



Outside the Bowl

September 2020

Hunger threatens to kill more people than COVID-19 this year

Supply chains, economies and consumer purchasing power hit by coronavirus



Washington: The world is hurtling toward an unprecedented hunger crisis. As many as 132 million more people than previously projected could go hungry in 2020, and this year's gain may more than triple any increase this century. The pandemic is upending food supply chains, crippling economies and eroding consumer purchasing power. Some projections show that by the end of the year, COVID-19 will cause more people to die each day from hunger than from virus infections.

What makes the situation unmatched: The massive spike is happening at a time of enormous global food surpluses. This is happening in every part of the world, with new levels of food insecurity forecast for countries that used to have relative stability.

By the end of the year, as many as 12,000 people could die a day from hunger linked to COVID-19, potentially more than those perishing from the virus itself, charity Oxfam International estimates. That's calculated based on a more than 80% jump for those facing crisis-level hunger.

Schools Reopen in South Africa Demand for OTB Instant Meals Continues to Grow



Schools have finally reopened in South Africa and with that happening the demand for our Instant Meals has grown dramatically. Due to the COVID shut down almost 9 million students went without the daily meal that they normally would have received in school. Thankfully our new production facility is scheduled to open by the first of October. There was a bit of a delay in being able to receive the new production equipment but hopefully all of it will be installed in just a few weeks.

With our new facility we will be able to produce nearly 500,000 servings a day. We have already started to deliver what we can to the local schools near our facility in Paarl, South Africa. We have received orders for 60,000 more meals a day from Peninsula School Feeding Systems in the Western Cape area and have just shipped our first batch of 15 tons.

OTB Mexico Update

Schools have started again in Mexico but only as remote classes. In person classrooms will not open again until the first of the new year. This means that our kitchen in Mexicali will remain closed until then or until we can find another way to help provide meals to the community.

We have reduced our staff in Tijuana to just 2 and they are working three days a week to continue to provide meal packs to families. We have been able to maintain donations that allow us to sponsor almost 150 meal packs to those in the community around the kitchen there.



OTB Haiti Update

Many of our ministry partners have opened backup since the lock-down in Haiti has been lifted. This means that our kitchen has begun to prepare hot meals again. However the problem now is that the price of ingredients has nearly doubled in the last 3 months. This situation means that many in Haiti can not afford to pay for food on a daily basis.

Our team in Haiti has stepped in to look for innovative new ways we can provide food to the most needy in Port-au-Prince. Just one of the ways they have come up with is to do packaged meals in "take out" boxes. The kitchen there is doing 400 meals a day this way for an orphanage as well as to a tent city near the grounds of the capital.

OTB Gala For 2020 Has Been Postponed

We are sorry to announce that the Outside the Bowl annual Gala has been postponed. With all the varying government mandates on large group gatherings and just the general uncertainty of the times we have decided that it will be best to plan on moving the date of our annual gala to next year.

However, we are planning on something special for this year to take the place of the Gala. So.. keep watching your inbox.



Thank you for being part of Outside the Bowl as together, we feed the hungry ... body & soul!

With HOPE,

The OTB International Family