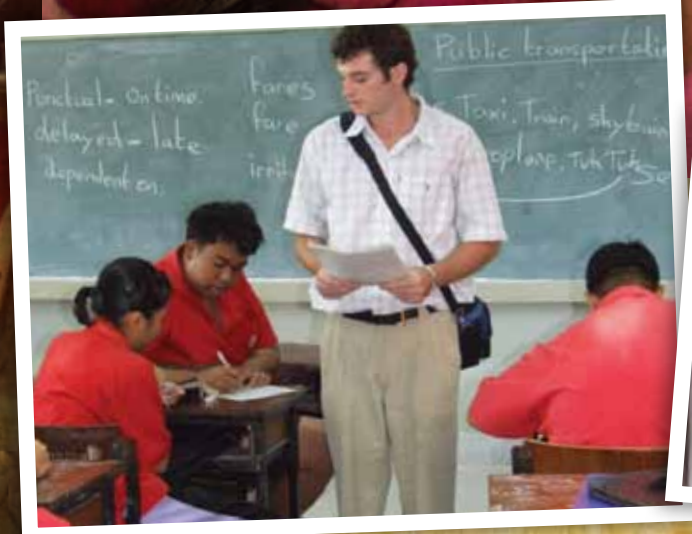


COMMUNITY OUTREACH

When we asked our BBFI missionaries what types of community outreaches were being used, we were impressed with the variety of expressions of love and compassion. We received responses from Europe, Asia, Latin America, Australia, and multiple responses from Africa.



By James G. Smith
BBFI Associate Mission Director

READING CLUBS FEEDING CENTERS FLOOD AND FIRE RELIEF FAITHFULNESS
PRE-SCHOOLS COMPUTER REFURBISHING FAITHFULNESS
DENTAL CLINICS VOLUNTEER WORK WITH THE POOR AND HOMELESS FAITHFULNESS
ORPHANAGES DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAMS PARENTING

Asincere Christ-follower will give of himself for the needs of others. Our Lord told his disciples on the night before His crucifixion that the mark of our identity would be our love. Love will always show itself by giving. So it is not unusual that many of our global partners use community outreach as a method in their ministries.

It seems to us that there are two great, biblical, Christian purposes that motivate community outreach.

The first is simply showing the love of

God. The love of Christ constrains us. We display the love of Christ by the way we treat those who are less fortunate. This is not always measureable. The impact is not necessarily quantitative. We know that our Lord uses these acts of love and kindness.

James 2:15-17 "If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?"

Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

Charles Swindoll wrote in *The Practical Life of Faith*, "Because of our American pioneer heritage, we have a 'pull-ourselves-up-by-the-bootstraps', God-helps-those-who-help-themselves philosophy about life — which breeds contempt rather than compassion for the down-and-out ones in our society. As Christians, however, we are not called to be jurors trying the case of the less fortunate; we are called to be Good Samaritans."



YOUTH CAMPS AND CENTERS **JOB SKILLS TRAINING**
AMINE ASSISTANCE **WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION**
MELESS **MINISTRY TO HIV VICTIMS** **PRISON MINISTRIES**
SEMINARS **ENGLISH CLASSES** **LITERACY EDUCATION**

The second great purpose is, of course, evangelism. Community outreach can be a very effective tool in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. We earn the right to tell others about the spiritual state of the soul when we have helped with the temporal state of the body and mind.

So we want to discuss the various methods used by BBFI missionaries in different cultures to serve the needs of the people to whom they have been sent to proclaim the Good News. We are grateful

for the cooperation of the missionaries featured on the following pages and for their willingness to help us inform and inspire. We asked them to tell about their specific community outreach program, tell how it is funded, and share some of the spiritual results. Some of them have included specific prayer requests. Pray for them as you read this.

One of the identifying marks of Baptist Bible Fellowship International missionaries is our emphasis and focus on church planting. We are committed

to the task of establishing indigenous, biblically sound, and gospel-preaching local congregations in all the world. We would do well to elevate our line of sight in order to see the harvest that is ready. We would do well to encourage our younger ministers to invest their lives in the great missionary enterprise of the BBFI. We should not slow down until every people group on Earth has been impacted with the Good News! Let's reach out into every community!

GLOBAL PARTNERS



Dave & Bonnie Jones | Tanzania

We have an orphanage called Huruma Children's Home. Huruma is Swahili for "Compassion." It currently is home to 16 orphaned children, but we are preparing for an addition that will allow us to accept more children. Down through the years we have conducted a number of community or compassion-type ministry outreaches. We have held dental clinics in the villages. We have drilled wells, bringing safe drinking water to village areas. We have distributed wheelchairs donated from the United States. We have also distributed grain during times of famine when people were on the verge of starvation.

Several good organizations have been instrumental in helping us fund these outreaches. Living Water has assisted with well drilling. Children's Medical Ministries has donated wheelchairs and paid to ship them to Tanzania. An organization called C3 International has been helpful in supporting our orphanage ministry. Besides these ministries, our local churches and individual donors have given in tremendous ways to make our community outreach ministries possible. Our own work funds have been used as well, and our local Tanzanian churches have contributed manpower and also funding from time to time.

Most of these ministries have been conducted in partnership with our established local churches. Whether it is fitting a child with a wheelchair, pulling a rotten tooth, or distributing grain to the hungry, we always proclaim the gospel through preaching, witnessing, testifying, and handing out literature. We have seen boys and girls as well as adults come to Christ through these ministries, but not in large numbers. The primary goal of compassion-type ministries is to display the love of Christ. It is hard to measure the impact this has on people in the long term. To be sure, though, God uses these acts of love and kindness as only He can.

Please pray that we would be sensitive to the needs all around us and have the wisdom to know how to best help. Pray that God would continue to touch the hearts of His people to respond to the needs of others less fortunate.



Tanzania

Philippines

Greg & LuAnn Lyons | Philippines

Through a partnership with local government organizations, our community livelihood programs help the public with job skills in a variety of areas: welding, cell phone repair, hotel housekeeping skills, to name a few. We provide a location for the training and then conduct moral value training for all who attend. We offer small groups for families with marital problems and other family-related problems. Counseling is always available when needed. Through this outreach ministry, over 150 have been trained in the past six months. Over 80 have been saved and have begun attending our church.

Through our Toughguys International ministry, we offer the public schools and communities a very effective drug and violence prevention program. Including multimedia, personal interaction, role-play, refusal skills, and other elements, we help communities lessen the drug usage and impact on the families. Currently we have over 1,200 who are participants in the Toughguys ministry.

Over the years, we have provided food, clothing, building materials, and counseling for flood and fire victims in the Metro Manila area. During the catastrophic flood in 2009, our ministry was able to provide assistance for over 8,000 families throughout Metro Manila. We partnered with local government, provided a boat to help rescue families in need, and transformed our facilities into relief centers for the public.

The above programs are funded mainly through our local congregation and some funds from the U.S.A. Funds from international donors are critical in times of great need, such as flooding, earthquakes, and the like. Several of our partnering churches in the United States have embraced the vision of "felt-need" ministries as a platform for evangelism. Without our international partners, we could not sustain the expansive effort.

These outreach ministries have had a great effect on our evangelistic and discipleship ministries. We have families in our various churches that are direct results of these efforts. In the case of the livelihood program, we have added over 80 adults to the church in the past six months. We are currently in the process of nationwide certification to partner all of our church-planting efforts in the country with the livelihood program.

Please pray that more people would be strategically involved in the various community development parts of the ministry. Pray that churches would be intentional about how to partner with your missionaries, realizing that through these efforts there are skill sets in your church that could be effectively used on the mission field today!



Zambia

Phil and Melody Stephens | Zambia

Victory Baptist Church, the second church planted in our ministry, is in the remote Habanyuka Valley. Some time ago this church was host to a guest of our ministry from the United States. As Steve, the guest, saw the work of Christ abounding in the lives of many, he identified several great needs for the community.

The biggest need is a health clinic. The closest clinic to these remote people is 22 miles of walking or pushing a patient on a bicycle out of the valley over mountainous terrain.

Steve, through Victory Baptist Church of Habanyuka Valley, has funded the building materials for a medical clinic. The church has organized the surrounding 11 villages and headmen to provide the labor to build. Amazingly, the Zambian Ministry of Health has responded by agreeing to build a house for the clinic doctor, fund the doctor and his wife, and equip the clinic.

This clinic is being built less than 100 meters from our church building. It will be a constant opportunity for Pastor Breyford Mwaanga and the men he is discipling to serve Jesus Christ, to minister and witness to the patients and their families from the entire area. Over 600 families will be served by this clinic. We are certain that our evangelism, discipleship, and church planting will be greatly enhanced by this medical clinic.

Please pray that the Lord would continue to provide the leadership and the finances for these ministries.



GLOBAL PARTNERS

Mark & Debbie Williams | Mexico

We began 13 years ago working in an area of squatters and extremely low-income families. Many people were moving into Mexico City looking for work. When no work was found, they didn't have money to return home. They would stay and work selling gum or candy on the subway system or in the central markets taking what was thrown away, cleaning it up a bit, and taking it to sell or eat.

We felt the need of a feeding center in the church facility that would serve the community and change lives. From the beginning it was understood that the feeding center would be used to teach the Bible to those receiving the food. Those who were fed would learn that God is love and that He loves them individually. Many lives have been transformed.

The children are fed in small groups because we want to give them individual attention. Before the meal is served a teacher teaches a Bible lesson and a memory verse. The children are very competitive and want to say their verse. The teacher then prays with them and they are served their hot meal.

This community outreach is funded by MANNA Worldwide. They send us a monthly amount for each feeding center.

The feeding center has had a direct effect on the ministry of the church. The growth of the church is attributed mainly to this ministry. Many of the leaders in the church today are those who as children started by coming to the feeding center.



They accepted the Lord as Savior and have given their lives to serve Him.

The Castaneda family worked with us in the church and in the feeding center. They are now missionaries in Guatemala.

Our assistant pastor, Javier, started coming to the feeding center when he was eight years old. Viridiana, his wife, came also at a young age. David, her brother, came to the church first through the outreach of the feeding center. He started when he was six years old and is now a blessing as he plays the guitar and leads the singing in the Sunday services.

Claudia is a wonderful example of the effectiveness of the outreach. She arrived carrying her baby sister and her three small brothers trailing behind her. Over time, they each accepted the Lord. Their parents came and also got saved. She studied to be a nurse, went on to the Bible institute, and is now serving the Lord in Bolivia.

Please pray for the expansion of this area of our ministry. There is a great need for us to start an orphanage. Pray for our son and daughter-in-law, Jonathan and Kimberly Williams, as they raise their support to come and help us in our expanding ministries.



Mexico

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Brent & Sheila Moeller | South Africa

We have assisted people in our church and community through MANNA Worldwide. We have not been able to have a feeding center *per se* but we do purchase food for a number of people.

We have seen people come to church as a result of this outreach. Obviously one has to be aware of those coming for the wrong reasons and so screening and continually reassessing situations is a very important aspect of this type of outreach. We have been able to provide food for a number of university students while they were studying. This has been a very good way of encouraging and helping them. We have seen a loyalty develop in the lives of these students. Some are now assisting in our ministries.

We have a youth center at one of our ministries where the kids from the community can come and play and get involved in sports.

The benefits of this are easy to quantify in the fact that our Sunday school has grown substantially as a result of this. There are other benefits that may not be as easy to quantify but there is a definite value as it has elevated our standing in the community because we provide a service to the children that had previously been lacking. We have a good name in the community because of this service to them.

We are involved in a children's home for orphans where grannies from our churches go to serve. This home is provided to them through the ministry of our colleagues Bob and JoAnna Graham.

We have 16 new kids in our Sunday school and have grannies ministering out of our church to them. This will continue to grow in size and we believe our influence will be strong in the lives of the kids. The Grahams have made a great impact on the government departments and child welfare agencies.

On the property where the children's home is we are developing a retreat center for our churches and national pastors. This is also a place for youth camps and we envision sports camps that will reach into the communities we are serving.

We are just now beginning to see the fruit of this labor. As we are able to hold more and more different types of camps we will reach our communities for Christ. We recently held a men's retreat where we had nine professions of faith and many young men who vowed to break off unacceptable relationships when they went home. This is also a place where we hope our national pastors will come and find respite from their busy ministries.

Please pray that the Lord will give us wisdom and direction as we coordinate these ministries with our primary focus of church planting in metro Durban.



South Africa

Philippines

Del & Lora Hooge | Philippines

Basic Literacy Education & Support System (BLESS) is an evangelistic ministry that uses literacy as a tool. It penetrates communities through its network of churches, Christian schools using the School of Tomorrow system, and mission organizations. These entities open BLESS Reading Centers and teach children how to read in 18-20 weeks.

BLESS has four main goals:

- Lead souls to Christ (children, parents, siblings, and relatives)
- Teach children how to read
- Teach children rudimentary math
- Instill godly values by teaching of God's creation and plan of salvation through Christ.

Volunteers are required to attend a five-day extensive training that prepares them to successfully implement the program and eventually progress to other ministry avenues that BLESS opens (such as home Bible studies, feeding programs, medical missions — all of which have soul-winning activities integrated).

Our target groups are children between the ages of five and nine and indigent and out-of-school youth. Four-hour daily sessions are conducted; the program is expected to be completed in 18-20 weeks.

Facilitators are called Master Reading Instructors (MRI). An MRI is required to complete the training requirements and get a passing mark of 100 percent in the post test.

BLESS funds come from corporate and individual donors, church offerings, love gifts from sponsors, and fundraising activities. The main goal of the ministry is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ one child, one parent, one sibling, one relative at a time.

Since its inception in 2002, BLESS has led over 5,000 people to Jesus Christ. Statistics show that an average of two or three adults get saved for every child enrolled in a BLESS Center.

- Please pray for the safety of our volunteers in the Muslim areas in Mindanao.
- Pray for the financial resources so we can continue helping our centers all over the Philippines in their initial start-up.
- Pray for open doors into both tribal and urban areas.
- Pray for our own building expansion.
- There are 46,000 barangays (neighborhoods) in the Philippines. We would like a presence in all of them.



Uganda

Russ & Sylvia Daniels | Uganda

The pastor of the first church we started in Mbarara began a counseling ministry to AIDS victims in 2006. Through this counseling ministry, Pastor Naboth came across a number of children who had lost one or both parents to AIDS and were living in desperate circumstances. In 2007, he started caring for some of these orphans, and eventually started an orphanage for them. Then he started a school to educate these orphans and other children in the community. Over the years, both the orphanage and school have grown. There are now 22 orphans between the ages of eight and 16 in the orphanage, and the elementary school has over 200 students. We have built a dormitory for the orphanage and classrooms for the school.

Pastor Naboth himself first funded this outreach when he brought a couple of the orphans home to live with him and his family. Then he began to appeal for sponsors for the orphans. We wrote letters to our supporting churches and mentioned the needs when we were on furlough. Subsequently, a couple of churches and some individuals began sponsoring some of the orphans on a monthly or annual basis. Recently, one of the men in our sending church has begun to help raise money for the orphans through various community events. Funds are sent through a sub-account at the BBFI called "Mbarara AIDS Orphans." Sponsorships for the orphans and funds for constructing the facilities have been raised from supporters in the U.S.A.

This outreach has had a great impact on the church ministries in Mbarara. Many people have been saved and brought into the church through the orphanage and school. Each of the orphans has been saved. Through the school, a number of students and teachers have been saved. Families have been brought into the church through the school. The orphans sing in the choir of the church in Mbarara, and some of them help minister in that church. Each of the orphans has been discipled and some are becoming involved in other outreach ministries including evangelism to Muslims. Six or eight of the orphans are currently helping to minister in three new churches started out of the church in Mbarara last year.

Please pray specifically for Pastor Naboth, for the orphans, and for continued sponsorships for the orphans. It costs \$900 per year to sponsor each orphan, which pays for his or her food, clothes, upkeep, medical expenses, and education.





By Jon Konnerup
BBFI Mission Director

The deepest need

The evangelization of the world is supremely important because it deals with the deepest need of the human race. In Matthew 9:35, 36 it says:

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.

Jesus saw their sicknesses and diseases, and He healed them. But when He saw them as sheep without a shepherd, He was moved with compassion. He was concerned about their physical needs and responded. However, He felt compassion for their spiritual needs. This ultimately led Him to the cross of Calvary.

We all know the basic needs for our world are food, shelter, medicine, and education. As Christians we should not close our eyes to those in need of these. Our missionaries around the

world are church planters who also use their ministries to reach out into the communities responding to physical needs.

As you have read in this edition of *Global Partners*, missionaries are reaching out to feed those who are hungry. **MANNA** Worldwide partners with some of our missionaries to accomplish this task. Reports show that many children and family members have been saved through these efforts. Shelter is being provided in various regions. Clinics have been set up by some of our missionaries to assist those with sickness and diseases. Schools have been started to help educate the less fortunate. Orphanages have been started to meet the needs of the fatherless.

We have seen and heard of those who have been fed that have trusted in Jesus Christ as their Savior and now are leaders in churches. Many of those whose wounds were treated have responded to the gospel. Many educated in our schools and brought up in orphanages have become leaders of local governments and educational institutions as well as in their churches.

However, there is a need that is deeper still. One can meet all the basic needs and still there is a profound emptiness within the heart. This reality makes evangelism and church planting the most important task of missions. It is important to keep these community outreaches under the ministry of the church as a means of credibility for the church in the neighborhood.

You see, it is not enough for us to give bread to eat; we also have to give them the Bread of Life. It is not enough for us to teach them how to write their own names; we must also teach them to trust in the Savior's name. It is not enough for us to introduce them to a better way of life; we must introduce them to the One who can impart everlasting life.

One missionary put all this into perspective by saying, "We hope to be successful in our projects to improve the health and welfare of the people, but we must remember being healthy in hell doesn't count for much. We are failures until these people know Jesus as their Savior. We must present the claims of Christ and plead with them to be saved."