UPS Foundation Expands Medical Drone Delivery Network Partnership in Africa

Since 2016, The UPS Foundation has collaborated with Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance; and Zipline to deliver blood, life-saving medicines and healthcare supplies via a medical drone delivery network that now serves 12 million people throughout Rwanda.

The UPS Foundation is proud to announce a $3 million investment in Ghana to implement an expanded drone delivery network this month. The plan includes four distribution centers, which will house the drone “nests” and support on-demand, life-saving delivery of 148 high priority products including: blood products; emergency and essential vaccines, such as snakebite anti-venom and emergency and preventive medicines, including insulin. UPS funding will help launch on-demand delivery service to 2,000 health facilities supported by the four distribution centers across the country. The first distribution center alone will serve more than 700 health facilities in Ghana, providing critical health commodities to more than 6.6 million people outside of Accra and roughly 12 million people across Ghana.

Last Mile Uganda Network Proves Impact, Expands in 2019

In July 2018, The UPS Foundation, UPS ISMEA district, and Freight in Time (FIT) began a pilot collaboration with Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance; and the Uganda Ministry of Health to increase vaccine coverage through cold chain delivery of vaccines and medicines. The project leverages cross-sector expertise and resources among partners and aims to ensure equitable allocation of vaccines to health facilities across Uganda, maintain vaccine quality during distribution, create a sustainable & timely vaccine distribution process, and implement an end-to-end visibility system. UPS authorized service contractor, FIT, will operate a fleet of refrigerated delivery trucks, motorcycles, and a boat that provide scheduled delivery service to health centers and use a custom app to provide delivery confirmation information, previously unavailable in Uganda. Throughout the delivery process, wireless temperature sensors ensure safe storage and delivery of the sensitive contents.

Initial results from the pilot project are in, and they indicate significant effectiveness at extending vaccine coverage and maintaining vaccine quality. From July through November 2018, the percentage of facilities with product stock outs was greatly reduced, from 79% in July to 7% in November. The three test districts saw a 33% increase in vaccine coverage. Given the encouraging pilot results, the Uganda Ministry of Health has indicated its interest to expand the current pilot to four additional districts—one in a remote, rural location. The project will expand to include delivery of other essential medicines in addition to vaccines to maximize vehicle capacity.
Community Safety Investment Strategy: To leverage UPS logistics expertise, resources, and philanthropy to enhance the safety and resilience of communities through support of and collaboration with organizations involved in humanitarian relief and resilience, road safety programs, and local community safety initiatives.

The approved 2019 grantees and their supported programs are listed below.

$75,000 for Advertising Council toward continued support of the Emergency Preparedness campaign to promote preparedness to American families and business owners

$500,000 for Asia Injury Prevention Foundation toward child helmet use and to improve driving behaviors among young and novice drivers in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam and expand to India and Philippines

$650,000 for American Red Cross toward the Annual Disaster Giving Program that allows the Red Cross to open shelters immediately following disasters; the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign; and in-kind support.

$1,686,667 for Boys & Girls Clubs of America toward continued support for the UPS Road Code® program for novice drivers in the United States

$150,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs of Canada toward continued support for the UPS Road Code® program in Canada and updated cloud-based simulators

$109,000 for Business in the Community Responsible Business Network toward continued support of the Business in the Community responsible business network International Leadership Team initiative and sponsorship of the 2019 Environmental Sustainability Award

$1,000,000 for CARE USA toward the Emergency Response Fund; the Commodity Tracking System platform, capacity building workshops for CARE Logisticians; in-kind and additional support

$75,000 for Center for Disaster Philanthropy toward support of the Disaster Philanthropy Playbook: A Guide for Philanthropists and Funders; and toward sponsorship of CDP’s Issue Insights Webinar series

$60,000 for Citizenship Education Fund toward continued support for the 2019 Push for Safety teen safe driving program; and additional support

$185,000 for the Emirates Foundation, toward continued development and expansion efforts of the UPS Road Code® program in the United Arab Emirates; community preparedness workshops; and additional support

$211,000 for Fleet Forum toward continued support for the 2019 Fleet Forum Safety Modular Driver training program in South Africa; and additional support

$150,000 for Fundación Gonzalo Rodríguez toward Road Safety Program for Motorcyclists in Argentina

$500,000 for Gavi toward STEP 2 Training Program development, last mile capacity building, training and technology support, in-kind support for Ghana drone expansion; and additional support

$95,000 for Georgia Tech Foundation toward scholarship support for 10 practitioners from NGOs of developing countries to earn a certificate in Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Management; and additional support.

$100,000 for the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety toward support for a research study for First Response & Emergency Care in India

$500,000 for Good360 toward DisasterRecovery360 platform technology enhancement, Disaster Council and Recovery Kits, and in-kind shipping support.
$30,000 for Guías de México A.C. toward continued support for the 2019 UPS Road Code® program in Mexico

$65,000 for HandsOn Shanghai toward continued support for the 2019 UPS Road Code® program in Shanghai, China

$105,000 for InterAction toward Diversity & Inclusion Young Leaders program, and sponsorship support of the 2019 InterAction CEO Roundtable

$200,000 for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) toward Emergency Funding Partnership for Road Safety in India, and Local Engagement Program; and in-kind support

$550,000 for Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e.V. toward expansion efforts for the 2019 UPS Road Code® program in Germany and Austria

$235,000 for MedShare International toward equipping health professionals in underserved countries with vital medical supplies; toward in-kind support; and additional support

$250,000 for National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) toward the Long-term Recovery initiative; toward the Long-term Recovery Mini-Grant program, toward in-kind support; and additional support

$200,000 for Operation HOPE toward the Disaster Recovery Fund to help disaster survivors with financial recovery solutions; and additional support

$125,000 for Safe America Foundation toward the 2019 Be Safe America Community Resiliency and National Preparedness Program, and additional support

$350,000 for Salvation Army toward the Salvation Army’s Emergency Response Fund; toward the Long-term Recovery Fund; toward in-kind support; and additional support

$200,000 for SBP toward the National Disaster Resilience and Recovery Lab, providing rebuilding support for communities impacted by disasters

$50,000 for Together for Safer Roads toward program support of its road safety program that brings together global private-sector companies to focus on improving road safety and reducing deaths and injuries from road traffic collisions

$426,800 for UK Youth toward continued support for the 2019 UPS Road Code® program in the United Kingdom; and additional support

$170,000 for the United Nations Development Programme toward support of the UNOCHA-UNDP Connecting Business for Disaster Risk Reduction Initiative

$70,000 for United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) toward support for the Prevention Web website, the disaster risk reduction knowledge exchange platform; and additional support

$75,000 for United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Efforts (OCHA) toward support of OCHA’s Private Sector initiative

$1,250,000 for United States Association for UNHCR toward capacity building for Global Fleet Management; toward Emergency Preparedness Supply Training; toward the UPS Emergency Fund; toward Safe Road Use workshops; toward the Ethiopia Urban Child Protection Program; and in-kind support
The UPS Foundation announces 2-year grant to helmet safety initiatives in Asia

The UPS Foundation pledged continued grant funding to Asia Injury Prevention (AIP) Foundation’s helmet and road safety program, which provides helmets and road safety training to children in regions in Asia at high risk for road crashes. Since 2011, AIP has donated 35,000 helmets to children in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam through its Helmets for Kids initiative. In these countries, 2-wheel vehicle use is common and accounts for most road crashes. Helmets for Kids includes instruction and skills building of young and inexperienced motorcycle drivers to further bolster public road safety. The grant will expand the program to the Philippines and provide 23,500 helmets to children across the five-country reach through 2020.

The grant will also support AIP’s School-Based Helmet Safety Program in New Delhi, India, that will reach elementary school children in communities at high risk for road crashes and fatalities. Helmets and road safety training will be delivered to 2,000 children. The project supports the World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Road Safety Initiative, a public-private collaboration with WEF and other global organizations to improve road safety worldwide, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. At WEF’s annual meeting in Davos, UPS announced its role in The Global Road Safety initiative. The announcement and continued support for road safety programs reflects The UPS Foundation’s commitment to global public road safety.

UPS and partners team up to transport toys to Puerto Rico

The UPS Foundation, Good360 and The Safe America Foundation came together on January 6, Three Kings Day, to distribute more than 15,000 toys to children in Puerto Rico, in collaboration with the first lady of Puerto Rico. UPS Country Manager Jose Oramas and UPS volunteers helped with local toy distribution at three locations: San Juan, Moca and Yauco. The UPS Foundation transported all the toys from Omaha to Puerto Rico during the fourth quarter to support Puerto Rico families who are still recovering from Hurricane Maria as part of its Humanitarian Relief and Resilience long-term recovery efforts.

Harvard Business Review features disaster relief Q&A with Eduardo Martinez

UPS Foundation President, Eduardo Martinez, was featured by the Harvard Business Review on private-sector disaster relief best practices. Martinez highlighted a breadth of past UPS experience in disaster relief and recovery, how to ensure sustainable and long-term recovery, and common mistakes in the field—often by well-meaning individuals. For more, see the full interview here: [hbr.org/2019/01/giving-after-disasters](http://hbr.org/2019/01/giving-after-disasters).
UPSer’s volunteer commitment goes above and beyond

APAC Region—China

For months, UPSer Zheng Hai rallied friends and fellow UPSers to volunteer daily from 6am to 8am at a senior center in Changping, China, contributing a total of 597 volunteer hours. The official time was spent serving breakfast for the elderly, but Zheng Hai didn’t stop there. He found out that some of the elderly community members had difficulty walking home, and that many lived alone. So after his official volunteer shifts, he started walking home with them and doing light housekeeping work for those who needed it. His dedication to volunteerism is an inspiration, and he continues to encourage friends and family to spend time volunteering.

GBS Pune exceeds volunteer goal

ISMEA Region—India

GBS Pune set their sights high this past Global Volunteer Month, aiming to log 6,000 volunteer hours. In the end, the group organized 30 volunteer activities where 1,100 UPSers, family, and friends contributed a grand total of 6,248 volunteer hours. The activities took the group to a wide range of nonprofits, and volunteer time was spent leading children in arts and crafts, instructing on hygiene and the importance of education, distributing food to the needy, and planting trees. This group reflects the true UPS spirit of volunteerism through efforts to help the underserved in their community.

Nigeria’s Street to School Initiative benefits from UPS volunteers

ISMEA Region—Nigeria

UPSers in Nigeria have contributed volunteer support to the Street to School Initiative, a nonprofit-led effort that empowers children from underserved communities who are not in school by supporting educational programs. Ten UPSers and friends spent 59 hours volunteering with the Street to School Initiative, spending their time mentoring, counseling, and teaching children to bolster the program’s effectiveness and reach.

UPS Mexico Millennial BRG spearheads national volunteer event

Americas Region—Mexico

UPS Mexico’s Millennial BRG hosted and coordinated a volunteering event where UPSers, family and friends delivered food to those in need. For the event, called Happy Sandwich Day, volunteers collected food donations, packed lunch boxes and distributed them to more than 3,600 people in need. To coordinate the event, the BRG designated 19 locations across Mexico where the volunteers delivered the food. More than 400 volunteers clocked 2,460 hours for this volunteer event. Given the success, the project will be expanded throughout the region in 2019.
Important Dates

May
- Mental Health Awareness Month
- 8: World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day
- 15: International Day of Families

June
- LGBT Month
- 1: Global Day of Parents
- 20: World Refugee Day

Humanitarian Relief & Resilience Program 2018 Year in Review available

The UPS Foundation had another significant and impactful year in 2018. Through the Humanitarian Relief & Resilience (HRRP) program, UPS contributed its thought leadership and resources to build community and small business disaster response capacity and responded to 29 major world disasters. In 2018, UPS invested over $16 million in funding, in-kind, and technical support for community safety initiatives, deployed skilled volunteers on 11 occasions to preeminent humanitarian organizations and transported 623 shipments to 71 countries. We should all be proud of what we were able to accomplish together in 2018.

Read more about The UPS Foundation’s impactful global humanitarian work in 2018 here.

Community Engagement (cont’d)

UPSer give more than their time

Americas Region—New York

In the Northeast district, UPSers have built a meaningful partnership with a local nonprofit. The group has been volunteering at Visions Center for the Blind (VCB), a residential vision rehabilitation and training center. The volunteer work, completed by 258 volunteers logging 1,200 hours, has included clean-up days and IT volunteer support to replace the center’s computer lab technology, with a donation from The UPS Foundation, and to set up a wireless network in dormitories, with equipment generously donated by the volunteers themselves.

Awards & Announcements

UPS-World Food Programme project wins humanitarian award

A World Food Programme (WFP) supply chain optimization tool supported by the UPS Experts on Mission Program was recently recognized as Best Humanitarian Innovation 2018 by the Dutch Coalition for Humanitarian Innovation (DCHI). The tool, Optimus, helps to optimize planning and supply chain efficiency on behalf of the WFP, and is a multi-sector project that also leverages expertise from Georgia Tech and Tilburg University. Optimus is a vital tool to solve the logistical challenges faced by the World Food Programme as it provides food assistance to more than 80 million individuals around the world, often under precarious circumstances. Read about the award and the impact Optimus is having on WFP operations here.

UPS and Gavi discuss vaccine delivery solutions

UPS Foundation President Ed Martinez participated in a panel at Gavi’s Mid-Term Review Meeting in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. A partner of The UPS Foundation, Gavi’s mission is to increase access to vaccines in the developing world. The UPS Foundation and Gavi have a unique partnership and together have successfully created and implemented a drone delivery network for healthcare goods and materials in Rwanda. The panel discussed the innovative solutions for vaccine delivery that are being carried out by Gavi with support from UPS. This project is a great example of the powerful cross-sector partnerships that UPS is honored to be a part of.

UPS named one of America’s most JUST companies

UPS was named to Forbes and JUST Capital’s “JUST 100” list, and was further recognized among awardees as the industry leader in the transportation sector. The list celebrates the largest publicly-traded American corporations, ranking them on corporate citizenship standards that include leadership and ethics, worker well-being, job creation, local community support, environmental impact, and more.