

DBL Newsletter

June 2014

UTi's Charitable Foundation - "Delivering Better Lives"

Angels of the Streets

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou

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In cities as diverse as Mumbai, Johannesburg, Medellin, Los Angeles and Phnom Penh, I have met people who have dedicated their lives to helping others. They have through the power of their energy and passion created orphanages, refuges for abused women and children, as well as, schools and centres for the homeless. While all of these people come from different countries and backgrounds, they have one thing in common - their complete selflessness. Their focus is always on others, they are driven by a passion for helping and regardless of the challenges faced, they always

find a way. I refer to these people as "Angels of the Street."

The Angels of the Street are not wealthy and often do not come from families who can provide support. They see injustice, they see the need, they see despair, they see poverty and they act. They do not wait for governments or moribund agencies to provide money or facilities; instead they act and by doing so protect and change lives.

Over the past seven years, I have visited many hundreds of projects in some 50 Countries and am blessed to have met some Angels of the Street, the unknown, unheralded heroes of our world. Every time I meet one of these extraordinary people I'm humbled and left feeling inadequate. These people dedicate their lives to others with no support from anyone.

Recently, while working with the UTi team in Bloemfontein, the capital of the free state of South Africa, I visited the Iphamiseng Child Centre in Batho



Location and met founder Madame Sana, a person worthy of being named an Angel of the Street.

Madame Sana established Iphamiseng in 1993 to support children at risk or living on the street. In her youth, she was one of these children and vowed to help as many as she could. Iphamiseng Child Centre provides accommodation and life support to over 60 abandoned and vulnerable children from age three until an age where they can safely support themselves. The government money the organization receives only covers food for one week in the month, from which point Madame Sana is totally dependent on divine help.



I share this story to remind us all that when confronted by our "First World Problems," there are Angels of the Street, whose every day is spent confronting issues far greater than those most of us ever face. Day in and day out such people take the time to share their love, hug a crying child, listen to the young girl struggling with life, or support unquestioningly anyone in need.

Delivering Better Lives hopes to assist the Angels of the Street, helping them with their efforts and providing our support where needed. I am happy to announce that **DBL** has recently approved renovation work at Iphamiseng, improving their current building structures and constructing a new kitchen.

Glenn Mills

New DBL Projects Approved

Since our last newsletter **Delivering Better Lives** has been very active in assessing potential new projects and has approved the following:

Querubines - Argentina, Buenos Aires - Querubines is a home for abandoned or orphaned young people suffering from HIV. The facility provides young people with accommodation, life support, counseling, and education. **DBL** has committed to fund and manage the extension of the premises to enable improvements in the quality of care and to support more young people.

Iphamiseng – South Africa, Bloemfontein- Iphamiseng in a home for children who have been abandoned or are at risk in the community. The home operates as an orphanage for these young people and provides for them a lifestyle that they would otherwise be denied. **DBL** will support Iphamiseng in renovation of very poor condition buildings and construction of a new kitchen.

School Renovation - Philippines, Cebu – Renovation of two schools that were seriously damaged in a typhoon that hit the area in October of 2013.

Cerebral Palsy Institute - India, Calcutta – Building renovation and creation of a computer centre for cerebral palsy sufferers cared for by the Cerebral Palsy Institute.

Neve Galim Home - Israel, Ashdod – Extension and outfitting of rooms at the Neve Galim home for children in Ashdod.

"I know, up on top you are seeing great sights, but down here at the bottom we, too, should have rights"

Dr. Seuss

Caring for the Forgotten Children

In May, **DBL** opened a new school and kindergarten in Ma Da, Vietnam, for children who live in a very poor community and are not recognised by the government due to the location and circumstances of their birth. These children have very little access to education and little interest has ever been shown for them by the government.

The school funded and built by *DBL* will not only provide formal education for the children, but give them a chance in life that they previously never had. The school, however, is only part of the outcome. The Vietnam team, under the guidance of UTi Airfreight Manager **Thao Huyn**, has embraced this school and community and made it an occasion to remember for these children. With their efforts, the opening ceremony not only placed the school within the community but also included:

- A group of 60 local doctors, offering free health checks and medicine for the community
- Food, clothing and stationary for the pupils donated by a local group and the UTi team
- Milk and soft toys for the kindergarten donated by a Korean company who partnered with UTi

This outcome is wonderful and proves that the catalyst provided by *DBL* drove broad engagement within the community and delivered a wonderful outcome. Well done to all the UTi teams involved.









New Library for Sunter Jaya School in Jakarta

Sunter Jaya school located in Jakarta, close to the UTi India office. This school, like many in the developing world, operates two school sessions a day from one location with one in the morning and one in the afternoon. As the number of students attending Sunter Jaya has grown, the facilities have been stretched to the limit with rooms that were previously used for specific purposes such as a library, converted to classrooms.

Matt Hannah, UTi APAC Director of CL&D IT and Global GICS Platform and **Rondy Ch**, UTi Indonesia General Manager, National Sales & Marketing brought to *DBL* a proposal to build a new library and study center at the school. The obvious benefits for building a library are development of literacy. Most significantly, however, the library provides space for children to study as many of the children

"People
don't
realize how
a man's
whole life
can be
changed by
one book."

Malcolm X



served by the center come from poor families where there is no space, or privacy in their homes to study, often leading to poor results and failures.

The library is now completed and has been handed over to the school community in a small ceremony held at the site. As a real step to help the community the UTi Indonesia team donated books to stock the library. This team effort from a wonderful group of people is a great project that is leading to improved education and better communities.

Poverty - A Global Issue



DBL has over the past year, partnered with a Spanish Non-Governmental Organization based in Madrid, named Amis. This opportunity was introduced to **DBL** by former team member **Marisa Tena**, who for many years supported the work of **DBL** in UTi's EMENA region.

As many may know, Spain has had a very difficult economic journey since their Global Financial Crisis. One of the byproducts of the economic trouble has been extremely high levels of unemployment that was reported in April at 27.16%. Unemployment levels are even higher for young people under the age of 23, with figures reported at as high as 56%. This situation creates a real need for support for these young unemployed people, especially as rates of mental illness and stress rapidly increase.

DBL partnered with Amis to upgrade a center for young people that provides training, counselling and support services. In particular, the center helps young people find direction in their

lives when support is most needed. The results of this work have been excellent with many hundreds of young people from the age of 15 to 24 seeking and being provided with life changing services.

This area was very different for *DBL* to work in, but one in which the need was obvious and immense. Poverty and need are not always where you may think, and in some cases the greatest need can be where we least expect it.



"The

greatest

charity is

to enable

the poor to

earn a

living."

Vikrant

Parsai

Vocational Training Providing Skills for Life

Over a year ago, *Delivering Better Lives* was approached by the UTi team in Sri Lanka to consider a few local projects. One of these was a vocational training center near Hambantota that operated from poor quality facilities and was inadequately equipped.

The center does outstanding work preparing young people for the types of employment that is in demand such as sheet metal workers, electricians, and mechanics. Without this training employment would be very difficult to find with a range of implications for families.

When we examined the project and visited the facilities, it was clear that the staff was doing wonderful work under very difficult circumstances and that improvements to the facilities and provision of more equipment. These improvements will enable them to serve more young people, who could then find work and lead more fulfilled lives.

DBL committed to a plan to extend the facility, replace existing outside spaces with proper training rooms, and outfitting certain courses. This work is now complete, and the facility is being handed to the school leaders so that they can continue with their wonderful work.

A young person establishing themselves with work not only removes the burden from both their families and the community, but gives them something to live for.

Vocational Training is critical to the future of many millions of young people in the Developing World. Many of these young

people will never have the opportunity to go to College or University. There are no apprenticeship programs leaving one avenue as a preparation for work – Vocational Training. **DBL** sees this as a focus going forward and will, where possible, assist in the development and execution of these programs.











DBL GLOBAL WALKATHON RUN WALK GATHER SUPPORT

UTi's DBL Global Walkathon officially ended on 31 May 2014, and we will report the outcomes in more detail in later editions of this newsletter. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and commitment on this event and for taking the time to share a moment with their colleagues while thinking of and helping others.

Activities across all regions of UTi were many and varied from a Golf Tournament in Spain to Zumba in Manila. UTi people across the globe swung, shook and walked as a team - and that is one of the great outcomes from this event that we take this journey as a team.

On the following page is an article on the activities the UTi Portland team partook in. Additional photos and stories of Walkathon events across the globe will be featured in future newsletters.

Thanks to everyone who supported the event in any way. Your support is **Delivering Better Lives!**



UTi Portland Game their Way to Impressive *DBL* Fundraising Efforts

Photo by Karl Girardi and article by Laurie Hansen



"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much

Helen Keller

Sitting in a room in Portland, Oregon USA, a small volunteer committee pondered, "Can Portland Shared Service Center (PDX-SSC) double the money raised in the past year for the UTi Charitable Foundation – *Delivering Better Lives*?" UTi Senior Vice President of Global Operating Process and CIO, **Ron Berger**, having volunteered on one of *DBL*'s past projects, encouraged the team to come up with a plan.

EIT Business Support Manager, **Steve LaBossiere**, taunted that if PDX-SSC raised USD 5000, he'd shave his head. For those who know, LaBossiere, he LOVES his hair, so it was GAME ON!!! Spearheaded by EIT Business Analyst, **Jennifer Pesut**, the volunteer committee went to work with the result being over USD 7,700 raised by the PDX-SSC team.

The UTi Portland Share Service Center grew from 12 employees on one building floor in 2010, to over 400 UTi Associates and consultants spread across four floors. With new people constantly coming into the organization, the committee wanted to educate team members about UTi's Charitable Foundation, inspire them to participate, and have fun!

And 'Fun' it was with four days of events planned featuring: bingo, a bean bag toss, 10-pin bowling, golf and what would prove to be the biggest motivator, "Executive Management Fear Factor." Who knew that so many people would pay money to see a particular Director or VP eat a chocolate-covered scorpion? And who knew our Directors and VP's could conspire so brilliantly to ensure they were not the one to eat the scorpion.

Each day: Bingo was held at lunchtime with "Celebrity" callers broadcasting to multiple conference rooms; Bean Bag toss and 10-pin Bowling were open for competition; and a 4-hole golf course was set up on a different floor with floor occupants adding special "features" to the golf course

What was gained was a sense of community. People started to get to know each other from different floors and different functions. It was noted that it is pretty hard NOT to get to know someone when you're playing golf through the middle of their cubicle. People participated, volunteered and covered for each other so that everyone could be a part of the events. Volunteers from every department worked at the events whether it be selling game tickets or keeping score at a game. We couldn't have done it without everyone's participation and generosity.



Topping off the week's events was a beautiful Portland day for the Walkathon. Portland, also known as 'Bridge City' has a walk on both sides of the river. After presenting awards and the dreaded scorpion, the group took on a three-mile loop ending back at the office for celebration refreshments in UTi DBL pint glasses.

The ceremonial shaving of Steve LaBossiere's head is scheduled for 18 June. Lucky it's the start of summer in Portland as we're "Delivering a Better Bare Head" for a very worthy cause!

New Delivering Better Lives Website Debut

Delivering Better Lives has been working for several months on the development of a new website aimed at better providing information on the work that we do. Visit the updated website at

www.deliveringbetterlives.org to learn more about *DBL* and explore our work including:

- New and completed projects
- Featured monthly projects
- Current and completed project maps, highlighting the scope of our work.
- Detailed outlines and photos for each project as well as the ability to donate to a specific project
- Information about our Vision, Origins, Focus, and Founding Philosophy
- Trustee details and biographies
- Information of upcoming events or fundraising opportunities
- Communications including a catalogue of **DBL** newsletters
- Latest news
- Regional contact details





Kalu Ndukwe

"The things

you do for yourself are

gone when

you are

gone, but

the things

you do for

others

remain as

your legacy."



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." option.





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.



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