

2016

ANNUAL *report*

OPERATION **BLESSING**
INTERNATIONAL



“ WHOEVER IS
GENEROUS TO
THE POOR
LEND TO THE LORD,
AND HE WILL
REPAY HIM FOR
HIS DEED. ”

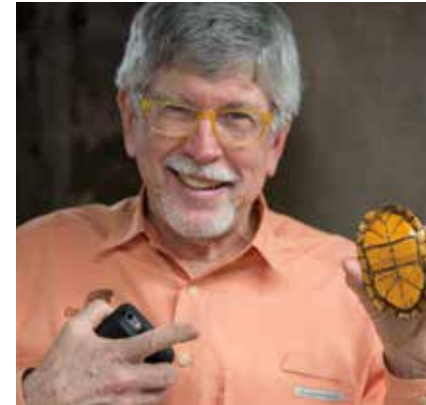
Proverbs 19:17



Dear FRIENDS & PARTNERS,

**I am very proud to present
this 2016 annual report.**

The past year has seen Operation Blessing respond with compassion to a huge number of needs all over the world. God has enabled us to serve the impoverished in 39 countries, including the U.S., and to maximize the impact of every precious donor gift.



In the Middle East, Operation Blessing has continued to bring relief to camps housing Christians fleeing violence and persecution. In Honduras, we have launched a dynamic new pilot program to reduce the impact of mosquito-borne diseases like Zika. In all, your support allowed us to touch the lives of over 12.5 million people in FY 2016.

As I look back on the past year, I am humbled by the generosity and selflessness of every single one of our faithful donors. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart.

With your continued support, Operation Blessing will remain a powerful force for good, blessing the lives of the poor for years to come.

May God bless you,

Bill Horan, *President*
Operation Blessing International

Aid THE PERSECUTED

“ Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. ”

PSALM 5:11

Helping Christians escape oppression.

Many Christians in Pakistan are treated as second-class citizens, subjected to discrimination, poverty and violence.

The Youhanabad community is one of the largest Christian colonies in Lahore. Christians here are very poor. They experience many problems because of religious discrimination, including high unemployment and a lack of a proper education.

Operation Blessing is implementing a program that's helping transform the lives of marginalized young Christian women here – girls who haven't completed school, factory workers, domestic servants, stay-at-home moms – by helping them develop new skills, including sewing/embroidery training, cosmetology and literacy.

Thanks to the compassion of our partners, we are working to aid persecuted Christians in Iraq, Nigeria, Myanmar (Burma), Senegal, Pakistan and Zanzibar.



REFUGEE *relief*

“ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me. ”

MATTHEW 25:35-36



Families fleeing violence are in desperate need of help.

The peaceful lives of Bashar, his wife and their three young children – Christian Iraqis – were thrown into turmoil when ISIS forces took over their town last year. They knew they would have to denounce their faith and convert to Islam or be killed. So they fled to Turkey where they are safe from ISIS, but often lacking in food and supplies.

Operation Blessing is helping refugees like Bashar's family in Turkey, Iraq, Jordan and Greece by providing food, hygiene supplies, medicine and more. Operation Blessing teams also started food programs and donated school supplies for refugee children who are attending makeshift schools.

Thanks to Operation Blessing partners stepping in to fill the gaps, Christian refugees have the supplies they need to take care of their families while they transition into their new lives, away from the threat of ISIS.



No matter what the disaster, Operation Blessing partners are there to help.

In April 2015, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake rocked Nepal, followed within weeks by another of 7.3 magnitude. The devastation and loss of life – nearly 9,000 killed and 22,000 injured – was staggering.

Operation Blessing quickly began delivering supplies, including safe drinking water, chlorine, food, flashlights, blankets and shelter supplies.

Later, Operation Blessing opened a microenterprise training center to teach cooking, cosmetology and sewing to displaced earthquake victims in desperate need of income; started salons and restaurants for graduates; and endeavored to rebuild a village affected by the earthquakes – work that continues to this day.

Around the world and at home in the United States, Operation Blessing delivered much-needed food and water, emergency supplies and immediate assistance to thousands of victims of natural disasters, conflict and crises.



Nepal Earthquake Response
(estimated relief quantities)

beneficiaries
327,836

pounds of food
201,100

chlorine beneficiaries
1 million



Operation Blessing also responded to:



Flooding
South Carolina
(October 2015)
Robert, Louisiana
(March 2016)



Hurricanes
Hurricane Patricia
in Mexico
(October 2015)



Tornadoes
Garland and Rowlett,
Texas
(December 2015)

DISASTER & EMERGENCY relief



volunteers
in the U.S.
8,347



beneficiaries
domestic
126,306



beneficiaries
international
631,837



When Zika emerged as a profound threat to unborn babies, Operation Blessing quickly joined the fight.



The outbreak of the Zika Virus – spread by mosquitos and identified as the source of thousands of devastating birth defects – caused fear and uncertainty for pregnant women across Latin America and the Caribbean.

As soon as this threat emerged, Operation Blessing moved quickly to help, focusing on rural communities with fewer resources to fight the spread of the virus. We provided mosquito nets, fumigation and educational programs. We also provided portable prenatal ultrasound machines to help monitor the health of unborn babies.

Operation Blessing has pursued innovative new biological mosquito control methods as well, helping breed and distribute local mosquito-eating fish, young turtles and copepods (tiny crustaceans), to eat mosquito larvae in water cisterns kept in homes. Operation Blessing is on the front lines to help fight and, better yet, prevent Zika at this critical time.



ZIKA VIRUS *response*

Anti-TRAFFICKING



10 COUNTRIES
with anti-trafficking
programs



Munasim Kullaquita bakery

Countering horrific abuse with love, compassion and new beginnings.

When Pilar* was 11 years old, her mother started abusing her, and began arranging “dates” for Pilar with men who paid her mother.

Eventually, Pilar ran away, winding up at Munasim Kullaquita, a restoration home in Bolivia, where she reclaimed her life. The other girls there have their own stories of human trafficking – all unique, all horrifying.

The home does amazing and lifesaving work. Operation Blessing provided a complete bakery, including industrial ovens, dough mixers and blenders so the girls can learn a skill and earn income from the sale of baked goods.

Through many programs in 10 countries, Operation Blessing is involved in every phase of breaking the cycle of human trafficking, from prevention to rescue and recovery. Giving these children the loving environment and resources they need is critical for their recovery.

As Pilar said, “Thanks to Operation Blessing for giving us the training and tools to work with dignity. Now we can go back home, ready for a new future!”

**Name changed to protect identity*



Actual victim not shown

Safe WATER

For 11-year-old Bayron, living in a remote mountain village in Honduras used to mean drinking dirty, contaminated water that made him and other children sick. Operation Blessing built a system that collects water from a source higher up the mountain, which is chlorinated, then piped directly into the houses in the village. ▼



wells built
757



gallons of chlorine distributed
88,635



15 COUNTRIES
with ongoing
water programs



beneficiaries helped
320,745 est.



Innovative safe water solutions change lives.

In many places, drinking a sip of water can be extremely hazardous – even deadly. Sadly, many people in developing countries have no other choice but to get their water from contaminated streams or ponds – contamination that causes countless children to die needlessly from diarrhea and typhoid.

All over the world, Operation Blessing designs and implements innovative water projects that dramatically improve health and quality of life for entire communities.

Solutions include chlorination projects, water filters, catchment systems and deep water wells. Our safe water toolkit includes the MSR SE200, OASIS, H2gO and Kohler Clarity. These projects and specialized tools instantly change lives – like turning a faucet!

United States Hunger Relief



**beneficiaries
helped**
3,444,665



**pounds of food
distributed**
65,000,000



**partnering
community
organizations**
87



**meals
provided**
54,000,000*



**food pantries,
soup kitchens,
homeless shelters,
churches and more**
5,124

HUNGER relief



Feeding the hungry is a Biblical mandate, and an Operation Blessing priority.

A Maasai tribe living in the Kenyan desert suffered from a severe drought. When crops failed and people started to go hungry, Operation Blessing began an irrigation project to bring water into the area. We provided seeds and taught villagers how to cultivate drought-resistant crops. Now the garden and farm help support many Maasai families.

In an impoverished region of Haiti, a new school, built by Operation Blessing and its partners, is providing nutritious meals and safe water for its students – in addition to an education.

In America, with its fleet of tractor-trailer trucks, Operation Blessing is able to help feed millions of hungry people every year. People like Dana and her three young children who found an Operation Blessing-supported food pantry, where they received fresh produce and essential food staples.

These are just a few of the many ways and places that Operation Blessing provides food for the hungry.

*Based on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) guidelines, a meal is equal to 1.2 pounds of food and grocery product.

**Education changes lives.
So transforming a school is
an act of love that will help
families for generations.**

One school was in Honduras. Another one was in the highlands of Peru. Both were decrepit. Poorly lit. Rotting walls and desks. Leaking ceilings. Both put futures at risk with learning environments that could only be described one way. Bleak.

Operation Blessing transformed these schools and others around the world into safe, bright and nurturing places where children can learn and grow. We rebuilt the structures and provided furnishings, supplies, a playground, even a vegetable garden to help provide nourishing food.

The before and after differences – in both the learning spaces and the demeanor of the students – are amazing. And they will reverberate for generations to come.

Education, feeding programs, health care and support for vulnerable families are just some of the many ways we will continue to serve and bless children in need.



22 COUNTRIES
with vulnerable
children programs

Bless-A-CHILD
Orphans and Vulnerable Children Care



“ Let the children
come to me; do not
hinder them, for to
such belongs the
kingdom of God.
MARK 10:14 ”



HEALTH & MEDICAL *care*

In developing countries, basic women's health efforts often yield dramatic results.

In Peru, seven women die every day due to cervical cancer – a treatable disease if caught early. Recognizing an opportunity to save lives, Operation Blessing has developed and held workshops to create awareness and provide free screenings, along with treatment for those who need it.

Of course, women's health is just one example of the kinds of care Operation Blessing facilitates. Thanks to your support, we transform lives every day by helping people get the medical care they need, including life-changing surgeries, medicines, mobile dental care, eye exams and other medical initiatives.



Another women's health concern in Peru is lack of education and support for pregnant teens. Operation Blessing provides workshops to help young mothers-to-be prepare physically, psychologically and socially – programs that are sure to drastically improve the health and well-being of both mother and newborn. ▶



anti-parasite pills distributed
5,068,572



life-changing surgeries
3,260



medical clinics
1,096



beneficiaries helped
5,944,451



wheelchairs distributed
4,658



gift-in-kind medicines and supplies distributed
\$202,255,320





MICROENTERPRISE



**beneficiaries
helped**
12,026

Providing opportunities for hardworking moms and dads to provide for their families.

Not long ago, Norberto, a single dad in Peru, was unemployed, working odd jobs but having a hard time making ends meet. Norberto helped out with the Operation Blessing poultry farming project at his daughter's school. Noticing his initiative and good nature, Operation Blessing gave Norberto 75 chickens to raise and sell. Since then, Norberto has thrived, expanding his own chicken business while also landing a supervisor position at an area poultry farm.

Meanwhile, in the city of Mantanzas, Cuba, Yeremi and Ariel are pastors. They work hard preaching, mentoring and teaching – but their churches can't pay them much of a salary. To help them support their families, Operation Blessing provided them with a block making machine. Now they work two days a week making blocks to sell for construction – and for the rest of the week, they can continue sharing the gospel and tending to their flocks.

Operation Blessing's microenterprise initiatives range in size and scope. But they all make all the difference in the world for the people who are now able to provide for themselves and their families.



PROCUREMENT & CORPORATE relations



Operation Blessing works with socially responsible corporate partners including pharmaceutical corporations, grocery chains, distributors, manufacturers and production facilities.

The medicine, food, supplies, equipment and more received are used in our medical, disaster and hunger relief efforts – both domestically and internationally – to satisfy the needs of the hungry, the sick and the oppressed.

Through media feedback, we provide opportunities for companies to show how their donated product is making a difference.

Gift-in-kind medicine and medical supply programs help individuals in remote international areas receive healthcare primarily through medical brigades, rural clinics and in-country hospitals.

MEDICAL BRIGADES

Because many patients lack reliable transportation or are too ill to travel to available clinics or hospitals, Operation Blessing operates medical brigades that are staffed with physicians, nurses and other ancillary medical professionals.

RURAL CLINICS

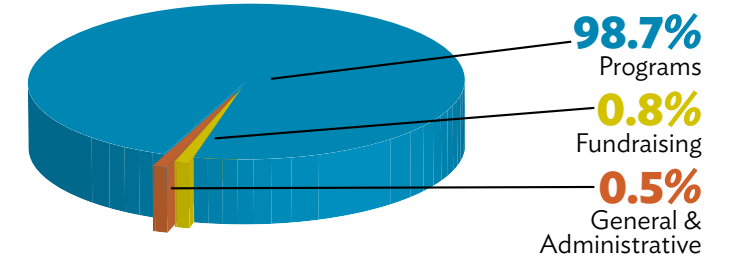
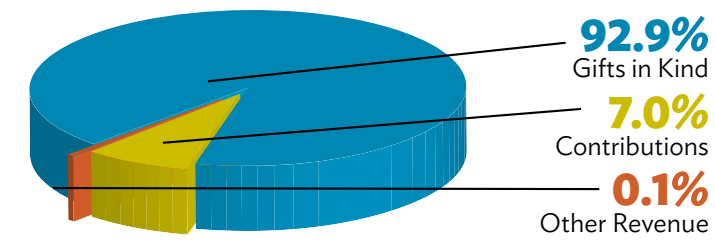
Many rural clinics are underfunded and lack the basic medicines to care for the people. Operation Blessing provides these rural outposts with medicines and supplies, enabling them to administer treatment at no cost to the patients.

IN-COUNTRY HOSPITALS

Operation Blessing is proud to work with hospitals by giving donated medicine to offset the cost of providing quality medical care to the communities they serve. With this newfound financial freedom, hospitals are able to provide more services to those who are unable to pay, and to reinvest their finances so that they can hire more doctors and improve their diagnostic tools.

FINANCIAL stewardship

Our Finances: Condensed Financial Information for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016



REVENUES:

• Contributions	\$ 21,501,231
• Gifts in Kind	\$ 286,270,434
• Other Revenue	\$ 315,715
• Total Revenues.....	\$ 308,087,380

EXPENSES:

• Programs	\$ (304,882,900)
• Fundraising	\$ (2,423,255)
• General and Administrative.....	\$ (1,463,052)
• Total Expenses	\$ (308,769,207)
• Gains and Losses.....	\$ 10,071
• Decrease in Net Assets	\$ (671,756)

For Operation Blessing International's complete financial statements audited by KPMG LLP, please visit www.ob.org/financials or request a hard copy by emailing operation.blessing@ob.org or writing us at 977 Centerville Turnpike, Virginia Beach, VA 23463.

• Consumer's Digest named OBI one of "America's Top Charities"

• Forbes ranked OBI as one of America's Most Efficient Charities with 100% rating in fundraising efficiency

OBI is a member in good standing of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA)



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