Social Contribution Activities

Promoting Social Contribution Activities Globally on a Shared Awareness among the Whole Brother Group

Social contribution activities are a part of the Brother Group’s management to achieve “Global Vision 21,” the Brother Group’s mid- to long-term vision. In practicing such management, it is important to properly identify demands and expectations for Brother through interactive communication with local communities, and to work hard to define our responsibilities and seek new opportunities that will lead to business growth.

Support for Post-Quake Reconstruction

Donations from Kizuna Fund to Shichigahama Town, Miyagi Prefecture

In July 2017, the Brother Group donated the money raised by its employees (Kizuna Fund) to Shichigahama Town, Miyagi Prefecture, which the group had been supporting since the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake. The donated money is to be used for the “global human resources development program,” which is currently conducted by the town based on its reconstruction policies. In the donation ceremony, Town Mayor Terasawa said that the contributions would be used to purchase English educational materials designed for children to get familiar with English and that he would further promote the reconstruction of the town to make it attractive.

Contribution to the Reconstruction of Disaster-hit Areas through the Purchase of Their Local Products

Aiming to help the reconstruction of quake-hit areas through the purchase of goods made in such areas, the Brother Group has regularly held markets for employees since 2013. In November 2017, the Brother Group held its 14th market in the commemoration event for the 75th anniversary of the founding of Nissei Corporation. This event invited not only group employees but also community residents, and about 200 people bought goods from the quake-stricken Tohoku region and Kumamoto Prefecture.

Environmental and Social Contribution

Brother Industries, Ltd. (“BIL”) concluded an agreement with Gifu Prefecture and Gujo City therein to designate three areas in the city, including a former ski area, as the “Brother Forests in Gujo” in 2008 and since then has conducted reforestation activities. Since the execution of the agreement, BIL has implemented tree planting twice a year, in the spring and the fall. Between the first activity in June 2008 and the 20th activity in October 2017, a total of 5,906 trees were planted. In the tree planting activity carried out in October 2017, BIL received a letter of gratitude from the mayor of Gujo City in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the agreement, and also conducted commemorative tree planting with four employees who had taken part in all 20 activities since 2008. One of the four employees said: “I just enjoyed planting trees as recreation at the beginning. I, however, have grown a strong attachment to the Brother Forests and now plant trees with a desire to see the forests grow up. I would like to nurture the forests continuously together with people involved in tree planting.”
The Brother Group has been promoting participation in charity events to support cancer patients, aiming to conduct social contribution activities with its employees and with a sense of unity on a global scale. In 2011, the group named such activities the “Golden Ring Project,” imagining a ring of support on a world map drawn by connecting the support activities conducted by respective group facilities with a line. In FY2017, employees and their families at 22 group facilities all over the world participated in this project.

Many of the facilities working on the “Golden Ring Project” take part in the charity event “Relay For Life.” In this event, participants make donations and walk for 24 hours with their team members to increase their awareness and knowledge about cancer and encourage cancer patients. Donations raised are used for new cancer treatment/medication development, scholarships for young doctors, and so forth.

In 2017, Brother Industries (Slovakia) s.r.o., one of the manufacturing facilities of the Brother Group in Europe, joined “Run for Life,” a charity event for supporting cancer patients, in the capital of Slovakia.

The Brother Group will widen the circle of employees who are willing to join the “Golden Ring Project.”

Golden Ring Project

Brother Internationale Industriemaschinen GmbH (“BIMH”), which is a sales facility of the Brother Group located in Emmerich, a city in the northwest of Germany, conducts a variety of local contribution activities throughout the year. In May, BIMH co-sponsored the “Truckers Run,” an event for children with serious diseases or disabilities, who have limited opportunities to go out, to enjoy a driving trip by truck. This event aims to provide such children with an opportunity to feel the joy of going out by making a four-hour, 65-km round trip from Kalkar to 's-Heerenberg through Emmerich, with one child in the front passenger seat of each truck.

In addition, BIMH donated an automated external defibrillator (AED) in November. In Germany, AED installation in theaters and other public facilities has been promoted to respond to emergency situations. The donated AED was installed in a municipal theater, which is familiar to the local residents, at the beginning of November and helped prepare the theater for emergencies.

Activities by Brother’s R&D Facility in China to Support Disadvantaged People

In FY2017, Brother System Technology Development (Hangzhou) Ltd. (“BSH”), the R&D facility of the Brother Group in China, donated books and clothes to needy people. In September, BSH donated books to a school with poor educational resources to provide an opportunity for children to enjoy stories and deepen their knowledge through book reading. The company sent 95 picture books and novels gathered from its employees to the children of a school located in Liu Pan Shu City, Guizhou Province.

In October, BSH gave clothes to deprived people so that they would be able to stay warm during the severe cold winter months. In response to the company’s call for clothing donations, employees donated a total of 45 items including coats, mufflers, and gloves, and these clothes were delivered to people living in a suburb of Baoding City, Hebei Province through a non-profit organization.