



# Alliance Shares

**Newsletter for Members of ASH**

Find out how Alliance for Shared Health is helping communities in East Africa through the Bible Army International Church.



PRESIDENT OF ALLIANCE FOR SHARED HEALTH

# Mike's Minute



“What I did not realize was how quickly I would be stirred by the kind of emotion that turns an occupation into a pursuit and a calling.”

In early February, the ASH Board, along with our vendor consultant and needs processor, journeyed to East Africa with Pat Bradley of Crisis Aid International. We wanted to experience the impact of ASH's health share predecessor – Bible Army International Church (BAIC) – with our own eyes. Not only that, while our leadership team knew the significance the medical sharing was providing, we were on a mission to paint a picture for our U.S. members to fully understand the life-changing impact of their affiliation.

What I saw and felt as we toured the villages of East Africa has been burned into my innermost being. As I held the hand of young children in desperate need of medical care, and looked into the eyes of the mothers and fathers clinging to their last hope, it all became clear to me.

We are all connected. And we all need each other.

My first duty as the president of ASH is to build a sharing ministry that helps ASH's U.S. based members find an oasis from the desert of traditional health care. The more effective ASH is at collectively meeting the needs of its members, the greater will its impact will be around

the world. That is because as ASH grows, so too does the value of the contribution ASH's U.S. based members make toward our international medical sharing and relief predecessor.

In May, the new pediatric hospital will open in the village of East Africa. By the end of the year, it will be a sixty bed facility saving the lives of countless children on the brink of death, and reinvigorating families that were on the verge of dealing with the death of a child for the rest of their lives. Hope has arrived.

This would not be happening without you.

Here is where the emotional pursuit comes in – I cannot get the images of those desperate mothers and sick children out of my mind. Doing nothing is no longer an option because of what I saw and experienced (if you haven't seen the video, here it is). Yet, I am unable to make a meaningful difference without you. And the greatest way to get you involved is to strengthen who ASH is for its U.S. members. We are on a mission to make ASH the premier health share ministry solution in the United States and the U.S.V.I.

I am driven by this pursuit. When the pain we experience becomes the passion in us to help others, it becomes a calling that has to be answered.

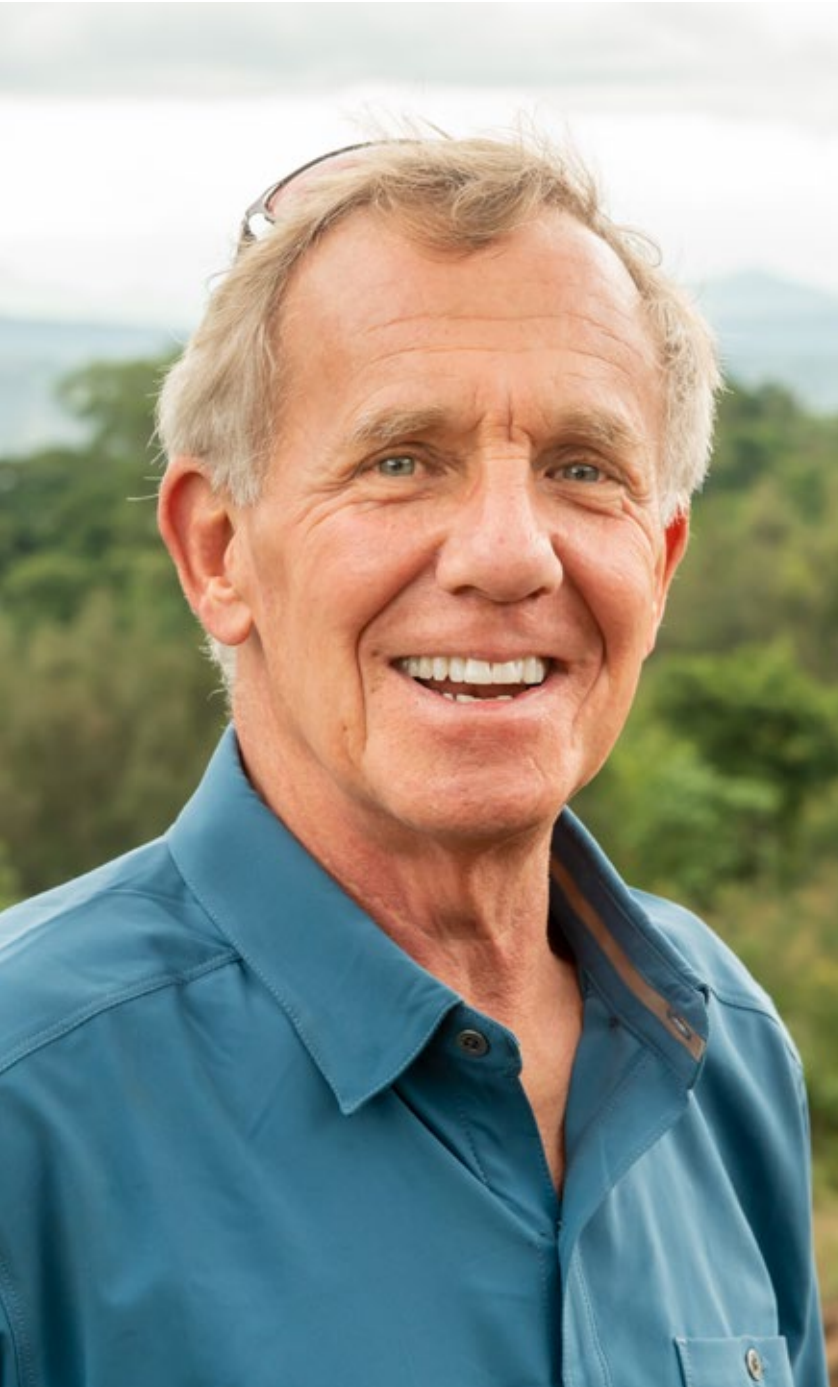
**LET'S CHANGE HEALTH CARE. LET'S CHANGE LIVES. TOGETHER.**



**SEE THE ASH IMPACT IN EAST AFRICA**

CRISIS AID INTERNATIONAL

# THE BAIC CONNECTION



In order to meet the Federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) guidelines regulating Health Share Ministries, the entity must meet several requirements. One of those is that it has a predecessor relationship with a non-profit entity that has been assisting people with health care needs since December 31st, 1999. ASH members are conjoined (joined together for a common purpose) with Bible Army International Church (BAIC). \$1.00 per month of your contribution joins each member to BAIC through our shared Statement of Beliefs. This one dollar has substantial impact on the medical sharing and relief in East Africa.

The connection between ASH and BAIC was facilitated through Crisis Aid International (CAI) in St. Louis, Missouri. Pat Bradley is the founder of CAI and the liaison between the two, and a member of ASH's advisory Board.

For more on Crisis Aid, go to their website at

[CrisisAid.org](https://CrisisAid.org)

Listen to The BAIC Connection

[Listen Here!](#)

**ASH:** Can you give ASH members a brief background of CAI?

**Pat:** I was in South Sudan in February of 2000. I witnessed firsthand the results of the genocide that triggered massive starvation, disease, danger. God burned it in me that I could not just “walk away.” I returned to the U.S. and began raising money and awareness and start flying 2lb bags of rice into “no-go” zones.

**ASH:** So that was the “spark” that ignited CAI into what it is today? Can you say more about CAI’s present-day activities?

**Pat:** We have worked in 11 different countries, providing more than 18 million pounds (92,978 meals) of food to over 2.7 million adults. CAI has rescued over 1450 girls – ages 4 to 30 – from sex trafficking around the world, and in the U.S. have provided a safe haven from human trafficking to over 190 girls. More than 565,000 have received medical care.

**ASH:** CAI has been recognized as a top charity by several third-party vetting services. What can you tell us about these designations?

**Pat:** We are grateful to have received these rankings. They are not easily obtained. One vetting organization, which reviews more than one million nonprofits, ranked Crisis Aid in the top 1% of all nonprofits in the USA. To me personally, integrity and transparency, with not just donors, but everyone, is nonnegotiable.

**ASH:** What can you tell us about your relationship with BAIC?

**Pat:** We have known them for over 10 years. In order for us to have impact, we need the local church. BAIC has had a heart to minister to the people of Ethiopia since 1996, beginning with the outbreak of HIV. They have been meeting medical needs for a long time and they help pave the way for CAI to respond to those in desperate need in East Africa. Without their connection, CAI would struggle to function over there.

**ASH:** How did the connection to ASH and BAIC come together?

**Pat:** Oh gosh. I have known Corey Durbin (CEO of Shared Health Alliance – ASH’s vendor consultant) since 2001. Over coffee one day, he shared with me how ASH was responding to the health care crisis in the U.S. yet it wanted to be part of a health care sharing ministry that pre-dated 1999.

**ASH:** And you immediately thought of BAIC?

**Pat:** Oh yes. It was a natural fit. Their name is Bible Army International Church. While BAIC was having significant impact sharing the gospel by meeting the medical needs of its members and those in the local villages, it had a vision to establish international membership. Once their team reviewed the ASH Statement of Beliefs and was comfortable adopting those for international members, a path was cleared to conjoin the members so that ASH could become a health sharing ministry of Bible Army Church.

**ASH:** What is the impact to BAIC?

**Pat:** The financial impact is exponential. One U.S. dollar is the equivalent of \$32 in Ethiopia. The \$1.00 per member per month contribution has allowed for the completion of a new Pediatric Hospital that will open in June, and when phase two is done, it will have 100 beds. It will literally save lives and restore hope in that area. This would not be happening right now without ASH.

**ASH:** Is there anything else you would like to convey to ASH members?

**Pat:** Just “thank you.” I know ASH is growing itself into an incredible alternative to traditional health care, and I just hope and pray that each member sees that they are an integral part of something so much bigger. As their needs are met, they are meeting the health care needs of hurting people across the globe.

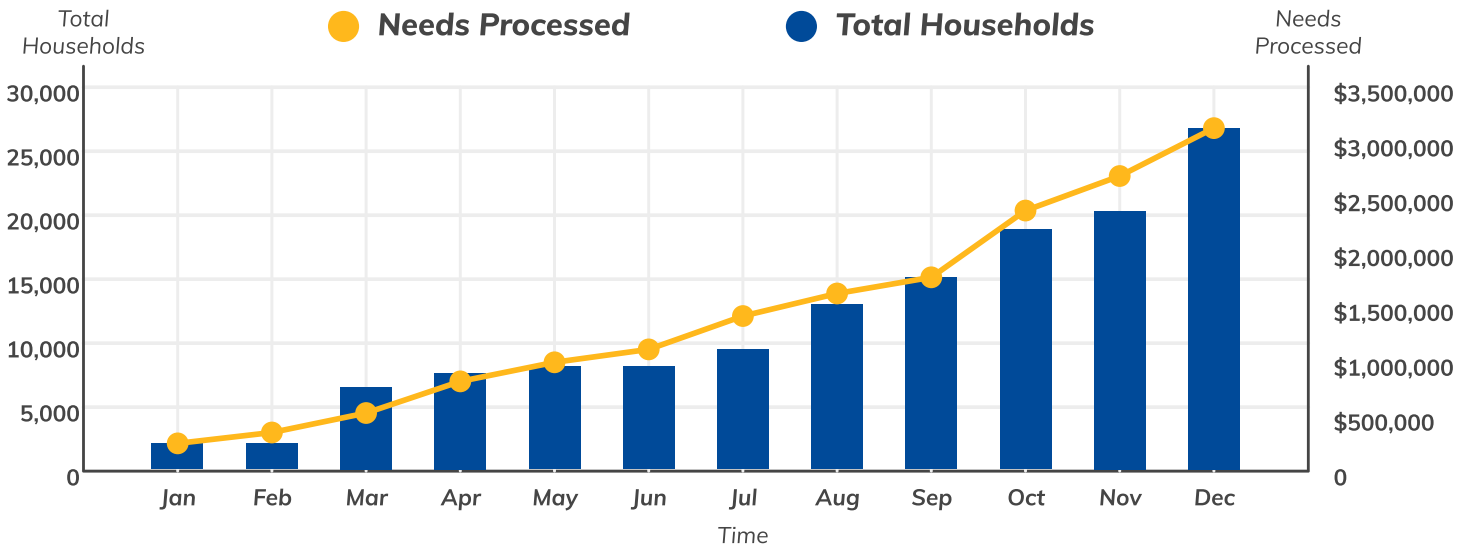


***When you are a part of ASH, you are getting your medical care. With your membership you are making an impact on another human being.***

**-CHRIS WHITNEY**  
ASH Board Of Directors



# MEDICAL NEEDS SHARING SUMMARY



## PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS

Combined Member Prescriptions Savings: **Over \$12,500,000**

SHARx is a key part of the ASH program. It helps members access high cost maintenance medications and specialty medications. SHARx members accessed over \$12,500,000 in prescriptions at either \$0 cost or 70-90% less than retail.



### HEALTHY FOUNDATIONS

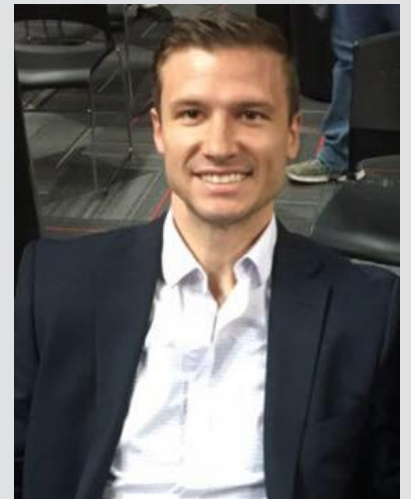
As part of your ASH membership, you have access to the Healthy Foundations video coaching. About every 10 days, ASH members receive a link to a new training video. Valuable information is shared that will help members get and stay healthy.



#### Derik Scott

**Fitness Coach**

Inaugural Titan games runner-up  
Professional MMA fighter  
Guinness Book of World Records holder



#### Zeke Scott

**Health Coach**

Former Professional MMA Fighter  
Former minor league football quarterback  
Guinness Book of World Records holder

**Watch Here!**