

Delivering Better Lives



Letter from the director



December 2018

How time flies another year is nearly over and it is nearly two years since **DBL** became a non aligned community organization."

But we continue to do what we do at **DBL** - Deliver Better Lives. I would like to take this time to thank a number of people who have been instrumental in the ongoing success of **DBL** every one of these people lives with a heart that beats with a rhythm to help others. Some of these people have been **DBL** supporters for many years, some less time but all have the one common trait - concern for others and a desire to leave the world a better place. It is always risky to name people, but all who are part of the **DBL** family know who they are and know how much we value them and their support. This is simply an opportunity to chronicle some of these people

Some of the key people are :

Thao Huynh in Vietnam - Thao is busy with her senior day job but has always found the time to work tirelessly over many many years to identify projects submit them to **DBL** and when approved drive the projects to completion. I have had the privilege to visit many projects with Thao and her passion and commitment make me feel very humble.

Daniela Cordero - Daniela is based in Argentina is building a career within the Logistics Industry but simply loves helping others, she finds projects for **DBL** to consider and then works to ensure their successful execution but then gives of herself with needy children and young people at facilities in Buenos Aires. Daniela is a smart young executive but one of those young people who are going to force the world to be a better place.

Iman Hashem - Iman is based in Jordan and has/had a career in the Logistics Industry but puts that aside to drive **DBL** in Jordan. **DBL** projects driven by Iman have changed the lives of many thousands of young people in Jordan in fact way to many to count. Again I have visited schools, autism centres and other facilities with Iman and am humbled by her commitment to her people.

Henk van Asselt - Henk was, I think, coaxed back into the **DBL** world and I could not divulge who the coxer was but with his team in Thailand, he has identified and driven many new projects Delivering Better Lives to children in areas far and wide. Henk is a doer and gets things done. He really is making the world a better place.

There are many more Rose Su, Pich Nguyen, Mark DeBattista, Jorge Anacona, Racheli Zaivatch and Iris Harel and many many others make our work possible,

Thank you all, keep it up and keep making the world a better place.

Glenn Mills
Executive Trustee
Delivering Better Lives.

New Projects in Q3.

Turkey-Dugunculer Primary School

Dugunculer Primary School is in the South East of Turkey between the cities of Van and Siirt. Teachers at the school have minimal resources but actively work to participate in social and regional activities so that their students can interact with the world outside their village.

The teachers have worked hard to improve the facilities at the school but need funding to provide further equipment. The school has 2 spare room's, they wish to utilise however both require painting and electrical work before they can be used.

The first requires 100 chairs, a sound system and a projector to allow it to be used as a conference room.

The second room is planned as a Computer Lab but requires the donation of around 15 computers, to allow 2-3 students to work between 1 terminal.

DBL will undertake the required works and supply the much needed equipment.

South Africa-Beudene Centre

Beudene is a day care centre for the disabled. It was founded in 1999 by Beulah van Aswegen an Occupational Therapist. The centre is government approved but receives no government funding. Fees are charged to those with the capacity to pay, but no one is excluded from care on the basis of capacity to pay. All ages and ethnic groups are catered for. This is a private facility run on a not for profit basis.

DBL completed a project at Beudene in 2014 to construct a new centre. Over the past couple of years Beudene has had increased demand for its services particularly from families with limited government funding in need of care for their family members.

Beudene's mission is to establish a sheltered workshop to engage the individuals who attend the centre and generate some income.

DBL will work with Beudene to construct and outfit a workshop for the development of new programs.



Philippines-Batiawan School

Batiawan School is in Subic Province (near Subic Bay) and has a population that includes around 40% of an indigenous tribe called the Aetas.

There are two schools in the community one which is primarily used by the Aetas. The school used by the Aetas is currently unable to be used for schooling due to damage sustained in a typhoon several months ago. School is being conducted in the chapel of a local church which is not large enough to accommodate the number of children and unsuited to use as a school.



There are some 225 Aetas from pre-school to high school who were attending school prior to the cyclone and who would be attending if space was available. Many do not attend today because there is insufficient space.

DBL will fund and manage the repair of the damaged rooms and the construction of two new school rooms.

Malaysia-Lighthouse Children's Home

Lighthouse is a Foster Home caring for 75 children and young people from age 2 to 22. Children are cared for in a home based environment across 5 houses. Children attend school, are provided with additional tutoring and live in a family environment. Lighthouse is approved by the government but survives totally on donations from members of the public.

The children/young people in foster care are directed to Lighthouse by the police or social workers and generally come from a variety of circumstances but often drug and alcohol abuse, physical or sexual abuse and generational poverty, are behind the need for foster care.

DBL will provide a small bus for the home and much needed refrigeration to ensure food donated to the home can be preserved rather than go to waste.

New Projects in Q4.

Israel-Kedma

Kedma Youth Village is an educational, therapeutic and social community who's aim is to enable and allow each individual to acquire social life skills and to become an independent contributing member of the Israeli society.

The village provides accommodation to young people in need. The village has existing dormitories that were built in the 1960's and in a state of disrepair that has deemed them unfit for habitation.

DBL will undertake renovation works of the dormitories to allow the village to accommodate 24 young people in need.



Vietnam-Xa Phien School

Xa Phien Village is in Long My District, Hau Giang Province some 3 hours from Ho Chi Minh and in an area where **DBL** has worked before.

The Village has some 16,000 people and 1300 children between the ages of 1 and 5, a growing challenge. The area is a subsistence farming community extremely poor with significant social challenges.

The school is 2 rooms and suffering badly from concrete cancer. The concrete deterioration is so bad that the internal steel reinforcing has rusted through creating an unsafe building. The community will demolish the existing building and level the surrounding grounds.

DBL will construct a new 4 room school.

Egypt-El Demerdash Hospital

El Demerdash is a government children's hospital providing free care to children from all socio economic groups, regardless of their ability to pay for the services received. The hospital survives on limited government funding and public donations. The building and equipment are very neglected and in serious need of upgrading.

DBL supported this hospital in 2012 upgrading the GI ward and introducing some basic training for illiterate mothers to try to minimize the incidence of GI complaints.

DBL will provide funding for an Ultra Sound machine to be used for heart testing. The machine will be used in the Neo Natal Intensive Care unit, the Paediatric unit and in Paediatric Cardiac surgery.

Egypt-Al Fayoum Village Renewal #3

Al Fayoum is a village on the outskirts of Cairo that that has grown over the years as squatters, itinerant workers and displaced desert tribes have congregated in the area. The nature of the community results in heavy unemployment, homelessness, mental health issues and substance abuse.

In 2015, **DBL** managed the redevelopment of some 20 homes to a acceptable standard, this was an extremely successful project with outcomes way beyond the upgrading of accommodation. In 2017, **DBL** returned to the Al Fayoum community to renovate or rebuild as required, 11 houses in one street.

This third project at Al Fayoum will see **DBL** rebuild or renovate another 15 houses.



Jordan-Al Shona Al Janobiyah #2

Al Shona is in the Jordan Valley and is one of the most neglected areas in Jordan. The population is around 150,000 and is a combination of Jordanian's, Egyptian's, Pakistani's and Syrian refugees. Whilst many in the area are refugees, there is also a large population of itinerant laborers who come into the area for work in the large vegetable gardens and orchards.

The area is need of a number of facilities and **DBL** will work towards developing these over a period of around three years. The first phase of the project included the establishment of a soccer pitch on land provided by the local municipality.

Phase 2 of the project will see **DBL** continue to work with the community on a number of projects including; the development of a kindergarten, a women's community and a park and outdoor area.

South Africa-Andries Meyer Home

Andries Meyer Home is a home based carer for elderly people with no racial or religious boundaries. Andries Meyer Home is located in Eldorado, Johannesburg established in 1971 through a bequest for the purpose. The foundation to operate the home was created in 1981.

The Home needs help with a range of issues the most pressing being a boundary wall to keep the elderly people, many who suffer from varying forms of Dementia, safe and ensure that the criminal elements are kept out.

Completed Projects in Q3/4.

Ho Chi Minh Free Clinic #3

The Ho Chi Minh Free clinic is operated by a retired doctor along with volunteer doctors to offer two services to those who have no access to medical help. They operate a free clinic in Ho Chi Minh to those without the capacity to pay. The same team travel into isolated rural areas on weekends, to run clinics for those with no access to medical services.

In 2015, **DBL** funded the acquisition of a portable ultra sound machine for this out service. This equipment is now being used for between 500 and 1000 people per month.

With the acquisition of the ultra sound machine, the biggest challenge for this team was the completion of blood tests while in rural locations.

DBL is please to have recently provided the Free Clinic with an Automated Chemistry Analyzer) to allow for faster testing and diagnosis.



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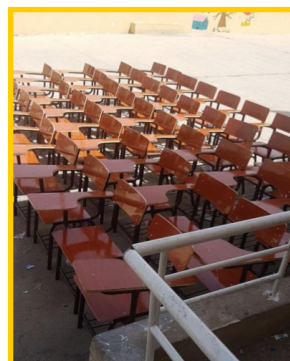
The first phase of the project has just been completed, with the establishment of a bathroom block and soccer pitch on land provided by the local municipality.



Saleheiat Al Alabed School

The project involved the complete upgrade of a lower socio economic secondary school in Amaan, Jordan. The project had four separate phases. These phases involved building upgrades of classrooms, laboratory and the school kitchen followed by running workshops for children and working with teachers.

A very strong element of this program is the engagement of students from private schools who assist with the work and then work with the students at the target school in sports and other cultural activities.



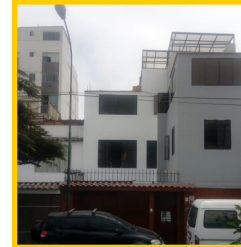
Completed Projects in 3/4...ctnd

Aldimi

Aldimi is a hospice in Lima, Peru established by a local woman to provide housing for poor people who must come to Lima for cancer treatment. The house provides accommodation, meals and full support to the patient and allows one carer to stay with them, the carer must then help out in the facility.

DBL previously assisted Aldimi with two renovation upgrade projects in 2009/10 and 2012/13. The hospice unfortunately sustained damage in a

storm and was in urgent need of support to complete repairs. **DBL** provided funding to complete these repairs.



Hogar Querubines Old Peoples Home

Hogar Querubines is an old peoples home located in the rural area of Ponce and currently cares for 21 elderly high care patients. In September 2017 the Home, lost all power due to a cyclone and it had never been restored.

There were 6 patients at the home who relied on the power for life support. While a temporary arrangement was in place, **DBL** provided and installed a

generator at the Old People's Home to ensure they had an independent power supply.



Lorenzo's Home Scholarships

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 a number of projects including this one. **DBL** funded a scholarship program for the school year 2017/2018. This program allowed 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.



Lost Towel Project

Two years ago **DBL** undertook a small project with Myanmar refugees in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to upgrade small classrooms.

The team worked to establish sustainable business opportunity and income for the refugees. Utilising donated and used equipment, a sewing project was launched which has proven to be very successful. This business is focused on

making towels for schools and hotels and is now at a stage where new equipment is required to enable them to meet supply and demand, extend the type of work into embroidery and seek new markets.

Long term commitments exist with clients so there is little risk and the business has strong support from the expat community.

Autism Spectrum Disorder Treatment, a focus in Spain

The Children's Psychiatric Unit of the Gregorio Marañón Hospital in Madrid Spain, provides care and treatment to children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The unit aims to development the skills and abilities of the staff to allow for higher quality treatment and outcomes for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. This Unit has won numerous awards and is a world reference in the treatment of this type of disorder in children and adolescents as well as support for their families. The unit provides services free to those without the financial capacity to pay.

In 2015, they launched the innovative AMI TEA program for children with autism spectrum disorders. The Unit currently treats more than 300 children and supports their families.

They have created very innovative processes that are well recognized worldwide to diagnose Autism Spectrum Disorders, to care kids when need medical assistance and to support their families . They are constantly sharing their knowledge to allow others to utilize their treatment methods and improve the outcomes for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The characteristics of many of the patients, means they need a quiet environment during their treatment. This often prevents them from being in the same place as the professionals who are working with them. The Gesell Room has been designed to alleviate these symptoms and simulate the warm atmosphere of a psychotherapeutic care room.

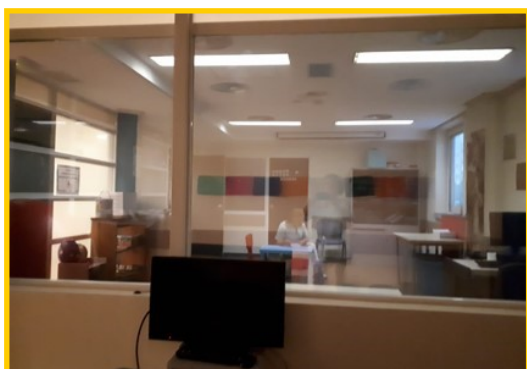
It has an area designed for individual or small groups, which serves for interviews, focus groups and some basic experiments with adults or adolescents.

The room incorporates a small area equipped with game materials and diagnostic evaluation equipment for children. It is fitted with sound equipment to allow observers in an adjoining room behind a two way mirror to listen to the sessions being undertaken in the Gessel Room. The room is also fitted with recording equipment, so that the sessions can be recorded to all for detailed analysis in advanced stages of the learning processes.

DBL is proud to have been able to contribute to the development of the Gessel Room at Gregorio Maranon Hospital

Juan Manuel Santos

DBL Spain



Growth and Gratitude at Beudene Daycare for Disabled

After completing her degree in Occupational Therapy (OT) at the University of the Free State in 1993, Beulah — founder of Beudene — set off to the USA for an adventure as a locum OT. Four years later, Beulah returned to the call of Africa to open a daycare center for children with special needs. It had been Beulah's dream to create a state-of-the-art Green & Sustainable care center - for children (and adults) with multiple levels of disability - operating on solar power, borehole and rain water.

The need for a safe and loving day-care facility such as Beudene exceeds both the demand and available funding for setup costs and running expenses. Yet, this center and others like it provide a critical service to the community which is under increasing economic pressure. There is a continuously growing need for specialized care to the disabled, especially to those who reach adulthood. Specialized schools accommodate the disabled only until the age of 18, thereafter, there is no structure in which these young adults — nor their older peers — are accommodated, placing a heavy burden on family's dependent on dual incomes. The need for stimulation extends beyond the age of 18 and the number of children diagnosed with Autism is also on the rise.

Beudene's first classroom opened in June 1997 in the Bloemfontein suburb of Westdene. Operating from this facility for 10 wonderful years, Beudene relocated to a small holding in Rayton, on the fringe of Bloemfontein in 2007. The larger space at Beulah's new home allowed for the intake of more attendees and was better suited to the needs of a care center. However, lack of funds stunted further expansion of the care centre and the operation was quickly running out of space. By 2012, the 100 sqm facility had become the daily refuge to roughly 60 attendees. Quality of care was becoming a challenge - a headcount of one child per 1.5 sqm was made for intolerable conditions, especially on days when it is too cold or wet to go outside. Beudene had outgrown its footprint — expansion became a necessity.

During 2013 Beudene came onto the radar of the Deliver Better Lives (*DBL*) Foundation. The *DBL*, was identifying and selecting projects for funding in each of the provinces in South Africa. When considering the opportunities in the Free State Region they recognized Beudene as one of five projects for consideration for support. In December 2014 Beudene received the fantastic news that they had been selected by the *DBL* for funding of the construction of a 1000 Square meter classroom. Construction kicked off in January 2015 and the new classroom was occupied in August 2015. Since then, Beudene has expanded to serving 120 disabled students -15% of whom are autistic - and the staff compliment has doubled.



The full-time staff of twelve, is complimented by rotating volunteer students whose time at Beudene is credited toward their "in-field-experience" which is a requirement for the completion of their degree certification (participants vary from Speech-, Physical - and Occupational therapists). Community involvement and contributions from benefactors continue to form an integral part of the Beudene story.

Beudene does not receive any government subsidies or support and is solely dependent on the ZAR800 / \$55.00 per month-care fee, private donations and volunteers. Without the bigger classroom funded by the *DBL*, Beudene would never have been able to meet the growing demand of the special need's community.



At the end of 2017, the need to create a structured work-environment for the disabled young adults with stronger physical capabilities was identified. The increasing number of students and the maturing age of the Beudene community emphasized the need to create an environment in which the older - especially male students — could participate in activities that is both stimulating and feeds their need for a "sense of contribution ". These individuals can participate in work-related activities such as basic carpentry, handy man efforts and cleaning services in the community, e.g.: cleaning of parking lots, streets and sidewalks.

This initiative led to the recruitment of a coordinator to launch a program of physical exercises and/or participation in sport or work-related activities that would support the needs of this group. In December of 2017 Lee van Zyl was appointed as coordinator and the program was launched in January 2018. Ultimately, the aim is to develop a happy and well-balanced individual who can interact with a larger group of people. Thus far the program has been a huge success and met with enthusiasm from its benefactors. The team has been active in furniture restoration, bicycle recycling into toys for autistic children, environmental beautification and litter removal.



As the year progressed, Beudene realized that they had to create a dedicated workspace - that is standalone from the classroom - where the boys could work to produce/repair items as a quid pro quo for donations. Once again, funding was a bottleneck and again, the **DBL** provided the funding for construction of an annex to the School. In September 2018, the funds were made available and construction started within two weeks. Beudene was able to extend the west side of the classroom into a “workshop-patio” where the boys are 'deployed' in a way they deserve. With the donation from the DBL, Beudene now has a dedicated area where the restoration of furniture and other DIY tasks can be performed without interruption or disruption of the classroom activities that caters to the autistic children's need for structure. Supplementary income from these tasks will also create a more sustainable model for Beudene.



We are so grateful for this gift! It is with excitement that we look forward to the benefits from the new workshop. Our thanks to the **DBL** Foundation, Glenn Mills and the team for their support!

ElMarie Hugo

*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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