHICH DBL WORKS

JOIN US IN OUR QUEST TO DELIVER BETTER LIVES TO THE CHILDREN OF TODAY AND TOMORROW