

Bright Light

Bright Light was formed in 1993 by Jon C. Maxey, James B. Flickinger, and Robert Hiner. The initial goal of the group was to secure and deliver medical supplies to victims of war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The group differs from other humanitarian groups as they physically deliver all medical supplies from the United States to the hospitals and to the refugees in Bosnia-Herzegovina – making over 20 trips, during the war. All donations to Bright Light go to help those in need.

Jon Maxey, Jim Flickinger and Bob Hiner take no salaries, they pay all of Bright Light's administrative costs and all of their own travel expenses out of their own funds.

Balkans (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo) since 1993

- Delivered over \$5,500,000 in medicine and medical supplies to hospitals during the war (includes 6 vans donated by General Motors Corporation)
- Arranged financial support for 125 destitute families during the war
- Built a \$60,000 playground, on the front lines in Sarajevo during the war.
- Provided ongoing aid in refugee centers in the Balkans region

Comments about the Bright Light Project

Former President William J. Clinton

At a press conference on 12.12.95 after the former President and Mrs. Clinton met in the Oval Office with Jon Maxey, Jim Flickinger, Bob Hiner and 4 other individuals doing humanitarian work in Bosnia:

“Thank you for your remarkable efforts... These are a series of astonishing human testaments. I don't know that I've ever felt more proud to be an American than when I've heard you talk. It is very important that these efforts continue, and in fact be intensified. This kind of energy can turn nightmares into peace.”

Senator Hillary Rodham-Clinton

At a press conference on 12.12.95 after the former President and Mrs. Clinton met with Jon Maxey, Jim Flickinger, Bob Hiner and 4 other individuals doing humanitarian work in Bosnia:

“You have made extraordinary efforts to help those in need.”

John Engler, Governor of the State of Michigan

In a letter dated 4.28.00:

“I commend your efforts with the relief programs and encourage you to continue your work... Your humanitarian efforts have and will continue to make a real difference in the lives of many...”

Don M. Mayton, General Motors Plant Manager In a letter dated 12.14.95:

“I want to congratulate you on your success to get medical supplies to Bosnia!... I am proud to know you and what you stand for to make this happen. Thank you for your witness to the Lord and what you believe in.”

Diocese of Grand Rapids

Remarks on 3.18.00 when Jim Flickinger was selected to receive the Bishop Francis J. Haas Social Justice Award:

Bill Barta, Vice President of International Aid From The Grand Rapids Press 12.4.94:

“These are great guys. These guys are just bubbling over with enthusiasm. It’s really neat to see how they give their time.”

Joseph D. Spielman
Vice President & General Manager,
General Motors Corporation
In a letter dated 4.4.00

“In my opinion, this organization’s greatest accomplishments have been in the example they give and the momentum they foster... Bright Light develops a systematic program of assistance from a zero baseline. Often, once the groundwork has been laid, other long-established and more endowed institutions ‘pitch in’ to enhance the endeavor. This has happened countless times. No one loses by this approach... everyone, especially those in need, become winners... Bright Light is certainly the catalyst for many philanthropic causes and I am privileged (and proud) to have been associated with this organization.”

Awards and Recognition

GM Presidents Council Honors
Awarded to Jon C. Maxey

Invitation to the White House by former
President and Mrs. Clinton
*The entire group had an audience with then
President and Mrs. Clinton*

Various awards from the Grand Rapids Bar
Association and other Grand Rapids
organizations
Presented to Jim Flickinger

The Peace Award from the National Secular
Franciscan Order
Awarded to Jim Flickinger 2001
*Past recipients include Martin Luther King Jr.
and Pope John Paul II.*

Donors

Amway Corporation, Best Packaging, Dow
Chemical Company, Fuji Corporation,
General Motors Corporation, International
Aid Numerous, Major Hospitals,
Parke-Davis, Van's Transportation Services
and many others.

Press

Featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, CNN
Featured in various newspaper and news
bureau articles including USA TODAY, The
Detroit News, The Grand Rapids Press, The
Associated Press

Bright Light Endorsements

Former President William J. Clinton

Senator Hillary Rodham-Clinton

**John Engler,
Governor of the State of
Michigan**

**Cardinal Vinko
Puljik, Archdiocese
of Sarajevo**

**G. Richard Wagoner, Jr.,
President and CEO of General Motors
Corporation**

**Don M. Mayton,
General Motors Plant
Manager**

**Bill Barta,
Vice President of
International Aid**

Diocese of Grand Rapids

**Joseph D. Spielman,
Vice President & General
Manger, General Motors
Corporation**