

March, 2018



Lavi Project is a non-profit 501c3 charity organization that mobilizes local volunteers to help ease the suffering of disease, sickness, and poverty while bringing hope, life, and vision to the people of Haiti.

We all want to help others, to make a difference, have an impact, to be part of something bigger than ourselves. Celebrities, musicians, sports heroes willingly share their time and resources because they desire to make a difference. Whether it is because we were raised that way, or we learned its value, or because someone made a difference in our lives, we want to impact our environment: for our family, locally in our communities, as well as nationally and globally.

It doesn't take much. Even a momentary generosity can become like a snowball rolling downhill. In 2006 someone had a moment of generosity. Because they were unable to participate in an organized trip to Haiti, to help at an orphanage, they offered the trip, free of charge, to Bob Bancroft. That act of generosity became the proverbial snowball. This is probably one of the only snowballs that has survived Haiti's high temperatures. It was thought to be a one-time trip. But Bob's heart was captured by the people of Haiti, by their needs, their struggles, and mostly by their joy in the midst of how they were living; young and old alike.

The snowball had begun to roll. One trip became fifteen over the next ten years. Some trips were work teams and some were medical and all were through Monadnock Bible Conference in Jaffrey, NH. Along the way he became a team leader; at times leading random groups and at other times bringing his own youth group and immediate family members. He took an unplanned trip down with a group of men to rescue, and rebuild after the earthquake in 2010. The snowball continued its roll.

Bob is a visionary; he knew there were people in his local work environment that had medical skills that would be of great value in Haiti and as he shared his heart, they felt the desire to have the same kind of impact. Due to the varieties of faith there was concern that these people would not be a comfortable match for the organization he was affiliated with and thus began his vision to lead a team on his own down to Haiti to hold medical clinics for villages that were off the beaten path.

Ten years later, in January of 2016, Bob's vision became a reality; a one-time trip to bring medical help to Haiti and to offer an experience to those in his sphere of influence in the medical community. Day two of this trip found the team talking about 'next time' and what they could do to improve the trip and to be of greater help. Now there were 17 more snowballs rolling as each person had their hearts touched by the people of Haiti and they too found a desire to make a difference in this country that a team member referred to as, "Haiti, a beautiful disaster".

The stories and accomplishments of these 18 people, along with a network of others who have a heart to help, ended up leading to the creation of a non-profit organization, Lavi Project, Inc. ('Lavi' in Haitian Creole means 'life').

Below is a list of things that have been accomplished, as well as a list of visions for the future.

Accomplishments 2016-2018

- Local volunteers mobilized to help ease the suffering of disease, hunger, and poverty in Haiti
- 10 medical clinics held in small villages in Haiti helping over 2100 men, women, and children
- A comprehensive study of vitamin deficiency and malnutrition in children under 5 by a University of Lowell senior in the Nutrition Department
- Shipment of barrels filled with medical supplies, food, clothes, shoes, and various other items
- Meeting with the head of the Nutrition Department at the University of Lowell in hopes of utilizing students to help assess and treat nutritional issues and deficiencies in Haiti, collaborating with Middlesex Community College, Lowell MA to bring RN students to the country.
- Creation of a non-profit organization to continue bringing medical help and assistance to Haiti
- The fourth and fifth teams being organized to go to Haiti in January and October of 2019 to hold more medical clinics
- A networking and fact finding trip by the CEO to broaden the reach and influence of Lavi Project
- Reaching significant donors and corporate sponsorship for the future endeavors of Lavi Project.

Visions for the Future

- Continue to send teams to help ease the suffering of disease, hunger, and poverty in Haiti
- Continue to ship barrels to Haiti with medical supplies, food, clothes, shoes, etc.
- Utilize the students of local universities from both the Nutrition Department and the Agriculture Department to help assess and treat nutritional issues and deficiencies in Haiti

So the question is, "Do you want to be a part of the vision?"

We need your help.

Here's how:

- 1) Monthly support to continue the work and vision of Lavi Project*
- 2) A one-time donation to meet the specific and urgent needs of Haiti and the current projects Lavi Project, Inc. is working on*
- 3) Sponsoring a 'snowball' (a team member who is traveling to Haiti)*

* Check made out to Lavi Project, Inc. or secure credit card payment made at <http://laviproject.org/>

In light of the devastating aftermath of the 2010 earthquake which is still affecting Haiti and the current destruction caused by Hurricane Matthew (Oct. 2016) we need your help. Would you please consider becoming a partner with us? We would consider it both an honor and a blessing.

With hope and vision for the future of Haiti,

Bob Bancroft, Founder and President of Lavi Project, Inc.

Lavi Project • P.O. Box 2434 • Littleton, MA 01460 • (978) 855-6494