

Delivering Better Lives



Letter from the Executive Trustee



May 2017

Help us cast our future

For more than ten years DBL been totally committed to Delivering Better Lives. This work is never easy but is always rewarding. A smile here, a thank you there small gestures that make the work rewarding and which drive us to continue to Deliver Better Lives to those in need where we have previously done business.

Our work has and continues to be focused on Delivering Better Lives through the creation or improvement of infrastructure that gives communities the opportunity to lead themselves to a better place. While at one time our infrastructural work was all about buildings, building fitouts and equipment in recent times we have begun to work with organizations to develop infrastructure programs, these programs are usually in the fields of Health and Education but as with our facility work are always aimed at Delivering Better Lives in some way.

Like all organizations we have to continually review our work considering the issues that are present in society, funding imperatives and above all how we can continue to be more cost effective - above all, how to deliver more better lives more cost effectively.

As a part of the ongoing review of our work and role we would like to ask you, our supporters, what you think we should be considering.

Some of the questions you might like to comment on are :

1. Should we narrow our field of work to one specific area e.g. education or health.
2. Should we narrow our field of work to less countries - focus on one specific group of countries.
3. How might we engage more volunteers to assist in both the work and the administration of DBL.
4. How might we best raise further funds.
5. Do you know any Companies who would be interested in working with DBL as there Social Responsibility arm?

We would really appreciate any and all comments as they help us to stay focused and get the best return for those in need.

Please send any comments to glennmills@deliveringbetterlives.net

Glenn Mills
Executive Trustee
Delivering Better Lives.

Project Updates

Galim Science Project

Galim is a special education facility whose aim is to reach children with compound learning disabilities, emotional, social, behavioural and functional problems. The school believes all children regardless of disability have potential and works to recognise this potential.

DBL worked with the school to establish a Science Facility that would assist children to develop logical thinking, provide basic concepts and act as an avenue to investigative learning. The specific hands on nature of science is recognised as a successful learning avenue for special needs children.



The team supporting the project in Israel recently volunteered to create a path to the Science building and establish a garden. They held a festive ceremony that was attended by children, employees, city hall representatives.

Slovo Day Care Centre

The Slovo Day Care Centre project in Johannesburg, South Africa is making great progress.



DBL is in the progress of supporting demolition and construction of a new building a toilet block. These works are now well underway.

Chrysalide

The Chrysalide projects sees DBL work with the Mauritian government to construct a shelter for women at risk within society.



These images show the project is well underway and give hope that a shelter to protect women in need will soon be available.

Al Baqa Community Rehabilitation Centre

There is nothing like the smile of a child to make all the work worth the effort.

The Al Baqa Centre in the Baqa Refugee camp in Jordan is providing opportunities to children with Autism, Cerebral Palsy and Auditory deficits, with the support of DBL.



Recently we were apply to provide the gorgeous little boy in this photo with splints to aid his mobility.

Hau Giang Kindergarten

Work has commenced on the new four room school building gin the Hau Giang community, Vietnam.



The project is still in its early stages but when complete will aim to provide education for around 250 children.

Bwalia Hospital Outpatients Department

The Outpatients Department at Bwalia hospital is making progress that will soon allow, the staff and patients to move from the temporary container based facility to the permanent upgraded facilities.



The department is desperately needed by the community to ensure they receive timely, quality medical treatment.

Lorenzo's Home Educational Support

DBL continues to support the children of Lorenzo's Home who are all orphans or abandoned and living with HIV.



The current program supports the older children to extend their education. Two recent graduates have just commenced Vocational education and another will continue studies while caring for the elderly.

New Project

Corporation Mirame

Mirame is an organization established in Santiago, Chile to provide therapeutic services to children with Autism. The founder had a son with Autism and could not find suitable services to enable his child to live and grow — Mirame.

In 2015, DBL undertook a project with Mirame to establish a base facility from which the organization can grow.

The work being done by Mirame is incredible and focuses on the use of animals in the provision of therapy and teaching behaviours through interaction with dogs.

DBL will now continue our support of Mirame, in a way which will enable them to expand their services further and create better facilities using both dogs and horses.



2017 Arizona Ironman— Tom Reister

It's the 2017 Arizona Ironman, on Sunday, November 19th, 2017 in Tempe Arizona (suburb of Phoenix) and DSV team member Tom Reister has taken the challenge to compete in the event. In his own words below, Tom outlines his inspiration and hopes for the event.

This is a real stretch goal. The farthest I have swam previously was 1 mile (the Ironman is 2.4), farthest biked was 52 miles back in 1997 for a charity event (Ironman is 112), and farthest run is 9 miles (Ironman is a full marathon). And I've never done them on this level in one event (closest was some mini-sprint triathlons). And, although I'm in decent shape, I'm a whopping 230 pounds. Inspired by Rich Roll's amazing story in his bestselling book "Finding Ultra", my 45th birthday last October, and wanting to inspire family, friends and others to challenge themselves, all brought this dream together. Raising money for DBL is a natural part of this challenge. There is nothing more inspiring than DBL's mission "To Deliver Better Lives to needy or disadvantaged communities in which we live and do business". My hope is that in the process of this great personal challenge it inspires others to challenge themselves and support DBL to improve the world we live in.



More information about the event can be found at the website <http://www.ironman.com/triathlon/events/americas/ironman/arizona.aspx#/axzz4bKBV8yZm>

To support Tom and his efforts to raise funds for DBL, head to the Events page on DBL's website- deliveringbetterlives.org

Lessons well learnt

When reflecting on the work of *DBL* and the many thousands of people we have met and who have assisted us on our journey, many people stick in my memory and over the coming newsletters I am going to share some these memories with you. The first two of these people who stick in my memory, gave us lessons in life that we will never forget and which apply to all walks of life.



Some 7 years ago we decided to construct a new school at Mashitsi Village in Burundi. This Village had no school, no water supply and no sanitation and was in a very poor rural area that had been totally deforested.

After visiting the site and working with the local people we spoke to a young boy named Polo and told him that we were going to build a school. Polo looked at us through big empty eyes and said " *everyone promises us things and no one ever comes back*". We were set back and could not respond for some time at the impact of this comment. What a lesson in life - never promise what you cannot deliver. Since the day of our encounter with Polo we have never forgotten the lesson and never promise that which we cannot deliver.

The second lesson was equally powerful.

Two years ago while travelling in the high Andes in South America, we stopped to chat with a family group who had been benefited from three programs we had funded in this area.

The Matriarch of the family an elderly woman in her eighties sat down with us and with tears in her eyes told us that the work we had done was important. But she said " *you do not realise the most important thing you have done*".

That really made us stop and think . With great curiosity we asked her what it was that could be more important. She said very quietly and very clearly " *the most important thing you have done is to give young people hope by showing them that you care*"

I will leave these lessons for you to ponder.

Glenn Mills



The people responsible for the management and governance of DBL.

All organizations no matter how big or small need and rely on the leadership and governance of a Board and **DBL** is no different in this regard. I wanted to share with all of our supporters the current Board of Trustee members of **DBL**. All of these Trustees give of their time to help us make the world a better place.

The Trustees are :

Simon Stubbings - Simon is a lawyer and is based in Oxford UK. For many years Simon served on the UTi Board of Directors including a lengthy term as Chairman. Simon is a founding Trustee and has provided 11 years of invaluable service to those we help.

Alan Draper - Alan was a long time senior manager at UTi including a lengthy period on the Board of Directors. Alan retired some 12 years ago and lives in Sydney after living in South Africa and the UK. Alan is a founding Trustee and as with Simon has provided 11 years of invaluable service to those we help.

Ed Feitzinger - Ed was the CEO of UTi when it was acquired by DSV and has had a lengthy career in Logistics in a number of different companies. ED currently holds a senior position at Amazon and lives in San Francisco.

Carlos Escario - Carlos is based in Madrid. Carlos and his brothers operated a major logistics company in Spain that UTi acquired many years ago. Carlos subsequently served in many senior positions within UTi until he chose another career path some years ago.

Thurso Barendse - Thurso had a long career with UTi and has worked in South Africa, Australia and the USA. Thurso currently lives in Los Angeles and is the CFO for Vanguard.

and of course myself Glenn Mills.

Glenn Mills
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Contacts

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