

Delivering Better Lives



Letter from the director



February 2017

DBL - Community driven

In our last newsletter, the first in our reincarnation as an independent foundation, we made it clear that we would continue to move forward, Delivering Better Lives, in the fields where we have worked for the past ten years.

Our life as a direct relation of UTi had very specific objectives . Firstly to Deliver Better Lives to needy individuals in communities in which UTi did business and secondly to give all members of the UTi family the opportunity to give back to their own communities, communities in which they lived, grew up and where they still had strong connections. A strong by product of this work was the spirit which grew within the UTi we all knew. While reengaging with old friends and developing new supporters, we are also working to identify new corporate partners with whom we can engage, as we did historically with UTi. If anyone knows of any corporates who would be interested in partnerships please let us know.

As an independent Foundation we now have the opportunity to work with anyone, this has meant that many members of the old UTi family, people who had left the company are now back in our DBL family. It is wonderful to see the support of people like Daniel Grimes, Daniela Cordero, Mark de Battista and Graham Illingworth, all long term UTi team members and strong believers in the work of *DBL*.

You will have seen on Facebook and in this newsletter that we have launched 8 new projects in the past 6 weeks, this alone requires considerable work and funding. But we know we have much more to do and that the coming months and years will present many challenges, with the support of our *DBL* family we will overcome these challenges and continue to Deliver Better Lives for many years to come.

Please reach out to us if you have any ideas on how we can improve our work,, if you know of any projects you feel we could engage with and/or have any ideas on how we can grow our funding base.

We will continue to care for those in need and will work to make their lives easier.

Glenn Mills
Executive Trustee
Delivering Better Lives.

New Projects in Q1

All Ears- Cambodia

All Ears was established as an NGO in Cambodia over 20 years ago. The organisation provides hearing based services to Cambodian people, regardless of their ability to pay for the services. Across 3 branches, in 2016 over 25,000 people attended the clinics.



All Ears has 13 full time employees and trains over 15 technicians per year for work in the community. The majority of their work is undertaken by volunteers. Financially they survive with small donations from many tourists and supporters

DBL will support All Ears, with the acquisition of a sound booth, Tympanometer and rigid endoscope with camera head and cable.

Hau Giang Kindergarten- Vietnam

The Village in Hau Giang has no preschool/kindergarten Education of this age group is undertaken in a building at the local Primary School. This facility can only be used outside school hours and only caters for 100 children when there are 250 requiring education.

Like most of these communities in Vietnam the local people are subsistence farmers with very little income and no capacity to provide funds.

The local commune has agreed to provide land, the local people will level the land and fence it and *DBL* will construct a new four room school building.

Agricultural Development Program- Peru



DBL will again work with Peruvian based NGO— Kusimayo on this project. Previous projects have included housing upgrades, kindergarten feeding programs and the agricultural program which will be revisited on this project.

This project is focused on providing poor Peruvians with an opportunity for a productive subsistence lifestyle that will sustain

themselves and their families and allow them to sell produce within the community for income. The project is designed to increase the range of products grown and the yields by constructing hothouses, establishing orchards, installing water tanks, irrigation systems and improving animal husbandry.



DBL fund the roll out of this program to ten families in a new community creating the base for peer driven wider expansion.

Amis Youth Project- Spain

Amis is a youth support organization located in Madrid that was assisted by *DBL* with a small project in 2012. Amis provides a broad range of counselling and support services to young people between the ages of 14 and 22, a substantial focus is on refugees in this age bracket.



Amis has operated from the same premises in Madrid since 1998 but has recently had their lease terminated and have located a new property that requires significant work. *DBL* will fund the preparation of the building; including painting and provision of equipment and furniture.

Bangwhanghin Playground- Thailand

Bangwhanghin Primary School is located in Rayong some 200 kilometers from Bangkok. It is a government school with very little funding. The school offers grades 1 to 6 and has some 400 students and 17 teachers.

As with most schools we work with the rural community around the school is, in the main, a low socio economic subsistence farming community.

The school has enough buildings and adequate facilities but is in desperate need of a specialized playground for special needs children and to enable a broader use of an outside curriculum.

DBL will fund and manage the establishment of a specialized playground.

New Projects in Q1

Prek TandeK- Cambodia

Prek TandeK Secondary School is located some 100 kilometers from Phnom Penh in rural Cambodia. The school provides education for students from year 7 to year 12 and has 31 classrooms for 1400 students. Students from 5 communes attend the school which is forced to hold morning and afternoon sessions to accommodate all students.

The area is a poor subsistence farming community with little government support. The desperate need is for a library/multi media centre. Reading is poorly neglected and considered by the teaching fraternity to be the greatest need.

It is proposed that **DBL** fund the construction and fit out of library that will service both the school and the community a total of over 30,000 people.

Lorenzo's Home Scholarship Program— Cambodia



Lorenzo's Home is an orphanage in Thailand that was established by the Sisters of Mercy to provide a home for children to young adults suffering from HIV. In the main the children were infected by their mothers who in most cases were sex workers or drug addicts.

DBL has supported Lorenzo's Home with two prior projects and will continue this support with this project.

DBL will fund a scholarship program for these children for the school year 2017/2018. This program will allow each of the 9 young people of higher education age to attend continue or begin the further education process to prepare them for life after the orphanage.



Argentina Student's Home— Argentina

Fundacion Si was established in Argentina in 2012 by a group of friends who wanted to address disadvantage with 6 key programs. These programs are aimed at Street kids and the homeless and the disadvantaged rural communities denied educational opportunities.

The organization receives no government funding and it totally managed and staffed by volunteers.

One of the key programs is to provide poor rural students where less than 1 in 100 attend university (1 in 10 in the cities) with an opportunity to gain further education and therefore become catalysts to change in their country and communities.

This outcome is achieved by building and providing free of charge student accommodation and the services associated with this accommodation. To date 5 homes have been established housing on average 23 students a home.

DBL will fund a new home for the program.

A Joyous Smile

Al Baqa Rehabilitation Centre in Jordan provides support to children with Autism, Auditory deficits, and Cerebral Palsy. The Centre serves the highly populated Al Baqa Refugee Camp which is home to around 10,000 Syrian Palestinian refugees as well as Jordanian people experiencing need. This Centre is the only one of its kind serving this area, with high demand and little to no equipment, the outcomes for the children who visit the Centre are often limited.

DBL is currently undertaking a project to provide essential equipment, computers, furniture and toys to enable teachers and therapists to undertake the appropriate therapy based on need. Recently **DBL** were able to provide a young boy with Splints, allowing him to stand for the first time. The joy on his face shows just how valuable and life changing this equipment is to one little boy.



DBL welcomes back an old friend

2017 began in a very special way for me, with a phone call from a long-time friend and mentor, Glenn Mills, asking me if I would like to re-engage with *Delivering Better Lives (DBL)*. Of course I said, YES! Being a Trustee on the Board of directors at *DBL* was an absolute honour. When I look at the impact we had on people lives in the Americas (Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Chile and the USA), I think not only about the people that received help from our organization, but also those that volunteered themselves in the projects. You see, *DBL* helps others, engages teams and enlightens individual purpose.



The impact of *Delivering Better Lives* is far reaching; by last count *DBL* had has Delivered over 3 million lives in 47 countries. We have put roofs over the heads of children receiving Cancer treatment in Peru (ALDIMI), topped off by a visit from Santa Claus. In Colombia, we rebuilt an Orphanage (Casita Nicholas) and constructed a fully-equipped vocational training room (Computer & English) for girls living under the protection of a safe house (La Chinca). Not only have we helped improved people's lives by delivering education, healthcare, food and shelter; 10 years later I have had people tell me that *DBL* also actually helped save people's lives.

The impact on the teams that volunteer themselves for *DBL* is great as well. When a company sponsors work in the community it allows for colleagues to bond outside of work. And when colleagues see their senior executives working side-by-side with them, they realize that they work for a company with heart and soul. Studies show that Corporate Social Responsibility can help attract top talent (particularly millennials) and reduce staff rotation. An organization like *DBL* can help humanize a company and increase both employee engagement and client engagement.

Paolo Coelho said " a life without cause is a life without effect". Glenn Mills showed me the way to find my ultimate purpose. The Boxing Day Tsunami (December 26th,2004) is believed to be the deadliest Tsunami ever. Shortly thereafter, in January of 2005, we gathered for a meeting whereby Glenn announced the sponsorship of 100 children orphaned by the effects of the Tsunami in Sri Lanka. Glenn inspired the team to make donations and engage with the program. Little did we know, this would lead to the birth of the Delivering Better Lives Charitable Foundation. Many people have been inspired by Glenn Mills; his effect on me was to look for community projects in my region of the Americas whereby I could mix business acumen and compassion to help others. The sustainable results of our projects in Latin America continue to give me a sense of purpose, pride and joy.



I am humbled, honoured and excited to be a part of *DBL* once again and I will do my best to contribute to Glenn's legacy of delivering sustainable results than enrich the lives of the disadvantaged.

*Everyone on this planet has a right to a roof over their head,
food in their stomach, an education and basic healthcare.*

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