

LIBERTY ROAD FOUNDATION

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

December 2008

Statistical studies tell us that poverty is a reality for almost three billion people, nearly half the world's population. Of these three billion, one billion subsist on less than one dollar a day. Poverty is the number one killer in the world and six million children under the age of five dies as a result of hunger and malnutrition. And, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, 35.9 million people live below the poverty line in America. A family of four earning \$19,307 dollars annually or less is considered below the national poverty line. And children make up 39% of the poor and 26% of the total population. I am sure you would agree with me that these statistics are mind boggling and hopefully eye opening.

The vision of Liberty Road Foundation is about working to change these statistics. It is about transformation, empowerment and equipping.

We are committed to becoming significant business leaders who are generous and committed to serving and building meaningful, lasting relationships. We are committed to building a team of passionate, dedicated businessmen and women committed to doing the Father's Heart that says, "Defend the poor and fatherless, do justice to the afflicted and needy." And "Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor." The word "poor" means something missing, something broken. That includes a whole lot of people.

We are committed to assist in transforming the workplace and those in need by connecting skills, talents and financial resources of both individuals and businesses with established non-profit agencies that provide programs of social, economic and spiritual development to those in need.

We are committed to helping to bring an end to the broken human condition, to build communities of hope. As God's Word so aptly puts it, to become those repairers of the breach, rebuilders of the waste places and restorers of the streets in which we live. It is as one has said, *"Show me your hands. Do they have scars from giving? Show me your feet are they wounded in service? Show me your heart have you left a place for divine love?"*

Where has Liberty Road Foundation been over this last year on this road to significance? And where are we headed for in 2009?

First of all, as many of you are aware, we began four and a half years ago as a private foundation rebuilding Batzchocolá, a village in Guatemala, and it was out of this that Liberty Financial Group saw what it was doing for their own employees and reflected, "If this project will do this for our business, it will do it for others." A public foundation was birthed a little over a year ago and we have been blessed in spite of the economic conditions. But when it's God's will and plan it doesn't matter what circumstances look like. And I thank God for many of you who are traveling this road to significance with us. **So where have we been over this last year?**

1. There are presently 12 businesses that are committed to giving back through their finances and employees volunteering.
2. There are presently 33 founders. What is a founder? A founder consists of businesses and individuals who commit to making a monthly financial contribution to help support the foundation.
3. There are presently 60 volunteers from partner businesses using their skills and talents to serve our partnering non-profits, donating over 700 hours and saving the non-profits thousands of dollars in food costs in meals served.
4. We started a Business Leaders Breakfast with the purpose of encouraging and empowering business leaders to walk the road to significance with us. Anywhere from 15 to 30 attend.
5. We started and completed our first major project in the inner city at one of our partner non-profits, Urban Impact, in the Rainier Valley, by converting an old shack into a future bike shed for a bike club and old field into a sports field. By businesses donating their time and materials, Urban Impact saved almost \$19,000. This is what Steve Bury, Executive Director of Urban Impact said, *“That completed bike shed and green grass has been a symbol of both new life and progress for our entire community. It brought reality to our dreams and plans that had felt dormant. As a result of the green grass, people are excited about the bike shed and day camp plans for the sports field and are excited about our major property development plan for affordable housing and commercial space. Thank you Liberty Road Foundation and all the businesses and individuals who gave of your time, material and labor.”*
6. With the financial assistance of one of our founders we were able to completely sponsor computer training of 12 families. Those families were each given a computer when their training was completed.
7. We also just finished, with the help of Doug’s Electric, the rewiring of the kitchen at Jubilee REACH Center, making it easier to cook meals for the Before School Program.
8. We were able to gift New Horizons Ministries with a \$1000 donation to their Street Bean Espresso Café. This is what Linda Ruthruff says, *“I believe that the café is going to be more than just another coffee shop. I see it as being a place of tremendous healing and hope for our young people as well as our neighbors and greater community. Thank you for believing in the greater vision of this new employment venture as we strive to empower homeless and street involved young people to leave street life and prostitution. I’m grateful for your partnership.”*
9. The 4th Annual Charity Golf Tournament and Auction in September was a success. There were 100 golfers and 180 attended the auction. It was our first year to run the event as a public non-profit and we netted \$44,000 on the worst day in the history of the U.S.
10. Because of the auction and the *Fund A Need* portion of it, we were able to donate \$2900 to Agros International for improvements to the road in Batzchocolá.

Our goals for 2009 are:

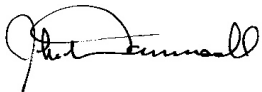
1. 50 businesses giving back to the community with their skills and talents.
2. 100 founders contributing monthly to the support of the foundation.
3. 200 volunteers serving at least 2200 hours.
4. The addition of another Business Leaders Breakfast to be started in February in the south end in Kent. There are presently 8 business leaders ready to attend.
5. Some other projects include: A new kitchen floor at Matt Talbott Center. More sponsorship of computer classes. Sponsorships of families, after school and before school sponsorships. Scholarship funds for the Arts and Sports. Many more meals to cook and endless opportunities for employees to volunteer in mentoring and using their skills. The 5th Annual Charity Golf Tournament & Auction is scheduled for August 16, 2009 at Newcastle Golf Course and our goal is to raise \$60,000! And we have a goal of putting on our 1st Annual 5K Run for Significance!

There is much to be done, many projects to be undertaken, lives to equip and empower, at risk children to be given a chance to become all that God intends for them to become. I encourage you to have a transformed imagination that sees yourself as a vehicle being used by God to bring both local and global transformation of the disadvantaged, helping to break the cycle of poverty and bringing hope to the hopeless. Your future rests in whatever is in your hands. Your hands were made to serve.

What Liberty Road Foundation is really about is being that bridge that connects the for-profit arena with the non-profit arena to get the job done. I want to thank you for traveling this road to significance with us and if you're not yet on the bus, I want to encourage you to do so because we have just begun to tap the potential of the difference that can be made in our community.

Can you catch that vision with me where hundreds of businesses and individuals are partnering with us to see to it that every child, every adult can be safe and have a warm place to lay their heads with food in their stomachs, and the opportunity to become all that God has purposed for them?

Sincerely,



John H. Dammarell, Executive Director

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