



*Toward human productivity and dignity. Hacia la productividad y dignidad humana.
Vers la productivité et la dignité humaine.*



Batey Relief Alliance

www.bateyrelief.org

2012-2013
ANNUAL REPORT



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MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1997, the Batey Relief Alliance (BRA) works collaboratively to create a productive and self-sufficient environment, through humanitarian health and development programs, for children and their families severely affected by extreme poverty, disease and hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean.

VISION

We strive to be a leader organization, with the capacity, transparency, and wisdom to confront the challenges facing humanity.

VALUES

We bring people together, alleviate sufferings, and save lives, regardless of race, gender, creed, religion, national origin, social status, or political affiliation.

OBJECTIVES

Our fundamental objectives are to: 1) improve the conditions of those affected by marginality and neglect, 2) educate, train and organize about relevant issues affecting them in order to cause sustainable, positive and responsible changes in their lives, where the community, the government, and others involved internationally are bone fide partners, and 3) act boldly to preserve our existence.

REPORT CONTENT

- Highlight of the Year
- Message from the Founder/CEO
- Program Service Accomplishments
- Officers/Members of Boards of Directors
- Financial Statements



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STATEMENT BY THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

“BRA executed a USD 2 million agricultural community development project with USDA Food for Progress in the Dominican Republic. BRA is one of the best partners our office has had in the Dominican Republic and one of the best NGOs I have seen in my 25+ years of working in developing countries for the US government...” Margie Bauer, US Department of Agriculture Attaché for the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica—May 13, 2013



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2013 HIGHLIGHTS

BRA CELEBRATES 16TH ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 23, 2013

**BRA LAUNCHES CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE (CGI) COMMITMENT—IMPROVING
MALNUTRITION AND MATERNAL HEALTH IN LIMA, PERU**

BRA PARTICIPATES IN CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE-LATIN AMERICA

**BRA EXPANDS CLINIC CONSTRUCTION TO DELIVER IMPROVED SERVICES TO 60,000
PATIENTS ANNUALLY IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**BRA LAUNCHES SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF FOOD DISTRIBUTION WITH USAID
FEEDING 20,700 NUTRITIONALLY AT-RISK VULNERABLE AND IMPOVERISHED PEOPLE
IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**



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FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

“We know there are many challenges that await us, but we will overcome them with the same skills, discipline and creative wisdom that have enabled us to succeed in the past years”.

Dear friends,

Our 2013 Commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)—Improving Malnutrition and Maternal Health in Lima—seeks to scale up a program to improve early childhood and maternal nutrition from Haiti and the Dominican Republic to 19 vulnerable and poverty-stricken urban communities in Peru.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), micronutrients are essential for good health—when lacking proper amounts, especially during pregnancy, serious health complications result. 1/3 of deaths in children ages five and under is caused by malnutrition. This is a serious issue we are committed to addressing in Peru, where 34.8% of Peruvians live below the poverty line and maternal mortality is 98 deaths per every 100,000 births, the majority of which are due to micronutrient deficiency.

Starting January 2014, in partnerships with the Peruvian Ministry of Health, Caritas-Lima and Vitamin Angels, we will organize, train and dispatch 150 Community Health Promoters (CHP) to distribute multivitamins, Vitamin A and antiworm medicines on a quarterly basis for two years to schools, medical clinics, and community centers that serve children and women. Additionally, our Health Promoters will educate entire communities about health crises and prevention techniques, including hygiene, prenatal care, water-borne diseases, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS.

Over the course of two years, the Batey Relief Alliance will reach and improve the health and lives of 2,000 children and 450 pregnant and nursing women.

We know there are many challenges that await us, but we will overcome them with the same skills, discipline and creative wisdom that have enabled us to succeed in the past years.

I thank you for journeying with us, because with your support and assistance, we will achieve much more, together.

Respectfully,

Ulrick Gaillard, J.D.
Founder and Chief Executive Officer



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PROGRAM SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

As we do each year, we share with you our Annual Report that summarizes our overall program activities and financial accomplishments during the year, to fulfill our commitment to our stakeholders. Our annual report is available for your review on our website at <http://www.bateyrelief.org/about/financial-accountability>.

We hope you will be pleased with our work results and continue to contribute to our cause. Should you have any questions or need further information about this report, please do not hesitate to contact us at bra@bateyrelief.org. To learn more about the Batey Relief Alliance, *like* on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Batey.Relief.Alliance>; *follow* us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/bateyrelief>; and visit us at www.bateyrelief.org.

INTRODUCTION TO BRA'S HUMANITARIAN WORK: Dominican Republic, Haiti and Peru

Overview of a proven model—The organization

The **Batey Relief Alliance, Inc. (BRA)** was founded and incorporated in 1997 in the state of New York, United States of America, under the Internal Revenue Service Code 501(c) (3), designating BRA a tax-exempt, non-profit, non-governmental humanitarian aid organization (NGO).

BRA's work addresses the difficult socio-economic and health conditions of children and their families severely affected by extreme poverty, disease and hunger in the Caribbean and Latin America – regardless of their race, gender, creed, religion, national origin, social status, or political affiliations. Toward that end, the Batey Relief Alliance created in 2000 its main regional subsidiary in the Dominican Republic (DR), **BRA Dominicana, Inc.**, a legally incorporated NGO designed to support the BRA in carrying out its humanitarian mission in some of the most vulnerable and impoverished rural, urban and border communities of Peru, Haiti¹ and the Dominican Republic²,

BRA has a Board of Directors in the USA that meets at least three times a year to run the legal and policy affairs of the organization. BRA Dominicana (comprises of an executive headquarters in Santo Domingo and a field office in the province of Monte Plata) has its own local Board of Directors and an Executive Director that work together with a staff of 61 to manage the programmatic, legal, financial and administrative affairs of the local organization. BRA Dominicana manages the entire regional program agenda for the Batey Relief Alliance in the DR, Haiti and Peru; this work includes raising local funds, operating and staffing offices and two medical centers, implementing projects, and carrying out mobile mission trips inside various communities in the three countries. The BRA Board of Directors in the US, however, is the ultimate body deciding on policy affairs of the entire institution³.

BRA's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for overseeing, mobilizing public resources for, and marketing the work of the institution. He oversees the entire US and regional operation and management, thus ensuring the sustainability and growth of the institution. BRA secures donations in the United States that are cash and/or in-kind. Most cash gifts are from individual donors, international aid organizations, foundations, and the US government. In-kind donations mainly are from international aid groups. When non-restricted cash is received, it is used to sustain the *operation* of the BRA in New York, and sustain BRA Dominicana's regional program expenses for Haiti, Peru and the DR. All restricted funds are transferred entirely to BRA Dominicana to implement its Board

¹In 2010, BRA signed an agreement with Haiti Ministry of Health to support health and nutritional activities in the Central Plateau and Southeast border

²In 2000, BRA signed an agreement with the Dominican Ministry of Health to deliver comprehensive health services to the country's most vulnerable living in impoverished areas, including the bateyes—sugar cane plantations rural enclaves where Haitian migrant sugar cane cutters and their Dominican descendants labor and live.

³The institution includes the Batey Relief Alliance, BRA Dominicana, BRA Haiti, BRA Peru, and US-based chapters.



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of Directors-approved projects overseas. BRA Dominicana deposits all funds received in bank accounts, registers them in accounting books, implements the projects, and sends out reports to our stakeholders.

BRA Dominicana is BRA's principal consignee regionally to receive containers of in-kind donations needed to carry out programs on behalf of the poor. All BRA patients receive low-cost or free medical consultations, along with free donated medicines, eyeglasses, nutrition supplements and multivitamins. A portion of BRA donations, however, is sometimes distributed to key BRA local NGO and government partner organizations, including the Ministries of Health, helping to raise their capacity to deliver improved health services at various impoverished communities around two countries – thus expanding BRA's humanitarian efforts around the countries. BRA has a strict policy, however, of not selling or exchanging donated products that are designated for specific projects. BRA Dominicana's Board of Directors and Executive Director maintain a strict day-to-day control over the local organization's operation and management of donated funds and in-kind gifts, accounting, and projects' implementation.

BRA humanitarian intervention—regional

BRA regional intervention targets one country in South America—Peru and two countries in the Caribbean—the Dominican Republic (DR) and Haiti, which share the island of Hispaniola with distinct historical, socio-economic, cultural and political realities. While Haiti is considered the poorer nation, the DR, however, still struggles economically, despite its fast growing tourist industry, with approximately one third of the population living below the poverty line.⁴ Like in many countries in development, the majority of the wealth lies in the hands of a small elite class, leaving the great majority of the population and the government facing serious economic challenges. It is estimated that between 200,000 to 1 million people, or approximately 7-10% percent of the DR population, live in deep rural plantations communities called *bateyes* that were originally developed as Haitian migrant worker enclaves around the sugarcane industry. Today, these communities remain, although much of the sugarcane production has been drastically diminished in or removed from the country. The *bateyes* (State-owned) are some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the DR, with a long history of neglect and isolation from state resources. Many residents, who are mostly Haitians and/or Dominicans of Haitian origin, lack documentation and access to employment, clean water, sanitation, health care, blindness prevention, education, and other social services.

A 2013 controversial decision adopted by the Dominican Constitutional Court ruled that people who were born in the Dominican Republic, as far back as 1929, to parents who were in transit or who were neither citizens nor legal residents are not automatically entitled to citizenship under a new constitution adopted in 2010. Many fear that the new ruling targets and will affect mostly Dominicans of Haitian origin. It is also feared that the level of vulnerability and poverty will forcibly increase among those individuals.

Since 2000, BRA Dominicana worked actively with the Dominican State delivering annually critical health and HIV/AIDS care and essential medicines and other social services to more than 150,000 people within those *bateyes* and other impoverished communities. BRA's pioneer approach to health care, *bringing services home to the population inside their own communities*, is a system that has never before been implemented in DR's deep rural areas. Moreover, BRA community-based health promoters make BRA's healthcare more accessible, utilizing residents as educators and health care providers. The promoters provide education, counseling and referrals to BRA's health services; as well as making home visits and providing follow-up care to patients. Other BRA programs in the DR include food security and agricultural development, nutrition, micronutrients and deworming, maternal-child health, education, blindness prevention, disaster relief, water/sanitations.

Since 2010, BRA Haiti worked directly in the border communes of the country's Southeast department and Plateau Central's province of Beladere, with a majorly Haitian staff composition. The characteristics of isolation and

⁴ USAID 2000, www.usaid.gov



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precarious infrastructures and services available inside Dominican bateyes are replicated alongside Haiti's border communities, making BRA implementation strategies work equally as well in both countries. BRA programs in Haiti are food security, health, micronutrient and deworming, disaster relief and women empowerment. BRA has full support from the Haitian Ministry of Health to assist the only existing clinic in Anse-a-Pitres, which BRA Haiti provided with critically medical equipment. BRA Haiti has trained and equipped a network of community health promoters, who expanded BRA's work (particularly health promotion and disease prevention) into the greater region of Anse-a-Pitres. BRA Haiti also has executed capacity-building training among women groups to guide them towards a legal and social status where they, as a regional network, can exercise influence on the decision-making process concerning issues affecting girls and women, including gender-based violence. Moreover, BRA Haiti staff has introduced innovative small-scale agricultural techniques that allow them to produce (with potential for sale) value-added agricultural products that improve their food security and stabilize the household income. Additionally, through BRA/USAID intervention, 850 women have gained access to small loans through implementing microcredit partner, FONKOZE, to further develop diverse income-generating activities. The Clinton Global Initiative fully endorsed this goal. BRA distributed USAID-donated Breedlove food to 41,400 nutritionally at-risk and vulnerable, including people living with HIV/AIDS, pregnant/nursing women, children, elderly and internally displaced-people.

In 2013, BRA presented a Commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)—Improving Malnutrition and Maternal Health in Lima—which seeks to scale up a program to improve early childhood and maternal nutrition from Haiti and the Dominican Republic to 19 vulnerable and poverty-stricken urban communities in Peru. Click [here](#) to watch video for more details. According to the World Health Organization, micronutrients are essential for good health—when lacking proper amounts, especially during pregnancy, serious health complications result. 1/3 of deaths in children ages five and under is caused by malnutrition. This is a serious issue BRA is committed to addressing in Peru, where 34.8% of Peruvians live below the poverty line and maternal mortality is 98 deaths per every 100,000 births, the majority of which are due to micronutrient deficiency. BRA will organize, train and dispatch 150 Community Health Promoters to distribute multivitamins, Vitamin A and antiworm medicines on a quarterly basis for two years to schools, medical clinics, and community centers that serve children and women. Additionally, our Health Promoters will educate entire communities about health crises and prevention techniques, including hygiene, prenatal care, water-borne diseases, sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS. Over the course of two years, BRA will reach and improve the health and lives of 2,000 children and 450 pregnant and nursing women.

CGI-Latin America: In November 2013, BRA was invited by the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) to participate in the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) Latin America and to attend in the CGI Latin America December 8-10, 2013 Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. According to CGI, Latin America has continued to achieve great economic success—emphasizing the need for cross-sector partnerships at the local, regional, and international levels to ensure sustainable, responsible growth. At CGI Latin America, President Bill Clinton will join and engage key leaders from the private sector, government, civil society, and nongovernmental organizations to network and drive the notion of shared responsibility in building lasting solutions, both regionally and globally. By strengthening these partnerships, examining successful initiatives, and investigating new strategies for fostering a culture of innovation, contemporary challenges can be met by a prosperous global community.

WHERE BRA WORKS:

REPUBLIC OF PERU

El Agustino, Lima, Peru, in partnerships with Peru Ministry of Health, Vitamin Angels, and the Vicaria de la Caridad- Caritas Lima.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Monte Cristi, Puerto Plata, Valverde, Independencia, Hato Mayor, San Pedro de Macorís, Dajabón, Jimaní, Monte Plata, La Romana, Pedernales, Elías Piña, Barahona, and the greater Santo Domingo area.



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REPUBLIC OF HAITI

Southeastern Department (Capital: Jacmel) District of Belle Anse, Communes of Anse-a-Pitres, Grand Gosier and Thiotte. Belladere, Central Plateau, Haiti.

SUMMARY RESULTS OF PROGRAM INTERVENTION: 2012-2013

HAITI AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- * 150,987 individuals received directly or indirectly donations of commodities, health care, education, counseling, training, water and sanitations.
- * 148,116 are the total of services provided through health and social services and humanitarian aid.
- * 52,741 individuals received healthcare services through the BRA Medical Center.
- * 65,000 children (6-59 months of age) received micronutrients.
- * 18,934 children (12-59 months of age) received anti-parasite medication (Albendazole).
- * 8,798 pregnant/lactating women throughout the DR received prenatal vitamins.
- * 124,139 condoms distributed.
- * 60 benefited from the installment of a micro water system.
- * 342 community health promoters have been trained and mobilized by BRA.
- * 61,265 children, elderly people, pregnant women, and HIV/AIDS patients received food supplies.
- * 261 institutions received donations (medications, materials, equipment, and food assistance) from BRA.
- * 12,739 individuals benefited directly from educational activities in preventive health and vocational training.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

- * 35,000 Agricultural Development Project indirect beneficiaries and 530 direct beneficiaries.
- * 146,839 health and social services and humanitarian aid were provided.
- * 52,741 individuals received healthcare services through the BRA Medical Center.
- * 166 HIV-positive patients received antiretroviral treatment and medical follow-ups at BRA Medical Center (153 adults and 13 children)
- * 24,350 children, elderly people, pregnant women, and HIV/AIDS patients received food supplies.
- * 74,109 individuals benefitted from donations of medications and materials.
- * 60 families benefited from the installment of a micro water system in Batey Cinco Casas.
- * 1,600 OVCs (orphans and vulnerable children) received educational support (and necessary learning materials).
- * 65,000 children (6-59 months of age) received micronutrients.
- * 18,934 children (12-59 months of age) received anti-parasite medication (Albendazole).
- * 8,798 pregnant/lactating women throughout the DR received prenatal vitamins.
- * 6,410 communities benefitted from BRA interventions.
- * 207 community health promotion talks were conducted throughout the Monte Plata province.
- * 38 workshops were conducted to educate beneficiaries on a range of health promotion and skills-training topics.
- * 95 medical operatives were conducted throughout the Monte Plata province.
- * 124,139 condoms distributed.
- * 1,754 home visits were conducted.
- * 2,460 glasses were distributed.
- * 9,801 laboratory tests and services were provided.
- * 2,215 Papanicolaou tests (pap smears) were conducted.
- * 675 pregnant women received gynecological services through the BRA Medical Center.
- * 10,491 voluntary HIV tests were conducted.
- * 20,700 received free nutrition



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HAITI

- * 2,040 women benefitting from capacity-building trainings (leadership, gender-based violence) in Anse-a-Pitres, Thiotte and Grand Gosier.
- * All 68 women groups undergoing capacity assessment for group formalization (Anse-a-Pitres, Thiotte, and Grand Gosier).
- * 1,140 women received sales and marketing training.
- * 359 women with home-based agricultural gardens (Anse-a-Pitres, Thiotte, Grand Gosier).
- * 29 cooperative and testing nurseries built (Anse-a-Pitres, Thiotte, and Grand Gosier).
- * 200 women were trained as community health promoters.
- * 242 women received vocational skills training (in the areas of gastronomy, sewing and artisan crafts).
- * 710 women received microcredit loans and financial training.
- * 814,000 HTG were distributed in microcredit loans.
- * 3,012 women were trained in gender-based violent prevention.
- * 73 training sessions were organized to educate 2,253 women in health promotion
- * 36,915 individuals (15,631 direct beneficiaries) who suffer from severe malnutrition and disease (AIDS and TB patients, pregnant and lactating women, orphaned/vulnerable children and the elderly) and to their impoverished family members (21,284 indirect beneficiaries) who are also at high risk for malnutrition received food supplies.
- * 20,700 received free nutrition

PERU

- * 150 Community Health Promoter are trained
- * 19 urban communities of Lima are organized around and educated about health crisis prevention techniques
- * 2000 children (5 years and under) and 450 pregnant and nursing women received multivitamins, Vitamin A and antiworm medicines – and preventive health crises education and techniques
- * 2450 people received preventive health education around issues of proper handling of water, hygiene, HIV/AIDS prevention, pre-natal care, water-borne diseases, etc.

HEALTHCARE SERVICES

CHOLERA PREVENTIVE AND TREATMENT INTERVENTION

Through the collaboration of the DR-based NGO, Population Services International (PSI), 68 women groups organized by BRA in Haiti received thousands of PuR water purification tablets to use in their water supplied and fight the increased cholera outbreak that has killed more than 8,000 and left hundreds of thousands infected. BRA also worked with the health clinic in Anse-a-Pitres and introduced new equipment, staff and services. BRA distributed free medications prescribed to patients in order to incentive women to go to the health center for consultation when they are ill. Meanwhile, in the Dominican Republic, BRA has a permanent cholera unit at its Medical Center in Monte Plata, as a preventive mechanism should serious cases of Cholera present in the region.

BRA Medical Center, DR

The facility was opened for full service in 2006, located inside Batey Cinco Casas of the Municipal District of Don Juan, province of Monte Plata. The facility includes a main medical building with six consultation rooms, a fully equipped laboratory, a reception and registration center, administrative offices, and an emergency ward. The center is open year-round, five days a week, delivering critical services to more than 52,741 patients each year in general medicine (25,317 patients), pediatrics (2637 patients), gynecology (5,756 patients), ophthalmology (451 patients), optometry (4,905 patients), dentistry (559 patients), emergency medicine (742 patients), family medicine (2,850 patients), dermatology (1,112 patients), urology (449 patients), internal medicine (3,665 patients), psychological support/ counseling, and laboratory testing services (4,298 patients). Medical consults are provided for a nominal fee, which can be waived for individuals who are unable to pay. All medications, eyeglasses, and supplementary nutrition are supplied free of charge. BRA also maintains a comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention and Treatment Unit within the Center, which provides free



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confidential testing, counseling, and antiretroviral treatment services for impoverished batey residents. Since May 2009, BRA partnered with DR local *Seguro Nacional de Salud (SENASA)*, the State-owned insurance company, and accepts SENASA insurance plans for healthcare services at the Medical Center in Batey Cinco Casas, Monte Plata. The acceptance of this widespread insurance plan also contributes to increase the amount of patients who return to the Center for follow-up consultations, and additional services such as lab tests and diagnostic images.

Expansion of Physical Space and Service Portfolio of the BRA Medical Center

With the generous support of the International Lions Clubs Foundation and the Arroyo Hondo Lions Club (LCIF), and in collaboration with the local Lions Clubs Santo Domingo Arroyo Hondo, in response to the overwhelming health needs in the region, BRA proposed to expand of its current medical facilities in January 2014. The expansion of the BRA Medical Center will permit BRA to provide better healthcare services (including supplying necessary medications free of charge) to an increased of 60,000+ patients per year. With the construction of new consultation areas, BRA will have an improved capacity to see and treat patients; and will better be able to provide potential life-saving services to those who would otherwise be unable to afford them. The services that BRA will allow for improved health conditions and overall quality of life of its beneficiaries. The expansion of the Medical Center is critically needed to allow BRA to serve a greater volume of patients (who otherwise go without access to basic health services) and to guarantee better coverage of the vulnerable populations, who ask for and deserve access to quality health services, which BRA currently is not at capacity to serve in its entirety.

The expansion will allow BRA to continue its work, preventing and reducing illnesses, morbidity, and mortality, especially for the 700 persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the region, who depend on their physical fitness and health to fully-reintegrate into their communities' economic life. This clinic expansion project will primarily benefit vulnerable and impoverished residents living in the bateyes in the province of Monte Plata. Additionally, other beneficiaries will include residents from surrounding 70+ rural communities. Of this population, 58% is female and 42% male. A particular attention will be given to vulnerable groups, including children, PLWHA, tuberculosis patients, pregnant women and the elderly. With the expansion of the medical center, the number of those receiving services will increase from the current 37 thousand beneficiaries, to a projected 60 thousand beneficiaries—with the vast majority being those who live in extreme poverty. Families will benefit from improved health conditions and overall quality of life, as a result of increased access to: health services (such as: family medicine, gynecology, pediatrics, internal medicine, urology, ophthalmology, dentistry, etc.); laboratories; medications; diagnostics services (with x-rays services); communal health promotion; treatment, care, and prevention services for those with HIV-AIDS; utero-cervix cancer prevention initiatives, among others. Moreover, the expansion will include la construction of an outpatient operating room dedicated to Blindness Prevention (with surgical capacities for, but not limited to, cataracts removal, pterygium excision, etc.)

For the 2013 fiscal year, between the months of July and October, BRA will complete final construction phases of the expansion, which include: (1) Sanitation System: expansion of current sanitation system; installation of all necessary piping for potable water supply and wastewater disposal; (2) Electrical Installations: expansion of the existing electrical system; wiring circuits; lighting; charge redistribution; installation of air conditioning units; (3) Retrofitting of Consultation Rooms, Construction of Surgical Areas: tile floors; walls built with block, slab; doors; windows; window guards / ironwork; other accessories; and lastly, (4) the Completion of Common Areas and Bathrooms: ventilation system; tile floors; doors; windows; window guards / ironwork; (toilets, sinks, etc.), for patients and staff. BRA plans to finish the construction on the second phase of the Medical Center (Medical Area II), in December 2013.

OTHER KEY ACTIVITIES IN THE CENTER:

- Immunization with the DR Ministry of Health (SESPAS): patients received vaccinations (diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, rubella, influenza, tetanus, and hepatitis B)
- 250 vaccinations were provided for AH1N1, to prevent spread of disease, following the outbreak in the Dominican Republic in May-June 2013).
- 2,460 glasses were distributed, as a part of BRA eye care services.



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- 13,949 patients accessed the center for their family planning needs (the center offers contraceptive pills, injectable contraceptives and condoms)
- 2,215 women received pap smears for the prevention of cervical and uterine cancer

OTHER ASPECTS OF BRA'S HEALTH CARE INTERVENTION

HIV/AIDS Prevention, DR

BRA Dominicana educates the population about HIV/AIDS prevention through community talks, Community Health Promoters efforts, and dissemination of educational materials. Under this initiative, BRA trained/mobilized 72 community health promoters (CHPs) and technical personnel, who worked alongside with 140 CHPs trained under former BRA projects. BRA held 30 educational sessions to educate communities about the prevention of and care for HIV/AIDS (1,200 people attended). These CHPs worked with BRA's team of doctors, nurses, and psychologists, to provide HIV testing to 11,266 people (of which 38 resulted HIV positive). These HIV testing initiatives were conducted with the support of UNHCR, The Dominican Institute of Dermatology and Skin Surgery, World Fund-HIV, and the Dominican Republic's Ministry of Public Health. HIV/AIDS prevention/care initiatives directly benefitted 12,538 people (11,266 through HIV testing/counseling, 72 through training efforts, and 1,200 through prevention education efforts).

HIV/AIDS Prevention

BRA is working in conjunction with the PSI to deliver education and prevention methods to border communities and the bateyes. To date, the program has reached 6,574 people through educational demonstrations, and distributed over 22,000 condoms.

HIV Testing in the Bateyes of Monte Plata, DR

During the 2012 fiscal year, in partnership with the Dominican Ministry of Public Health and Network of HIV-Prevention, BRA promoted and conducted 5,000 voluntary HIV tests throughout the bateyes in the Monte Plata province. Of these 5,000 individuals tested, 26 tested positive, and are now receiving support, care, and treatment through BRA's medical center and programs. These 26 PLWHA who recently tested positive for HIV, are among 547 HIV/AIDS patients receiving care through BRA. Of the 547 PLWHA (315 female patients and 232 male patients), 166 are receiving Antiretroviral (ARV) treatment at the BRA medical center. BRA provided emotional support and counseling for patients and family members. Additionally, for women living with HIV/AIDS who are or might become pregnant, BRA offers education and support to prevent mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV.

Distribution of Condoms, DR

With the collaboration and support of PSI, BRA distributed condoms to young people and adults living in the bateyes. The program is a collaborative effort to stop the rising rates of HIV infection in the bateyes. The condoms, along with preventive educational materials can be found at local stores. BRA health promoters work with young people and act as multipliers of information in order to spread prevention information in other sectors. In 2012 alone, more than 23,000 condoms have been distributed in the Dominican Republic.

Comprehensive Care for HIV/AIDS Patients

BRA provides holistic care for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), through the BRA medical center in Monte Plata, and supportive programs. This holistic care integrates physical treatment, emotional and psychological care, social/ cultural support, and considers and provides support as it relates to the patient's relationships, context, and environment.

ARV Treatment, DR

BRA received funding from the Dominican's Ministry of Health-Directorate for the Control of Sexually-transmitted Infections and HIV/AIDS (DIGECITTS) and the Dominican National Plan to fight and control HIV/AIDS inside the bateyes, where the Presidential Council on AIDS (CONAVIHSIDA) is the beneficiary of a Global Fund grant to coordinate strategies to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the DR. These two organizations worked with BRA to provide antiretroviral (ARV) treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). In 2009, the project also funded house visits and other types of psychosocial support.



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There are currently 495 HIV+ patients receiving treatment through the BRA Medical Center and the BRA unit of Integrated Attention Services.

In partnership with the IDCP (*Instituto Dermatológico y Cirugía de la Piel*), BRA Dominicana is now involved in a new five-year (2009-2015) health initiative, funded by the Global Fund, to strengthen the country's prevention-oriented response to fight HIV and AIDS among the poorest of the population. The objective is to reduce morbidity and mortality among people living with HIV/AIDS. It is a comprehensive program that includes family support and community education. Most noticeably, the project surpassed its goal of attending to 200 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) affected by the HIV/AIDS crisis, aiding 250 OVCs so that they may re-enter the school system.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND BENEFICIARIES IN THE EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN BRA'S RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS

| Activity | Number of activities or beneficiaries | Funding Institutions |
|---|---|--|
| Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) supported for reinsertion into education system | 619 beneficiaries | IDCP |
| House visits to OVCs for follow-up in the educational reinsertion program | 250 beneficiaries | IDCP |
| PLWA receiving follow-up care (Integral Attention) through the UAI | 547 members 381 active beneficiaries | IDCP |
| Nutritional Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) | 1,837 beneficiaries | IDCP |
| House Visits to PLWHA | 1,754 visits | ICCP |
| Medications and treatment for PLWHA | 1,724 beneficiaries | DIGECITTS/COPRESIDA |
| HIV/AIDS Prevention Education through community health talks | 318 beneficiaries | IDCP |
| Micro-Agricultural program for PLWHA | 530 beneficiaries | IDCP/Dominican Secretariat of Agriculture |
| Food-aid for PLWHA | 8,695 beneficiaries | International Food Relief Program, USAID |
| Emotional/psychological support for PLWHA | 165 beneficiaries | Dominican Ministry of Public Health |
| Condoms distributed through PSI | 124,139 condoms | Population Services International AND IDCP |
| Voluntary HIV test | 10,491 tests | Dominican Ministry of Public Health |
| Educational support to OVCs (orphans and other vulnerable children (affected by HIV) | 1,600 beneficiaries | IDCP |

IMMUNIZATION FOR CHILDREN

During the 2012 fiscal year, in July 2013, the BRA received an American intern, Rachele Arnoux, through InterDom (an internship, research and study program). Arnoux's internship focuses on preventing inadequate growth among children and to protect them from diseases in communities. The program will have a public health specialist and health care practitioners promote the children wellness through vaccination. As a part of her internship, Arnoux will evaluate and work to improve program delivery, to ensure that public health specialists and health care practitioners welcome each child patient by weighing them, providing counseling to mothers, and principally giving the children vaccinations they need. As a result of her internship, Arnoux will ensure that through BRA's Medical Center, children will have all the vaccination they need for their age, and that public health specialists and health care practitioners will provide follow up as needed, providing patients with a record of their patient history.



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BLINDNESS PREVENTION

Since 2004, BRA has been partnered with VOSH (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) and Colleges of Optometry in the US (an association that sends optometry throughout the world, to areas affected by extreme poverty, to provide critically-needed eye care services to the most vulnerable in the Dominican Republic's most vulnerable and impoverished communities. Since 2004, BRA has conducted nine optometry operatives in collaboration with SVOSH, with the most recent being in April 2013.

BRA's Blindness Prevention program continues to provide complete eye exams, eyeglasses, eye drops, and medicines to hundreds of patients who are often too poor to afford a pair of eyeglasses or basic eye care inside the bateyes. BRA continues its blindness prevention efforts with the Dominican-based Club de Leones Arroyo Hondo Santo Domingo and the SVOSH-NECO (the New England College of Optometry branch of the VOSH association), which visited the Dominican Republic with an optometry operative in April 2013. BRA and SVOSH-NECO partner in the mutually beneficial collaborative effort, in which NECO sends a team of its third-year optometry students and licensed doctors to partner together for a week's time, offering eye care services. This year, SVOSH-NECO provided a team of 17 optometrists (14 optometry students and 3 licensed optometrists) to conduct the weeklong operative. BRA facilitates the operative to 1,475 patients, in the Las Americas sector of Santo Domingo Este. To organize logistics for this mission, BRA partnered with Family Outreach Ministries International (FOMI), a local NGO, dedicated to serving Haitians and Dominicans living in extreme poverty in the slums of Santo Domingo Este. The SVOSH-NECO group also arranged the necessary referrals for 319 patients requiring further attention or surgery following the operative.

As part of this year's medical operative, BRA collaborated with FOMI to conduct a medical operative alongside the optometry operative. The medical operative focused in preventative medicine, offering consultation services. A team of two doctors, one nurses and one pharmacist work together to provide medical consultations to 900 patients (with a wide range of illness, disease and medical conditions: i.e. high blood pressure, diabetes, common cold, influenza, bacterial and viral infections, pregnancy, parasites, etc.). All patients treated received medications and vitamins free of charge, as needed. Throughout the April 2013 operative, BRA offered 2,375 medical services (1,475 optometry consultations and 900 medical consultations) to Haitians and Dominicans in the Las Americas sector of Santo Domingo Este.

FOOD INSECURITY PREVENTION

USAID International Food Relief Program (IFRP)

In November 2012, BRA began implement of its 2012-2013 USAID-Food for Peace office distributing 150 metric tons of Harvest Lentil Pro (Product Code 404-1.0) to be distributed to 20,700 food insecure beneficiaries living in impoverished and vulnerable communities in the Dominican Republic over a period of 12 months (which is programmed to end in November 2013).

Under the 2013 USAID-Food for Peace International Food Relief Program, 36,915 individuals (15,631 direct beneficiaries) who suffer from severe malnutrition and disease (AIDS and TB patients, pregnant and lactating women, orphaned/vulnerable children and the elderly) and to their impoverished family members (21,284 indirect beneficiaries) who are also at high risk for malnutrition received food supplies, in the Belladere proving, in the Central Plateau of Haiti.

Maternal and Child Healthcare, DR (Micronutrients/ Deworming)

With the continuing support of Vitamin Angel (VA), BRA distributed over 4 million multivitamins tablets and anti-parasitic medications to 65,000 children in twenty-one municipalities in the DR. This, project, currently on its fourth year, the goal is to maintain the health of children by first de-worming them through bi-annual anti-parasite treatment, and then providing them with consistent micro-nutrition through multivitamins. Many of the children and their families also received food rations from the BRA-USAID Food Distribution Program. Through its collaborations with various local partner NGOs and governmental institutions, BRA distributes 9,500 doses of Vitamin A to infants 6-11 months, vitamin A to 27,750 children



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12-59 months, and Albendazole for deworming purposes to 25,250 children 12-59 months, children's multivitamins to 18,934 children 12-59 months, and prenatal vitamins to 8,798 pregnant/lactating women throughout the DR.

COMMUNITY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Water Purification and the Prevention of Waterborne Illnesses (Water-System Project)

The Presbyterian Church of the USA supported BRA in the second phase of a micro water-system project, in Batey Cinco Casas, in the Don Juan Municipal District of Monte Plata. This second of the Project consists of the construction of an additional micro water system to benefit 60 families of the community of Batey Cinco Casas with potable water, to prevent waterborne illnesses. Furthermore, throughout BRA's health promotion, BRA orients beneficiaries on the waterborne illnesses and the importance of safe practices pertaining to food handling and preparation and water storage, to prevent illnesses.

Food Security Project—Agricultural Development, DR

With the generous support of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), under a Food for Progress Program, BRA created Monte Plata's first fully integrated agricultural cooperative system. In 2010, BRA started a 7,000-member agricultural cooperative called "La BRAteyana"—a collection of 7 agricultural cooperatives based inside the bateyes, Monte Plata. The project benefitted 35,000 people through food security and agricultural education. La BRAteyana developed and cultivated 105 acres in 7 agricultural productive units, as part of 7 agricultural development projects, consisting of 105 acres of fertile land to cultivate and produce organic food crops. The 7 agricultural productive units are found within seven different batey communities. BRA's goal regarding its agricultural production is to shift from a grant-funded program to a self-sustainable social enterprise that not only can generate funds for BRA's operations and to expand production to other bateyes, but aspires to showcase its cooperative agricultural production as a model that can be potentially replicated in the thousands of acres of land across the country that are unutilized after the collapse of the sugar cane industry over 20 years ago. While the USDA funding ended in 2012, BRA continues the production, providing local farmers to produce and support their communities.

Income Generating Project in the Bateyes of the Monte Plata Province

In a 6-month partnership in 2012 with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), BRA established an income-generating project, focused on strengthening farming efforts— both agriculture production and animal husbandry initiatives. 380 men and 150 (530 individuals total) were trained and employed under this program. The beneficiaries participated in capacity training to improve farming skills, technique, and knowledge. As a result, agriculture production was increased by 100%, to guarantee access to produce at low-cost. As a result of the project, BRA has planted 252 acres of beans, 315 acres of yams, 252 acres of pigeon peas, 315 acres of yucca, 63 acres of black cane, 31.5 acres of corn, and 94.5 acres of tomatoes, cucumber, and peppers. With the crops harvested, BRA established a local market to sale produce (benefitting the project, with income-generation for its participants, and benefitting the local communities, providing fresh, organic produce, at low-cost. Additionally, 150 beneficiaries partook in the income generating animal husbandry project. With the profits earned through the project, BRA was able to purchase additional livestock, to continue the efforts, with a long-term outlook.

Promoting agricultural export at the border, DR

Through the support of USDA, BRA will be collaborating with the Dominican Ministry of Agriculture by developing agricultural and community development activities in the border province of Elias Pina, gearing at enhancing the Dominican Republic's agricultural export efforts.

Women Empowerment in Border Regions, Haiti

The Women Empowerment in Border Regions of Haiti program, funded through USAID's Development Grants Program, completed the third and final year of the three-year program implementation. This multi-faceted program targeted the Southeast Department communes of Anse-a-Pitres, Thiotte and Grand Gosier. Since 2009, BRA conducted capacity building trainings in leadership, gender-based violence and organization formalization for 68 groups with approximately 2,040



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women members – surpassing the target goal of 600 women by 340%. This speaks to the solid relationships BRA has established with community leadership through its staff and the accurate selection of implementing partners that local women groups consider trustworthy. BRA’s program management has also emphasized building strong relationships with the local governments of these communes and getting them involved in program implementation. Haiti has a long-standing problem of conflicts between local governments and NGOs, the former often stating that NGOs reject their know-how when implementing projects.

The microcredit component aimed to improve women’s access to credit to support the economic growth of businesses property of women. BRA continued trainings for women groups in business management skills, as well as microloan terms and management: training on financial language, creating a business plan, the interest rate calculation, marketing and sales, creating savings, the terms, loans management, finance planning, and financial decision making. In total, throughout Year 3, BRA has conducted 30 training sessions for beneficiaries on loans. In the first quarter, BRA facilitated four general training sessions in which 710 women participated. During the final year, 814,000 HTG worth of microcredit loans were distributed to 350 women gained access to microcredit to optimize their income-generating activities or start new businesses (exceeding the 150 target by 233%).

Under the gender-based violence component of the program, training focused on: (1) strengthening the roles and equality in family relations; (2) the denunciation of abuse and the reporting of processing of cases; (3) domestic violence issues; and finally, (4) methods and techniques on how to conduct independent training sessions, beyond the life of the program. In this third year, 3,012 participants have attended these activities conducted by BRA: the first quarter, BRA conducted three training sessions for the prevention of gender-based violence, with 250 participants. During the second quarter, BRA facilitated four formations, with 2,329 beneficiaries who participated. In the third quarter, BRA conducted three training sessions, where a total of 165 participants attended. During the fourth quarter, BRA conducted three training sessions, for 268 participants.

Under the leadership component, training sessions focused on the definition of leadership, the attributes of a good leader, sympathy, conflict resolution, human relationships, assembly, democracy and how it can be of benefit to a community, etc. During Year 3, BRA has met with the heads of CENAREF in Port au Prince to plan and develop the partnership between BRA and CENAREF on women's leadership training in the three municipalities and to train the women's groups in the border region of South East Department of Haiti. BRA assessed the socio-economic rural Haitian communities, to find ways to correct the injustices and support women who are the victims of that social structure. Haiti’s National Centre for Research and Training (CENAREF) held three workshops to different groups of women's organizations of the three municipalities, teaching particular roles and responsibilities to help refocus their groups to be more consistent in their strategic interests. The thrust of these workshops was to learn from the experiences and current potential of each organization, so they may collaborate to meet the needs of their communities (i.e. electricity, streets, family planning, school and literacy, lack of professional training, the conditions of public health, hunger, violence, etc.). CENAREF representatives also taught about the tools, steps, and resources necessary to create autonomy amongst simple groups.

During the third year, as a part of the health promotion component, 73 training sessions were organized to educate 2,253 participants on a range of topics (family planning, prenatal hygiene, household sanitation, sexually transmitted diseases, cholera, nutrition, disease prevention, cancer prevention, maternal and child health / prenatal and postnatal care, blood pressure/ hypertension, fever, first aid, dehydration, and diarrhea). In addition, BRA created a network of 200 women trained as community health promoters. Health promoters are effective for material support in preventive health and family, especially in primary care issue for their community. The community health promoters have been trained and prepared, and have received important training information and materials, that they may be available to their neighbors and communities (especially important in remote areas). These promoters are available to inform and answer questions related to health.

The agriculture component organized training in small-scale farming skills. BRA performed construction, maintenance, and restoration of the nurseries, home gardens, community gardens and compost with women on their own land in the three



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municipalities. BRA organized eight training sessions (for 224 participants), teaching on several different techniques for preparing a nursery and six training sessions on insect control, and how to protect plants in accord with the USAID Environmental Threshold Agreement. BRA worked in the three municipalities to assess the gardens of the beneficiaries--visiting 60 gardens and evaluated the land and harvest, and appraised the production and sales of the orchards. According to the evaluations of the orchards, nurseries and demonstration gardens, it is estimated that the beneficiaries have yielded and earned a total profit of 64,920 HTG (an average of 330 HTG profit per orchard). BRA built 26 nurseries and 3 demonstration gardens, and restored 11 nurseries and two community gardens, using work time as a forum to teach the various gardening, planting, and harvesting techniques. Additionally, BRA conducted eight sales and marketing training sessions (for 1,140 participants), educating on the best ways to begin a profitable business and explore new markets to introduce products, how to choose what products to sell, how to purchase products, how to find merchandise at affordable prices, pricing merchandise, cooperative business practices for women entrepreneurs, and how to expand business.

During the third year of the program, BRA also conducted vocational skills training sessions (in the areas of gastronomy, sewing and artisan crafts). With the help of CRE-ART, an institution Haitian artisan, BRA conducted vocational skills training in the three municipalities. BRA facilitated training sessions, teaching on craft skills, with the aim that after these sessions, the women who participated will be able to manufacture and make necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and to create paintings on canvas or do calligraphy in tissues. With acrylic paints, shirts, nylon fabric, scissors, brushes, cutters, pliers, leather hides, etc., the women learned and practiced some craft techniques. In total, 92 participants between the three training sessions of craft skills. Gastronomy classes, with the goal being that after the training, participants will be qualified to work as waitresses in a restaurant, cook, prepare a variety of dishes and also to set up their own restaurants. Each session began with a demonstration of how to cook a specific dish, and then participants were given the opportunity to practice the recipes and prepare the dishes. 111 participants attended the three gastronomy training sessions. BRA has taught women's groups skills related to cutting and sewing. Using materials such as sewing machines, tables, tape measure, fabric, spools, chalk, etc., the women learned how many things like sewing a skirt, a shirt and more. 49 participants attended these workshops. After evaluation of the activities and the final products made by women, about 75% of women showed proficiency in each of the three areas of study: artisanal, gastronomy, and sewing.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIPS

Eye care, DR

From April 8th to the 16th, a group of 17 (comprised of optometry students and faculty New England College of Optometry (NEC) and two additional licensed optometrists, through the SVOSH (Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) delivered free eye care, eyeglasses, sunglasses and antibiotics to 1,475 patients in the sector of Las Americas of the Santo Domingo Este province (over 300 in the first day). This mission was not limited to eye care services: BRA conducted a medical operative focusing in preventative medicine, offering medical consultation services 900 patients (with a wide range of illness, disease and medical conditions: i.e. high blood pressure, diabetes, common cold, influenza, bacterial and viral infections, pregnancy, parasites, etc.). All patients treated received medications and vitamins free of charge, as needed.

Community development, DR

In March 2013, BRA has partnered with Engineers without Borders to construct nine latrines in the community of Santa Rosa. These nine new latrines will benefit approximately 27 families of this rural community. Additionally, these new installments will benefit the community of Santa Rosa at large, as they will help to improve sanitation in the area and to reduce risk of disease; specifically illnesses that results from parasitic bacteria and microbes, which result in gastrointestinal disease and skin infections. Furthermore, BRA continues with its commitment to improve the state of public health and promote wellness in the Santa Rosa community, and the greater Monte Plata Province, through its health promotion efforts. BRA-certified Community Health Promoters continue to provide health education to this population (personal hygiene and sanitation, as it pertains to this project), inviting and encouraging beneficiaries to take control of their personal health and the health of their families and community.



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VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNSHIPS OPPORTUNITIES

Mailman School of Public Health—Columbia University Internship

Katherine Elliot, a master's student from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, participated in the summer's Columbia University- Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo Public Health Students Academic Exchange program. During the course of the eight-week internship, Elliott created monitoring guide— a manual which is used to supervise activities in progress to ensure meeting the objectives and performance targets on schedule, to identify potential problems in a timely manner so that corrective action can be taken, to offer continuous feedback on implementation, and ultimately, to improve and optimize project-execution.

Boston University School of Public Internship

From July to November 2012, BRA hosted an intern from the Boston University School of Public, Amanda Johnson, in order that she may conduct an evaluation of the management of health services offered through the BRA Medical Center. From her evaluation, Johnson prepared a management plan (which included a strategic, schematic plan and an elaboration of professional criteria and responsibilities for the medical professionals of the center). Johnson's evaluation and Plan for Health Management, allowed for BRA to improve the quality of its services and increase patient satisfaction.

InteRDom Internship

During the 2012 fiscal year, in July 2013, the BRA received an American intern, Rachele Arnoux, through InteRDom (an internship, research and study program). Arnoux's internship focuses on preventing inadequate growth among children and to protect them from diseases in communities. The program will have a public health specialist and health care practitioners promote the children wellness through vaccination. As a part of her internship, Arnoux will evaluate and work to improve program delivery, to ensure that public health specialists and health care practitioners welcome each child patient by weighing them, providing counseling to mothers, and principally giving the children vaccinations they need.

MEDICAL DONATIONS

In the first half of 2011 alone, BRA Dominicana received from \$2,203,177.31 Dominican Pesos worth of in-kind donations from international donors, in medicines, medical supplies, equipment, and nutritional supplements, which supported Batey Relief Alliance's regional intervention in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. A portion of the donations was distributed to over 30 BRA local partner organizations to strengthen their capacity to deliver improved health and relief services in other impoverished areas of the two countries. **We are truly grateful to our generous donors such as Direct Relief International, Food for the Poor, USAID, UNHCR, Vitamin Angels, SVOSH-NECO, and Breedlove Dehydrated Foods, Inc., among others.**

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Feria Internacional del Libro, Santo Domingo (International Book Fair, Santo Domingo)

In April 2013, BRA participated in the "2013 Feria Internacional del Libro, Santo Domingo (International Book Fair, Santo Domingo)." This expo provided BRA the opportunity to promote its services and program. During the book fair, BRA distributed from first aid supplies, free condoms and educational materials.

Expo Monte Plata 2013

From October 4-6, 2013, BRA participated in the annual Expo organized by the Senatorial Office of Monte Plata providing dozens of local businesses and organizations with the opportunity to inform thousands of visitors about their work and products and the various opportunities the province of Monte Plata has to offer.

BRA'S ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH

Creation of BRA Monitoring and Evaluation Manual



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Katherine Elliott, a master's student from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, participated in the summer's Columbia University- Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo Public Health Students Academic Exchange program. The program arranged for Elliott to intern with the Batey Relief Alliance in Santo Domingo. During the course of the eight-week internship, Elliott created a monitoring guide— a manual which is used to supervise activities in progress to ensure they are on-course and on-schedule in meeting the objectives and performance targets; to identify potential problems in a timely manner so that corrective action can be taken; to offer continuous feedback on implementation; and ultimately, to improve and optimize project-execution. With the implementation of the monitoring procedures, outlined in the guide that Elliott created, BRA will improve productivity, efficiency and overall performance of project-execution. BRA thanks Elliott and the Academic Exchange program for their participation in this internship opportunity. The monitoring toolkit serves to improve the quality of the organization's humanitarian work and the services it offers beneficiaries.

Evaluation of Health Management, BRA Medical Center

From July to November 2012, BRA hosted an intern from the Boston University School of Public, Amanda Johnson, in order that she may conduct an evaluation of the management of health services offered through the BRA Medical Center. From her evaluation, Johnson prepared a management plan (which included a strategic, schematic plan and an elaboration of professional criteria and responsibilities for the medical professionals of the center). Johnson's evaluation and Plan for Health Management, allowed for BRA to improve the quality of its services and increase patient satisfaction.

Capacity Building

BRA is partnering with local technical training organization INFOTEP to offer free technical courses to staff in Santo Domingo and Monte Plata, in response to areas requiring improvement in staff performance. BRA's executive management has also developed a 5-year strategic plan, for which each program manager is working with its team to develop weekly and monthly planning schedules in accordance to the Yearly Action Plan and the 5-year strategic plan. 2012 is the second year implementing the Strategic Plan. To date, the objectives are being implemented according to schedule. During the 2012 fiscal year, all BRA Dominicana staff, both those stationed at the medical center in Monte Plata and in the center office in Santo Domingo, underwent training in three different areas. Staff attended two training sessions (a course on emotional intelligence and a course on professionalism, diplomacy and etiquette) and underway a 3-month long Haitian Creole course, to better their professionalism and increase knowledge. The Creole course was strategically selected in order to better the staff's ability to communicate with and serve the (non-Spanish-speaking) population that receives services through BRA.

BRA'S INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

In November 2012, BRA began implement of its 2012-2013 USAID-Food for Peace office distributing 150 metric tons of Harvest Lentil Pro (Product Code 404-1.0) to be distributed to 20,700 food insecure beneficiaries living in impoverished and vulnerable communities in the Dominican Republic over a period of 12 months (which is programmed to end in November 2013).

Under the 2013 USAID-Food for Peace International Food Relief Program, 36,915 individuals (15,631 direct beneficiaries) who suffer from severe malnutrition and disease (AIDS and TB patients, pregnant and lactating women, orphaned/vulnerable children and the elderly) and to their impoverished family members (21,284 indirect beneficiaries) who are also at high risk for malnutrition received food supplies, in the Belladere proving, in the Central Plateau of Haiti. The food distribution program is renewed for the DR for another year.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

In January 2013, BRA celebrates the conclusion of a success 6-month project, implemented in partnership with ACNUR (Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees). The project was composed of two primary components: (1) the strengthening of agricultural production, to continue encouraging the



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family-operated agriculture based micro-businesses; and (2) the prevention, detection and treatment of HIV/AIDS. BRA's first project-component, implemented in partnership with ACNUR, was dedicated to strengthening farming efforts— both agriculture production and animal husbandry initiatives. This program benefitted 380 men and 150 (530 individuals in total). The beneficiaries participated in capacity training to improve farming skills, technique, and knowledge. As a result, agriculture production was increased by 100%, to guarantee access to produce at low-cost. As a result of the project, BRA has planted 252 acres of beans, 315 acres of yams, 252 acres of pigeon peas, 315 acres of yucca, 63 acres of black cane, 31.5 acres of corn, and 94.5 acres of tomatoes, cucumber, and peppers. With the crops harvested, BRA established a local market to sale produce (benefitting the project, with income-generation for its participants, and benefitting the local communities, providing fresh, organic produce, at low-cost. Additionally, 150 beneficiaries partook in the income generating animal husbandry project. With the profits earned through the project, BRA was able to purchase additional livestock, to continue the efforts, with a long-term outlook. Under the second component, BRA sought to capacitate, educate and mobilize individuals to act as community leaders and community health promoters, to further education and prevention of HIV/AIDS and other STDs. BRA conducted seminars to educate the general population and raise community awareness, and for the family members of PLHIV, the virus, prevention, treatment, care and support. 31 individuals were trained as community health promoters (8 men and 23 women). During this time of education and training, BRA launched a campaign, with the help of its community health promoters, to promote individuals to get test for HIV/ AIDS. BRA held a total of 30 training sessions, where 1,200 attended these events of throughout the life of the project (310 male and 890 female beneficiaries). Throughout the course of the project, BRA conducted 2,542 HIV/AIDS tests. During the testing process, patients were provided support via BRA's community health promoters, a nurse, and a psychologist (for emotional support). 1,047 men and 1,495 women underwent the test. Of the 2,542 individuals tested, 12 resulted positive for HIV/AIDS (5 men and 7 women). Those individual have been referred to Servicio de Atención Integral (a Dominican institute that caters its service to care for PLHIV), for follow-up care. In addition, these individuals were included in other BRA projects, to ensure a better quality of health and life.

Direct Relief International (DRI)

For past eight years, BRA received DRI millions of dollars' worth of donated pharmaceuticals and other health-related supplies to distribute to poor communities and improve health conditions of thousands of children and adults living in vulnerable communities of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Thanks to the support of DRI, BRA also has in storage a special allotment of primary attention medicate on and supplies destined each year to assist our target population in the event of hurricanes, tropical storms and other natural disasters. This "disaster relief module" is kept at the BRA Health Center warehouse in Monte Plata.

Vitamin Angels (VA)

Since 2007, VA helped BRA launch two maternal-child health programs by distributing multivitamins, vitamin A and antiworm medicines to thousands of nutritionally at-risk pregnant/nursing women and children in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. We thank VA for assisting us in launching our first program in Peru in 2013.

Food for the Poor

Food for the Poor, Inc. (FFTP) is the largest international relief and development organization in the United States. FFTP serves the poorest of the poor in 17 countries throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. Their programs help to provide healthcare, education, fresh water, and emergency relief, in addition to feeding thousands. FFTP and Bra Dominicana (Beneficiary) collaborate to enhance the lives of the poor in the Dominican Republic. FFTP provides BRA with medications, medical supplies and equipment,

International Lions Club Foundation (LCIF)

In 2003, BRA received funding from the LCIF to build the bateyes' first modern medical center inside batey Cinco Casas, province of Monte Plata. In 2013, BRA received another grant to build an expansion in the center to deliver improved healthcare services (including supplying necessary medications free of charge) to 60,000+ patients per year. With the construction of new consultation areas, BRA will have an improved capacity to see and treat patients; will better be able to provide potential life-saving services to those who would otherwise be unable to afford them. The services that BRA will



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allow for improved health conditions and overall quality of life of its beneficiaries. The expansion of the Medical Center is critically needed to allow BRA to serve a greater volume of patients (who otherwise go without access to basic health services) and to guarantee better coverage of the vulnerable populations, who ask for and deserve access to quality health services, which BRA currently is not at capacity to serve in its entirety.

CitiHope International (CHI)

CitiHope has donated medicines, hospital supplies and fortified foods to different health centers in the country (including BRA's Medical Center, in Monte Plata), as part of its plausible campaign called "*Sanar una nacion* (Healing a Nation)" (with sponsorship from the Dominican corporation, Rica). The investment in these drugs and supplies are millionaires, but more than highlight its economic value, the most important is the solidarity and humanitarian intent of helping the poor to buy medicines to help them improve their health. "To Heal a Nation" ensures more poor patients free access to these drugs, which are indeed expensive and are not generic, and that have been acquired, generous purposes, thanks to the contributions of American citizens and other countries that support CitiHope's international humanitarian efforts.

Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church of the USA supported BRA in the second phase of a micro water-system project, in Batey Cinco Casas, in the Don Juan Municipal District of Monte Plata. This second of the Project consists of the construction of an additional micro water system to benefit 60 families of the community of Batey Cinco Casas with potable water.

Boston University School of Public Health

In partnership with the Boston University School of Public Health, BRA organizes internship opportunities for Public Health students to provide a forum for them to gain experience, build and improve skills, and contribute to the betterment of the humanitarian services that BRA offers.

Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

BRA has joined the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University, in its network of volunteers, faculty and students to conduct research and perform public health and medical services in impoverished areas of the DR, specifically in the bateyes and other underserved areas located near the Haitian/DR border.

Haiti's National Centre for Research and Training (CENAREF)

BRA met with the heads of CENAREF in Port au Prince to plan and develop the partnership between BRA and CENAREF on women's leadership training in the three municipalities and to train the women's groups in the border region of South East Department of Haiti. Haiti's National Centre for Research and Training (CENAREF) held three workshops to different groups of women's organizations of the three municipalities, teaching particular roles and responsibilities to help refocus their groups to be more consistent in their strategic interests. The thrust of these workshops was to learn from the experiences and current potential of each organization, so they may collaborate to meet the needs of their communities (i.e. electricity, streets, family planning, school and literacy, lack of professional training, the conditions of public health, hunger, violence, etc.). CENAREF representatives also taught about the tools, steps, and resources necessary to create autonomy amongst simple groups.

Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB)

A longtime BRA partner, CMMB is supporting the long-term volunteer position with BRA of an American Physician Assistant, Alan Kerr, to work alongside BRA local health providers at the medical center in Monte Plata.

FONKOZE

The Haiti-based micro credit giant is BRA's principal partner to coordinate the skills training and micro loans to 350 women in border regions of Haiti under a USAID-funded Women Empowerment project.

REGIONAL ALLIANCES



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In order to effectively carry out its humanitarian mission in the Dominican Republic, as well as in Haiti and Peru, BRA created strategic partnerships with well-established institutions working in these two countries. These partners are donors and collaborators that work in strategic ways to help produce high impact program results. Some of the major partners include: Haiti Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP), FONKOZE-Haiti, CMMB-Haiti, DR Ministry of Health, DR Ministry of Education, COPRESIDA, DIGECITTS, USAID, MLB-DDA, Peace Corps, Population Services International (PSI), Caritas-Lima and the Instituto Dermatológico y Cirugía de la Piel (IDCP).

BRA also formed alliances with local grassroots organizations and government agencies raising their capacity to deliver improved services in locations where BRA does not operate, thus expanding the organization's humanitarian effort. BRA's support to these groups is mainly in the distribution of millions of dollars-worth donated medicines, medical supplies, food supplements and equipment. The purpose is to address the health and nutritional needs of other impoverished bateyes, urban slums, and rural communities and border localities where the populations cannot afford basic medical care and medicines. Some of the recipient groups include the SESPAS, Buen Samaritano, Hogar de Niño, Templo Bíblico, Colectiva Mujer y Salud (CEMUS), Fundación Salud y Bienestar (Fusabi), Colectivo de Salud Popular (COSALUP), Fundación Génesis, Fundación de Apoyo Nuevo Crecer, Centro Integral de Salud y Desarrollo (CISADE), Dirección Provincial de Salud de Hato Mayor (DPS), Rescate de Niños en Riesgo, Hogar Crea (Monte Plata), Ministerio Didáctico Cristiano, and the Municipality of Sabana Grande de Boyá.

Ministry of Health (SESPAS), DR

BRA partnered with the Dominican Ministry of Health since 2000. This collaborative relationship has been instrumental in obtaining the support of province offices in BRA's medical missions and its multivitamin and deworming medicine distribution program in the poorest areas of the Dominican Republic.

Seguro Nacional de Salud (SENASA)

BRA and the DR National Health Insurance Agency, SENASA, teamed up to provide subsidized medical services to qualified individuals living in bateyes and other areas of the country. This partnership has proven to be a reliable, steady source of income for BRA, as 90% of its income at the Health Center in Monte Plata comes from SENASA-insured patients. Improvements in BRA's internal controls concerning billing of SENASA-covered services are also important in the frequency with which BRA receives SENASA payments. SENASA is a government-subsidized insurance program with very low co-pays for patients, which provides a higher margin of probability among affiliates that they will seek medical attention when they require it.

Senate Management Office of Province of Monte Plata, DR

BRA collaborates with the Senatorial Office of Monte Plata. The Senate Management Office and, in coordination with the organization ADELMOPLA, implemented the Training Plan for Cooperative members in topics of cooperative administration and agricultural production. BRA participated in the Agribusiness Center initiative that makes it possible to sell products in the local and international markets. During this period, BRA has extended these educational initiatives to women members of cooperative groups producing organic cocoa in Monte Plata.

Vicaria de la Caridad- Caritas Lima (Peru)

In June 2013, BRA signed an agreement with Vicaria de la Caridad- Caritas Lima to improve the public health situation in the urban slums of the country's capital, Lima (with program implementation programmed to begin January 2014). With recognition of the fact that pregnant and lactating women, infants and young children are in the most nutritionally-vulnerable stages of the life cycle, and that the insufficient consumption of micronutrients (i.e. iron, iodine, and vitamin A) results in serious health complications (i.e. miscarriage, stillbirth, infant mortality, blindness, mental retardation, etc.), especially in these vulnerable populations, BRA seeks to replicate and expand a proven program model into Peru. BRA, in partnership with Vicaria de la Caridad- Caritas Lima, commits to providing children's multivitamins and deworming medications to 2,000 children (ages 5 and under), vitamin A supplements and prenatal vitamins to 450 pregnant and nursing women living in 19 highly impoverished and vulnerable urban communities in the Metropolitan Area of Lima. We thank Caritas-Lima for assisting us in launching our first program in Peru.



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OUR CHALLENGES

Continued Increased Financial Independence

As BRA continues to grow rapidly, with additional projects inside Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Peru, a major challenge is to cultivate a degree of financial independence in the organization to implement projects that are adequately funded, as well as maintain clinics that are well resourced. BRA received in-kind donations; however does not have major sponsors to support its many program expenses. A high percentage of the organization's total budget covers direct project delivery, yet its operation remains generally underfunded. We need additional funding to assure project continuity, employment security for technical and specialty staff, and the quality maintenance of BRA's health clinics. Moreover, with additional general funds, we would have more freedom to design and carry out projects that we deem necessary for the populations that we work for. An increase in our general budget would free us from constraints imposed by other institutions, allowing us to use our own expertise and experience to implement the most effective projects in the country.

BRA meets some of its financial challenges with income-generating services through its Medical Center and its agricultural production in the province of Monte Plata, Dominican Republic. BRA generates further incomes through its membership with the US-government Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to receive financial donations from US federal employees.

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE—LOOKING FORWARD

- Carry out Clinton Global Initiative Commitment to Action in Peru, "Improving Malnutrition and Maternal Health in Lima."
- Strengthen Regional intervention (Haiti, Dominican Republic and Peru) on the Border through cross-border interconnections of programs.
- Develop a Food Security System to allow for local consumption and sales – as well as regional export.
- Conduct blindness prevention ambulatory surgeries and other general outpatient surgeries in the Dominican Republic.
- Continue the implementation of BRA's five-year Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

SUPPORT FOR BRA'S WORK IN 2013-2014

Cash Income and Expenses

A copy of the Batey Relief Alliance's latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from the New York State Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. The same may be obtained from the Batey Relief Alliance's website at www.bateyrelief.org (click on Financial Accountability).

THANK YOU!

Batey Relief Alliance's Boards of Directors, officials and staff are thankful for your support enabling us to do more important work on behalf of the poor in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. There is much more to be done, however, and we need your continued support. We look forward to a productive partnership with you in the years to come.

A special thanks to the US Agency for International Development (USAID), Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), and Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)



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BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF BATEY RELIEF ALLIANCE

UNITED STATES **Batey Relief Alliance (BRA)**

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Elmont Dental Care

Raymond Thertulien, M.D, PhD – *Vice President*
Clinworks Cancer Research Center

Paul Nacier, M.D.- *Treasurer*
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Pierre Leger, M.D.
Leger Health Center

Julian Hanberg
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Lic. Nexcy De León - *President*
Lic. Juan Cordero – *Vice Presidente*
Edilgardo Peña - *Treasurer*
Togarma Rodriguez- *Secretary*

Members

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Ing. Francisco Benzo
Lic. Miguel A. Puente H
Dr. Ulrick Gaillard
Sr. Eduardo Cortes
Lic. Victor Ramos

Chief Executive Officer
Ulrick Gaillard, J.D.

Executive Director
Lic. Maria Virtudes Berroa



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LOCATIONS OF BATEY RELIEF ALLIANCE

UNITED STATES HEADQUARTERS

Batey Relief Alliance, Inc.

P.O. Box 300565
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230-0565 USA
Tel. 1.917.627.5026
Email: bra@bateyrelief.org

The Batey Relief Alliance is a United States registered not-for-profit, non-political, tax-exempt 501(c) (3), humanitarian aid organization.

DOMINICAN REGIONAL OFFICES

BRA Dominicana, Inc.

Max Henríquez Ureña No.80
Edificio Enca, Suite 201-A
Ens. Piantini, Santo Domingo
República Dominicana
Tel. 809.540.4947
Fax. 809.540.0786
bradominicana@bateyrelief.org

The Batey Relief Alliance is affiliated with the United Nations' Department of Public Information (UN/DPI) Section; registered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/PVO; registered with the Better Business Bureau; and is member of Global Health Council and the Clinton Global Initiative and Clinton Global Initiative-Latin America.

REPUBLIC D'HAÏTI FIELD OFFICE

BRA Haïti, Inc.

Rue de la Porte
Commune of Anse-a-Pitres
District of Grande Anse
Département du Sud-est
République D'Haïti
brahaiti@bateyrelief.org



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2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2012 990 REPORT, [CLICK HERE](#)

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE | |
| Government grants - Cash | \$350,506 |
| Government grants - Goods | \$618,439 |
| Contributions - Cash | \$113,357 |
| Contributions - Goods | \$6,883,864 |
| Interest | \$31 |
| TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE | \$7,986,197 |
| TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES | \$8,089,577 |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS (NAV) | (\$103,380) |
| NET ASSET, BEGINNING OF YEAR, RESTATED | \$217,968 |
| NET ASSET, END OF YEAR | \$114,588 |
| | ===== |