

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DBF, Inc. Associate Provides Humanitarian Aid



Improving our communities. Shaping the world around us. Creating value by design. These words not only form the vision statement for Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc., but they also serve as a guide for the firm's employees in their personal lives.

Josh Taylor, P.E., a Senior Engineer and Associate with DBF, Inc., has been designing water, wastewater, roadways, and other infrastructure systems on the Eastern Shore for nearly twenty years. Wishing to contribute more, however, Taylor took his service efforts global in 2008 by serving with Team Guatemala: Hope Rising, a humanitarian aid group based in Salisbury, Maryland.

Team Guatemala provides critical support to Hope of Life (HOL), an established Christian mission serving one of the poorest regions of Guatemala for more than twenty-five years. The mission's food, clothing, medicine, and education programs support the community by rescuing babies & children from malnutrition, providing prenatal & medical care, and providing complete care for orphans & elderly. Additionally, they provide safe homes for families, training & tools for planting gardens, and assistance with tending greenhouses, raising chickens, and farming tilapia. By supplying a means for education and livelihood, Hope of Life is helping the people of Guatemala to eventually become a self-supporting community. The organization strives to meet the basic physical needs of the region's people while also working to open the door to personal improvement and spiritual development; they save lives, promote education, foster independence, and inspire hope.

In its supporting role, Team Guatemala helps to raise awareness here on Delmarva for the tremendous needs in Guatemala, and works to share the faith, efforts and passion of the Hope of Life mission. Since joining the group, Taylor has assisted them with construction projects that include homes for families with no shelter, hospitals, churches, schoolrooms, orphanages, elderly care facilities, potable water wells, and green houses. During the group's annual trip to the region, the team also serves by caring for babies and children in the hospitals, spending time with orphans and the elderly, preparing donation items, feeding the hungry, and aiding in the rescue of abandoned babies.

Taylor's family, along with many other team members, sponsors children at the HOL orphanage. The mission trips allow an opportunity for them to spend valuable time with the orphans, showing them that their sponsorship is more than just a check in the mail and a couple of cards a year...it's a lasting, loving relationship. Following his recent trip to Guatemala, Taylor stated, "Participating in third world missions has had an indelible effect on my life. The need I have witnessed, the kindness I have observed, and the acts of love I have experienced have shaped the person I am today and who I will become tomorrow. No amount of service could allow me to pay back the debt I owe these life lessons, but I've learned to keep my eyes and heart open to opportunities to serve daily, both here at home and where there is someone in need."

In addition to donating items for the team to take to Guatemala, Taylor's DBF family has encouraged his efforts through prayers, fundraisers, financial contributions, donating essentials, and by even joining the team on trips to the region.

Michael Wigley, Architect and President of Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc., adds, "Through the experiences of Josh, many of us have come to a better understanding of just how impactful we can be to improve the quality of lives of others. Josh's work is inspirational. With much of what we've seen through him, we can become even better engineers, surveyors and architects - our work can make a difference."

To learn more about Hope of Life, please visit www.hopeoflifeintl.org online. If you are interested in assisting Team Guatemala with their goals, you may visit them at www.facebook.com/teamguat.

Davis, Bowen & Friedel, Inc., is a full-service architectural, engineering, and surveying firm, with offices in Salisbury and Easton, Maryland, and in Milford, Delaware. Additional information can be found online at www.dbfinc.com.

