

THE PEANUT

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Issue 2, December 2013

Ghana Update



Ghana team renovates the new factory building with impressive speed.

3

Sierra Leone Update



Sierra Leone gears up for increased production in the New Year.

4

Holiday Giving



You can donate to PPB without spending an additional cent this year.

1

Small Scale Projects



The small-scale production projects in Kenya proved to be very fruitful.

2-3

Please visit our website at projectpeanutbutter.org.

Donate to PPB without spending an additional cent this holiday season

With the advent of the holiday season, many Americans reserve a portion of their generosity for their favorite charities. This year, we are excited to announce that there are methods of donating to Project Peanut Butter without even spending any additional cash. There are at least two ways of doing so: shopping through AmazonSmile and setting up a page on Pure Charity.

For those who frequently turn to Amazon for Christmas present inspiration, shopping instead on AmazonSmile is an easy way to donate to Project Peanut Butter. AmazonSmile offers the same products, prices, and services as amazon.com, but it allows the shopper to donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to a charity of his choosing. Visit smile.amazon.com, select our nonprofit, and you're good to go!

Pure Charity is a crowdfunding website that allows its members to support charities of their choosing every time they shop online at participating stores. For example, a member could shop at the North Face store online, and 2.5% of her total would be transferred into her Pure Charity "Giving Fund." She could then take the money in her giving fund and donate it to any worthy cause listed on the Pure Charity site. Project Peanut Butter has an ongoing fundraiser listed on the site called "Feed Malnourished Children in Chikwawa, Malawi." The goal of this fundraiser is to raise enough money to fund the operations of our largest clinic in southern Malawi during the 2013-2014 hungry season that can extend into April. Over \$8,000 remains to be raised. To set up a profile and support Project Peanut Butter on Pure Charity, simply visit www.purecharity.com, and follow the instructions.

Please spread the word to all of your online shopaholic friends, and have a safe and happy holiday.

Happy Holidays from PPB!



Above: An exciting glimpse of the new factory building in Blantyre, Malawi. The team hopes to begin moving production machinery and personnel to the new site in March 2014.

Small-scale production projects in Kenya prove fruitful

In late October, PPB USA staff member Margo Stoner returned from her trip to Kenya, where she had assisted the Dr. Hawa Abdi Foundation and the Orione Community Training Center with small-scale production of RUTF and other nutritional supplements. Both projects were a tremendous success.

Since 1983, the Dr. Hawa Abdi Foundation (DHAF) has provided emergency relief to hundreds of thousands of inhabitants of a sprawling refugee camp in war-torn Somalia. DHAF currently has around 400 severely malnourished children in their feeding program and needs a consistent supply of RUTF to treat these children, even during unstable times. Margo met with four enthusiastic DHAF representatives at the clinic of Dr. Hawa Abdi's daughter, Amina, in Nairobi. Through producing a few test batches with Margo, the DHAF trainees acquired knowledge about safe and quality production of RUTF and demonstrated thorough understanding of the process. The RUTF that was produced during training was carried (Ctd. on pg. 3)



Above: PPB USA staff member Margo Stoner teaches DHAF representative Ardo Abdille how to keep accurate production records.

(Ctd. from pg. 2)

back to the DHAF camp to be used for the feeding program.

Margo describes the experience of working with these inspiring women as both humbling and powerful. She remembers: "At the sight of the first bottles of RUTF produced, Dr. Amina even began to cry. She realizes the great impact that this program will have on the lives of their Somali children." Project Peanut Butter will provide ongoing support to DHAF's feeding program by funding the purchase of raw materials for three years and offering technical support whenever needed.

The Orione Community Training Center (OCTC), led by the Kenya Orione Priests, serves 45 children and youth with disabilities, from ages 5 to 27 years. Staff members at the center recognized that the children do not receive adequate nutrition, so PPB's lead food scientist, Dr. Kelsey Ryan, set about formulating an appropriate supplement that could be made at the center using local ingredients. Margo then visited the center to help them establish standard procedures for making the supplement. She reports, "Everyone at the center was so friendly and excited to get involved with this project. The kids were a joy to work with." PPB has

committed to supporting the OCTC project for at least one year.

Project Peanut Butter would like to thank the Hickey Family Foundation (HFF) and Every Child Fed (ECF) for their generous financial support, without which these projects would not have been possible.

Below: Dennis, an OCTC student, enjoys a nutritional supplement at lunch.



Ghana team renovates building with impressive speed

Renovations are well underway on PPB's future factory in Kumasi, Ghana. Luke Hostetter joined Dietrich Alderfer in mid-November, and the pair have been plenty busy overseeing many aspects of the building process. By Christmas day, they anticipate having all partition walls up, all interior plumbing completed, the transformer and electrical meter installed, the window vents attached, and the doors purchased.

Dietrich and Luke have been very impressed with the speed and professionalism with which the Ghanaian workers are able to lay block. Whereas concrete is not as familiar a construction material to Malawian builders, Ghanaian masons typically boast several years of block-laying experience thanks to Ghana's booming real estate industry.

Luke acknowledges the benefits of this quicker building pace: "We are excited about being ahead of schedule because we know that the sooner we can begin production [of RUTF], the sooner we can start saving lives. When we tell Ghanaian materials vendors about the mission of our company, many of them are very grateful in giving us a fair or even discounted price. It is

very encouraging to see the joy in our laborers' faces when we tell them about why we are here, since many of them migrated to Kumasi for reasons of poverty and unemployment."

Dietrich and Luke are enjoying their stay in Ghana so far and report that, "Life in Ghana has been busy but rewarding." Luke has been pleasantly surprised by the outward kindness of the Ghanaians he has encountered so far: "Coming to Ghana a month ago, I did not entirely know what to expect. I knew I would find poverty and corruption, but I never thought I would encounter such friendly people despite the circumstances. Dietrich and I like to run before work every day along the less busy, dirt roads through the poorer areas of town. It is amazing how many people greet us with warm smiles, a crisp 'good morning,' and a fist pump encouraging us to run harder and faster."

PPB's project in Ghana appears to be a resounding success so far, with all team members enthusiastic about its progress and eager to reach additional milestones. Keep up the impressive work, Ghana crew!



Above: The Ghana warehouse team pauses their construction activities to pose for a picture.

Sierra Leone gears up for increased production in the New Year

The New Year is fast approaching, and for the PPB factory team in Sierra Leone, this means a large increase in the production of RUTF. The team is busy preparing to fill one of its largest orders since production commenced in 2009: over 4,000 cartons of the life-saving therapeutic food. "This recent order represents an exciting opportunity to use our new peanut processing machinery to produce food that meets pretty stringent microbiological quality standards," explains PPB USA team member Margaret Loehnig. "This is really our chance to shine in Sierra Leone."

"It is very encouraging to see the joy in our laborers' faces when we tell them about why we are here." –Luke Hostetter, on Project Peanut Butter in Ghana



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