

BBF GLOBAL RELIEF QUARTERLY



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Thank you!

Dear Friends,

As we embrace the season of giving and express our gratitude, we reflect on the incredible impact your generosity has had on our programs in the global community. In this year-end magazine, we are proud to showcase the successes that, together, we have achieved. From the stories of transformed lives to the tangible improvements in BBF's healthcare, infrastructure, disaster response, and education programs, your contributions are woven into the fabric of these accomplishments. We invite you to take a moment to celebrate these positive changes with us.

Thanks to your contributions, BBF has been able to support hospitals and physicians in more than 30 countries. We have initiated projects that harness renewable energy sources to power healthcare facilities and schools in areas lacking reliable electricity. Your generosity has been instrumental in our rapid response to disasters from natural calamities like the earthquakes in Turkey, Syria, Morocco and Haiti to public health emergencies like the train derailment in East Palestine Ohio. In our Education Program, BBF provided school supplies, textbooks, and technology to enhance education opportunities in Pittsburgh and globally in seven countries.

Your support has brightened the lives of those in underserved regions and contributed to a more sustainable and resilient future. Again, thank you for being a vital part of our journey towards a healthier, more educated, and resilient world.

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a bright and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,



Laura Kelly

Laura Kelly
VP of Communications and Development

BBF GLOBAL RELIEF QUARTERLY

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Angel David, 13, received a mobility cart from a BBF shipment to partner organization Cross Catholic Outreach in the Dominican Republic.
Photo credit: Cross Catholic Outreach

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From our President

Your donations in action - A snapshot of BBF's core relief work



With so many natural disasters and man-made calamities often overshadowing our daily news cycles, I thought it important to highlight the near daily life changing impact of your ongoing support of BBF's regular relief work. Covering the period from January – June 2023, the excerpts and overview below are from a report of one such partner which works extensively in Central America, Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO). We're pleased to add that this work is indicative of any number of our dedicated partners, religious or secular, and people around the world whose hearts lie in helping others in need. As always, we will continue to bring you their stories in the coming issues of this publication.

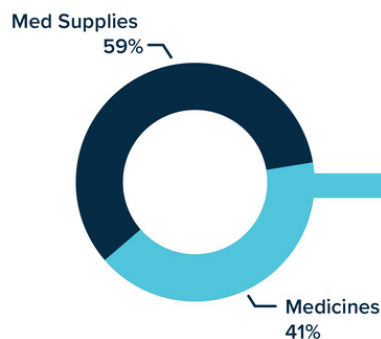
The countries served covered by the report, include Guatemala, Honduras & the Dominican Republic (DR) - across which BBF donated 10 containers of essential medicines and medical supplies to assist vulnerable community members. These totaled more than 406,000 bottles and packs of medicine, and greater than 574,000 items of medical supplies. The medicines and supplies were distributed through a network of clinics, hospitals, and other recipient healthcare institutions by the Asociacion Amigos por la Salud y la Vida (ASV) in Guatemala, Asociación La Perla (ALP) in Honduras, along with Fundación Hospital General El Buen Samaritano (HBS), and Fundación Ciento por Uno (FCU), in the Dominican Republic.

Per CCO “[We are] thrilled to report that BBF's health donations have had a significant positive impact on recipient institutions and beneficiaries. Thank you, BBF, for your unwavering support, which empowers us to bring about substantial and transformative change in the lives of those we serve.”

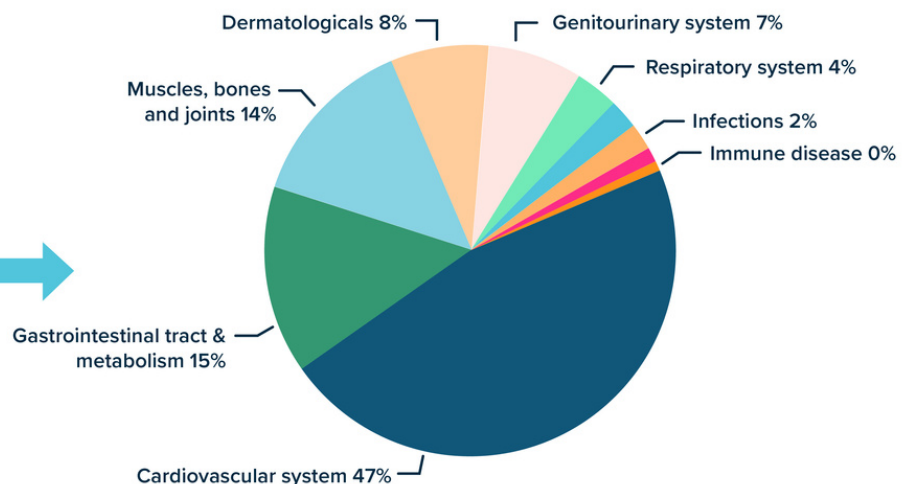
The background and in-country partner profiles from the feedback report provide an understanding of both the areas that we serve and who it is that in collaboration with BBF, helps transform lives for the better where so dearly needed.

ANNUAL Aid Distribution: January 2023 – June 2023 by Product Type and Category

Product Category by Unit of Measurement



Medicines by ATC Classification



Background: Guatemala, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic are all countries that face significant challenges including poverty, violence, and limited access to healthcare. In Guatemala, nearly 60% of the population lives below the poverty line. The lack of income makes it difficult for people to afford basic necessities, healthcare, and essential medicines. Honduras is also a country with high levels of poverty often compounded by violence. As a result, many people in Honduras are afraid to seek medical care even when they are sick. In the Dominican Republic, nearly one in four people live below the poverty line. With limited access to healthcare, they often lack the preventative care they need to stay healthy. Almost across the board in all three countries, clinics and hospitals are struggling to maintain adequate supplies due to budget constraints and experience shortages of medicines, diagnostic tools, surgical instruments, plus other essential medical equipment.

In-Country Partners and impact: Collaborating with local implementation partners is crucial to the success of BBF's work. It enables us to understand needs on the ground and work with our partners to help address these needs. The overview of each local partner below provides the reader with an insight into how they are reaching those in need across Guatemala, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic.

Asociación Amigos por la Salud y la Vida (ASV), Guatemala, implements programs and initiatives that address the underlying social determinants of health such as poverty, lack of education, and social exclusion. ASV's distribution network reaches remote areas and partners with community organizations, local health clinics, and government agencies to improve the health of vulnerable populations. It includes clinics, hospitals, and nonprofit organizations that span across all 22 departments of Guatemala and consists of 32 hospitals, 287 clinics, 14 medical brigades, 15 children's homes, and 22 churches, totaling 370 institutions.

Asociación La Perla (ALP), Honduras, provides food, medicine, medical supplies, hygiene products, and housing materials to institutions and individuals in need. Its goal is to further develop and support its medical distribution program and network of healthcare institutions that reach remote communities. ALP collaborates with over 170 health-based institutions in seven departments of Honduras, including 69 health clinics and dispensaries, 7 hospitals, 23 medical brigades, and a variety of schools, feeding centers, and children's facilities.

Fundación Hospital General El Buen Samaritano (HBS), Dominican Republic, in La Romana, provides a broad range of medical services to the local community members and Haitian immigrants. It is an invaluable facility that addresses the healthcare needs of vulnerable community members. HBS has been able to support 500 primary care units, over 80 hospitals, 30 asylum facilities, 15 rehabilitation centers, 110 churches, 25 Rotary clubs, and over 100 local nonprofit organizations in all 32 provinces in the DR.

Fundación Ciento por Uno (FCU), Dominican Republic, works to uplift vulnerable communities through development projects, food programs, and microcredit. FCU also distributes medicines and supplies to the Caritas clinic which provides a broad range of services for patients including expectant mothers. FCU works through an extensive distribution network of 56 institutions, including hospitals, clinics, local nonprofits, and churches - working towards a brighter future for the Dominican Republic.

I hope this somewhat deeper look into BBF's work has provided you the reader, who makes this work possible, with an insight into how you are directly making an impact on so many lives. Without your support, this would not be possible. Thank you on behalf of everyone here at BBF and so many around the world whose lives you help change for the better on an ongoing basis.



HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

HEALING HANDS

A DOCTOR'S DEDICATION TO UKRAINE'S YOUTH

Dr. Gennadiy Fuzaylov practices a lot of medicine—even for a doctor. In May, he completed his 79th medical mission trip, a 7-day trip to Poland, where he and 11 U.S. doctors and nurses performed reconstructive and cosmetic surgeries on Ukrainian children with burn injuries.

They are Doctors Collaborating to Help Children—literally in what they do but also in what they call themselves. Dr. Fuzaylov, a certified physician, intensivist and anesthesiologist, began the nonprofit organization to fill a void of surgical care for Ukrainian children with severe burn injuries.

Dr. Fuzaylov started traveling to Ukraine to perform reconstructive surgeries in 2011, but when the war started, he opted for the next closest place instead: Łęczna, Poland, a town about an hour away from the Ukrainian border.

It took eight months to put the pieces of the trip

together. Dr. Fuzaylov spoke with the U.S. Ambassador in Poland and the Polish and Ukrainian Ministries of Health. He assembled the team of surgeons and made arrangements for them to get their Polish medical licenses. Patients were selected, transportation was scheduled, and the hotel rooms and operating rooms were booked.

Brother's Brother Foundation was one of four major donors to set the dominoes in motion.

The American medical team gathered with 20 Polish doctors and nurses and a team of Ukrainian

physicians at the Independent Public Health Care Center Hospital in Łęczna. Patients would need regular follow up appointments after undergoing surgery; the Ukrainian and Polish medical teams would continue to see patients while Dr. Fuzaylov was in the United States.

In the operating room, the doctors spoke different languages. They split into two or three groups, one working on a patient's hand while another addressed the neck and another took care of a foot. A translator stood nearby, filling the gaps in communication.

The doctors had selected nineteen patients for surgery in advance. Many were from Ukraine, though a handful came from Poland or the Netherlands. They ranged between the ages of just learning to walk to just starting to leave the house; all of them had been chosen for the same reason: their injuries were complex.

Had Dr. Fuzaylov been standing over an operating table at Shriners Children's Hospital or Massachusetts General Hospital—where he works full time—he would have scheduled each patient's surgeries over the course of a year, allowing one limb to heal before another was cut open. But Łęczna is not Boston. Dr. Fuzaylov's team of doctors were the first Americans to treat Ukrainian children at the hospital since the invasion 15 months prior. There wasn't any more time to wait.

Treating burn injuries in Ukraine has been difficult since before the war started. When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, Ukraine inherited 33 burn units, but without enough resources or doctors to keep them running, many Ukrainian children have gone without treatment. Some of the implications of this—long-term disfigurement, unbearable pain—are obvious. What's less obvious, though, is that as children grow, scar tissue does not. Instead, the tissue pulls the skin tighter, restraining muscles and limiting mobility.

The origin of Doctors Collaborating to Help can be traced back to a house fire in Ukraine in 2005. A five-year-old girl saved her one-year-old sister from the fire, but her heroism came at a cost: burn injuries covered 90% of her body. The Ukrainian government arranged for the child to receive medical treatment at Shriners' Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. There, she became Dr. Fuzaylov's patient. The Ukrainian doctor accompanying the girl asked Dr. Fuzaylov for assistance in bringing another child over from Ukraine for treatment. Dr. Fuzaylov said yes.





There was another child. Then, another child. And then, another.

"During the next five years I brought a lot of kids to Shriners," Dr. Fuzaylov said.

When children are growing, reconstructive surgeries must be performed once—if not twice—each year. In other words, every child Dr. Fuzaylov brought to Shriners Hospital one year, was another child that would need to return to the United States the following year.

When he began performing surgeries in Ukraine in 2011, Dr. Fuzaylov was able to reduce travel costs and also train the local surgeons. But then, the war started. Children had sustained serious injuries from Russian shellings, but Dr. Fuzaylov had no way of getting to them. He returned to the same approach he took years ago by flying wounded children to the United States for treatment.

The first patient arrived in April 2022. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Fuzaylov began to attract national media attention. A photo of him walking down a glowing hospital corridor was published in a story on People magazine's website; when he went to Poland to operate on patients a year later, he was accompanied by reporters from USA Today.

Dr. Fuzaylov is doing the same work he has always done, addressing more or less the same issue. But now, more people are aware, and they want to help.

"In philanthropy work, it's not about who's going to be first. I think running together is much better," he said. "You're providing service and providing care, and you're doing this with other people because everybody will bring some color, some difference, some energy. Something else."

Dr. Fuzaylov met the president of Brother's Brother Foundation, Ozzy Samad, at BBF's Ukraine fundraiser in New York City last year.

"It was very nice that when I called Ozzy [about funding for the trip], it was not a no," Dr. Fuzaylov said. "It was 'Of course.'"



Med-Surg in Guatemala

The Med-Surg program collaborates with healthcare providers on global missions, reaching out to patients in underserved communities worldwide. BBF equips physician-led teams with short-dated medications generously donated by partner pharmaceutical companies. Through direct collaboration with on-site medical professionals, BBF ensures the safe and targeted distribution of pharmaceutical donations to the communities that require them the most.

This spring, BBF provided pharmaceuticals, including antibiotics, beta-blockers, and corticosteroids to doctors, nurses, and medical volunteers from Pierpont Church of the Nazarene for their trip to rural Guatemala.

The team traveled by truck into several remote mountain areas, serving more than 400 patients and providing medical and dental treatment and public health education. Some patients who attended the clinics had never seen a doctor or had access to medical care or modern medicine.



HEALTHCARE PROGRAM



"If we can catch cancer at earlier stages, there are more treatment options ...We know that knowledge is power, and we want to empower our community members to be their own healthcare advocates."

- Joanne Boyd, program director at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center's Office of Community Outreach and Engagement

In the ongoing battle against breast cancer, the power of collaboration and compassion cannot be overstated. At Brother's Brother Foundation (BBF), we understand the profound impact of this disease not just on individuals but on families and the community at large. Teaming up with Allen Place Community Services and the Kappa chapter of Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, BBF supported an event in Pittsburgh in October, aligning with Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The event was a beacon of care and compassion. Attendees accessed critical health services, including free flu and COVID-19 vaccines, eye exams, and blood pressure readings — all essential in not only combating the current pandemic but also in promoting comprehensive health and empowerment.

Following screenings, attendees were invited to the event's closing luncheon where speakers, including BBF's Vice President of Communications and Development, Laura Kelly, spoke passionately and candidly about her breast cancer fight.

During her speech, Laura reflected on her journey, beginning with the diagnosis of Stage III Invasive Breast Cancer.

"When I first received that life-altering diagnosis, it felt as if the ground had been ripped from beneath me. Fear, uncertainty, and doubt gripped my heart. But in the midst of that darkness, I found a flicker of light... I realized I had a choice to make. I could let breast cancer consume me, or I could harness its challenges to transform myself into a stronger, more resilient woman."

The significance of Laura's story is profound for BBF as it was the catalyst for the creation of our Breast Cancer Fund. The fund has been crucial in supporting patients at St. Luke's Montefiore Hospital's infusion center, which is the same place where Laura received her care.

The fund's impact has crossed international borders through the Ribbons of Love program, providing essential medical aid to women fighting cancer in Honduras. In a significant move to enhance global healthcare, BBF's Breast Cancer Fund recently granted funds to RAD-AID. This grant aims to improve breast cancer imaging in healthcare systems that are under-resourced, reaffirming BBF's dedication to combating breast cancer across the globe.

"Breast cancer, like any serious illness, teaches us valuable lessons about life. It shows us the power of perseverance, the importance of a strong support system, and the beauty of the human spirit."

- Laura Kelly, VP of Communications and Development

Laura also thanked BBF President Ozzy Samad for his support when she shared her idea to create the BBF Breast Cancer Fund.

"... My first phone call to Ozzy ... I will never forget his words, 'How can I support you? What do you need from me? We are here for you.' I told him, I am so blessed and lucky to have the healthcare and the means to be seen [by doctors] in America. I know others are suffering and I want us to help others in the world and make a difference. He said, 'We can do that.'"



Left to right: Jerry Ann Allen, Laura Kelly, and Dr. Steven Evans.

Looking ahead, BBF's Breast Cancer Fund is taking a strong stand to aid cancer survivors in the next stage of their journey. With this, the fund will focus on post-recovery support, offering services like counseling and programs designed to help survivors navigate life after cancer. This initiative reflects our dedication to not just fighting cancer but also supporting the continued well-being of survivors.

The event reinforced the importance of unity in the fight against breast cancer. This battle is not just about raising awareness; it calls for actionable support, genuine compassion, and empowering each person to take control of their health.

There were several special guests at the event, including Jerry Ann Allen, MPM, BSM, RN, FCN and founder of Allen Place Community Services, Dr. Steven Evans, an oncologist at UPMC, and Joanne Boyd, the program director at UPMC Hillman Cancer Center's Office of Community Outreach and Engagement.

At BBF, our commitment to combating breast cancer is unwavering. We invite the entire community to join us in this fight, emphasizing that shared knowledge and teamwork are essential. Together, we can move towards a future where health is a priority for all. Your involvement is crucial, so please stand with us.



INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

EMPOWERING HEALTH IN PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico's proximity to the equator provides the island with more direct sunlight than more northern regions, making it an ideal location for solar power.

In the days after Hurricane Maria's Category 4-landfall in Puerto Rico in Sept. 2021, staff from the Hermanas Misioneras del Buen Pastor Clinic delivered aid to a pummeled island.

"They were on foot, marching to these really remote communities in the mountains, like kind of the first responders," says Joe Kselman, the founder of Solar Village Project

Brother's Brother Foundation has partnered with Solar Village Project to install solar arrays at three primary health centers in rural India. The latest project underway through the partnership will provide solar power to Hermanas Misioneras del Buen Pastor Clinic, a mental health clinic in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

Buen Pastor Clinic offers counseling services and child abuse prevention programs for a free or significantly reduced cost. It also hosts community blood drives and has become a key hub for disaster relief resilience and coordination.

But, as is the case for virtually all places across Puerto Rico's 100-mile-long island, power at the clinic is unpredictable.

"The [electric] grid was never in great shape, and then Maria and Irma kind of just knocked it out. And the reality is that rebuilding it is a very technically complicated process and not one that's being undertaken in a very successful and methodical way," Kselman says.

Buen Pastor Clinic loses power for a few hours nearly every day of the week, making it difficult to provide consistent services.

Puerto Rico's proximity to the equator provides the island with more direct sunlight than more northern regions, making it an ideal location for solar power. After Hurricane Maria left some Puerto Ricans without power for several months, many decided to switch to solar energy for more reliability. In addition to powering everyday appliances, solar panels also charge backup batteries that kick into gear when there's not enough sunlight to power the solar panels. On their own, battery backups can provide energy for two to three days before needing to be recharged.

From a financial standpoint, the long-term benefits of solar power are significant. Commercial electricity in Puerto Rico costs 60% more than in does in rest of the United States. This, coupled with a median annual household income of \$22,000, makes electricity nearly unaffordable in Puerto Rico. Over 40% of the island lives in poverty.

Solar power will allow Buen Pastor Clinic to extend its services and have a greater overall impact on the community. It will also save the clinic an additional three to four hundred dollars every month.

"In a place where poverty is such an issue, every dollar is really important," Kselman says.





Haiti

BBF provided a grant to Food for the Poor following the flooding and earthquake in Haiti.



Morocco

In response to the earthquakes, BBF provided a grant to LIFE for Relief and Development. The organization used the funding to distribute 250 food packs, reaching 1,500 people. BBF also sent a shipment of more than 750 hygiene kits.



United States

In 2023, BBF has provided grants and shipped requested relief supplies in response to seven disasters. These include:

Flooding in Vermont

Train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio

Tornadoes in Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi

Hurricane Idalia in Florida

Wildfires in Hawaii.



Libya

BBF provided a grant to LIFE for Relief and Development following the flooding in Libya.

DISASTER RESPONSE PROGRAM

In the first three quarters of 2023, BBF has provided grants, medication, and healthcare equipment and humanitarian supplies for relief and recovery efforts in the USA and seven other countries.



Ukraine

To date, BBF has sent more than 550 pallets of relief supplies to hospitals and partners in Ukraine.



Turkey and Syria

BBF provided grants to partner organizations and sent shipments of blankets and winter clothing, pharmaceuticals, and medical supplies. We also purchased 12 furnished container homes for displaced residents from the earthquakes.



Malawi

BBF provided a grant to Mulanje Mission Hospital and sent shipments of medical supplies following Cyclone Freddy.



EDUCATION PROGRAM

SUPPLIES IN HAND

PITTSBURGH STUDENTS CRAFT THEIR FUTURES

When students at West Liberty Elementary School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, were called down to the school gymnasium for a special presentation on Nov. 9, they came prepared. Each student would be leaving the assembly with their own set of school supplies, and they made banners to show their thanks.

In June, BBF provided a grant to sponsor West Liberty Elementary in The Education Partnership's Adopt-A-School program, giving each of the school's 200 students their own bag of notebooks, pencils, folders, crayons, and just about anything else they might need to succeed for the remainder of the school year.

Over 60% of the students at West Liberty PreK-5 come from low-income families, and 100% of the students qualify for the National School Lunch Program through the Community Eligibility Provision.

In Pennsylvania, state funding only covers 38% of public education costs and local districts rely on property taxes to make up for the difference. In low-income areas such as West Liberty, this funding isn't enough, and students from struggling families wind up attending struggling schools that often don't have enough resources to provide students with basic school supplies.

BBF began sponsoring West Liberty Elementary in the Adopt-A-School program in 2022. This year marked the start of a three-year commitment that will make sure the school's students and teachers have the school supplies they need to thrive in the classroom until 2026.

During the assembly, The Education Partnership's Executive Director, Josh Whiteside, spoke to students about TEP's partnership with Brother's Brother Foundation.

"The Brother's Brother Foundation is really cool because they're actually really similar to The Education Partnership. They give away stuff, but they give it away to everybody in the world in need," Whiteside explained to a gymnasium of third, fourth and fifth graders. "Here locally, we're honored that they've allowed us to help deploy school supplies so that they're not just all over the world, they're right here, they're here in your school."

Students were then led through an activity that encouraged them to think about the kind of job they might want to have when they are older. Answers ranged from becoming a firefighter and joining the military to teaching and playing music.

Having school supplies, Whiteside said, will give the students the tools they need to start pursuing a future they are passionate about.

"Whether you're in the classroom or you're at home, you have everything you need to figure out what it is that you love to do," he said.



Halee Porter, Program Coordinator for Adopt-A-School, hands out supplies to students at West Liberty Elementary School.





STAFF OUT AND ABOUT

FROM EMILY UMBLE, PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

This fall I was honored to attend two powerful conferences of which I was surrounded by representatives of national, international, and local non-governmental organizations as well as corporate donors. The first was an Education Forum organized by PQMD (Partnership for Quality Medical Donations) in Santa Barbara that allowed participants the space to explore heavy topics, such as current disaster response, climate change, and health system strengthening. The second event held right in BBF's backyard of downtown Pittsburgh was the Greater Pittsburgh Non-Profit Partnership Summit, which succeeded in sparking innovative thinking and collaboration among local non-profits. Speeches and sessions were guided by some of the most inspiring and pioneering leaders in the non-profit sector of western PA. The commonality I experienced at both events was the overwhelming determination of all to create positive change in our communities and all over the world.



WHAT YOU MISSED ONLINE



[Linkedin.com/company/brother-s-brother-foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/brother-s-brother-foundation)

Creating Ukraine's Next Generation of Nurses:
BBF is helping underprivileged students pay for their living expenses during nursing school in Lviv.



[facebook.com/brothersbrother](https://www.facebook.com/brothersbrother)

Critical Equipment Resumes Lab Operations
at Hôpital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti



twitter.com/Brothersbf_

BBF-donated EyeVan was in downtown
Pittsburgh for the Mission of Mercy clinic.



[instagram.com/brothersbrotherfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/brothersbrotherfoundation)

BBF's response to the wildfires in Hawaii
continue with the shipment of hardhats and
respirator masks.



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**Wishing you a joyous holiday season filled
with love, hope, and gratitude.**



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