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Rochester, NY 14617

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Looking for more information? Email us at events@intervol.org



Call our office at (585) 922-5810

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**SKI MISSION
POSSIBLE
TO BENEFIT INTERVOL**

SAVE THE DATE: February 9, 2018

**Do you have a
drawer full of
old eyeglasses?**



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**Look for our designated
bins or contact us.**
(585) 922-5810
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**ATTENTION
FOODIES!**

Join our Cooking Classes at
Max at Eastman!



Cost: \$65 per person

- January 8
- February 5
- March 5
- April 9
- May 7
- June 4

CONSTELLATION BRANDS: *When the Stars Align*

Over the course of a month, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria left three paths of widespread destruction across the Caribbean and the southern United States. The calls for help were too numerous to count, but were especially critical in Puerto Rico. Already reeling from Hurricane Irma on September 6th, Hurricane Maria struck the island just two weeks later as a high-end Category 4 hurricane. The entire island was left without power, severely hampering operation of hospitals, seaports, and airports. As water and food supplies dwindled and fuel for Korean War-era generators became scarce, a true economic and humanitarian crisis developed.

These are the times in which true humanitarian heroes spring into action. Ginny Clark, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at Constellation Brands and an InterVol Board Member, immediately connected with InterVol Founder Ralph Pennino, MD, and asked the golden question: What can I do?

With the full support of Constellation Brands, InterVol was able to immediately mobilize support for the most critical needs. Our warehouse staff soon filled one of Constellation's private jets with obstetrical supplies for perinatal labor and delivery, for those babies who simply couldn't wait to greet their mothers. Hours later, the plane took off with executives from InterVol and Constellation Brands, as well as a small crew from 13 WHAM news.

With a stopover in Tampa to pick up critical logistics personnel and a new generator for the maternity hospital, the jet soon landed in San Juan, where the medical supplies and generator were immediately delivered. Far more precious cargo then came on board: Jose Santiago and his two grandsons, Bryan and Irving Roche.

Born and raised in Rochester, Bryan and Irving had been living with their grandfather in Puerto Rico while attending nursing school. They became concerned when their grandfather, a survivor of colon cancer, began experiencing abdominal pain and bleeding soon after the hurricane hit. Fearing for his father-in-law, Bryan and Irving's father Julio Roche, a surgical technician at Rochester Regional Health, reached out to Dr. Pennino for advice, and the stars aligned.

Upon touchdown in Rochester, Santiago was taken to Rochester General Hospital for treatment

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When the Stars Align

and is soon scheduled for surgery. Meanwhile, Bryan and Irving came to InterVol’s headquarters to help sort and box the toiletries that would soon be heading back to Puerto Rico.

We would like to thank Constellation Brands and their incredible and supportive executive team, especially Ginny Clark, for continually going above and beyond as a company truly invested in the Rochester community.



HURRICANE MARIA RELIEF DRIVE: ▼
A Community Effort

From snowstorms and hurricanes to areas afflicted by disease and poverty, InterVol stands ready and willing to support any community in need of medical supplies. However, when it comes to disaster relief, overcoming the logistical hurdles of power outages, disrupted communication, and damaged roads and bridges is especially difficult. In these situations, we can only succeed by partnering up, and the Rochester community stepped up to the plate big time.

As ten percent of Rochesterians identify as Puerto Rican, it comes as no surprise that a great many of our friends and neighbors have deep roots in Puerto Rico, most with family still living there. Dozens of medical professionals of Puerto Rican descent connected us with the administration in a half dozen hospitals, all of whom quickly produced needs assessments. With infrastructure crippled and transportation nearly ground to a halt, communities across the island relayed their need for toiletries such as soap, hand sanitizer, and detergent, along with baby diapers and feminine hygiene products.

With these diverse needs, InterVol Director Nicole Jones decided on a two-prong approach. Within days, we distributed bins to hospitals, schools, and companies that were eager to serve as collection points. Meanwhile, community members arrived at our warehouse to load pallets of the most direly needed medical supplies requested by four hospitals in Ponce, Puerto Rico.

The outpouring of support from the Rochester community was immense. We far exceeded our expectations and collected 35,000 lbs. of items. Over 120 people donated 522 hours of their time over seven days to sort and box it all. Additionally, we were able to send two 53’ trucks to Ponce, containing over \$1 million worth of goods, all of which have arrived safely and been distributed.

Thank you to 13 WHAM News, Allendale Columbia, Aquinas, Bishop Kearney High School, Clifton Springs Hospital, Constellation Brands, Highland Hospital, LeChase Construction, Livonia Central School District, McQuaid Jesuit, Newark-Wayne Hospital, Our Lady of Mercy, Rochester General Hospital, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Church, St. John Fisher College, Strong Memorial Hospital, Town of Pittsford, Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, Unity Hospital, and Van Bortel Chevy, Ford, and Subaru, along with all the other caring companies that took up collections of items.

MARINE CORPS MARATHON: ▼
Oorah!

In our first year as a Charity Partner of the Marine Corps Marathon, InterVol fielded a team of 54 runners for the 42nd Marine Corps Marathon on October 22, 2017, in Washington, DC. While a bit warm by marathon standards, the entire weekend was a rousing success.

As the saying goes, it’s a marathon, not a sprint, and the road to get to DC was long and sometimes bumpy. Even the most seasoned runner has to train for at least 16 weeks in order to complete a marathon. Those weeks are filled with highs and lows: the elation of personal bests and the frustration of injury, the worry when you can’t reach your target pace and the relief of when you do. For many of us, they were filled with the blaring of an alarm clock at 5 AM so we could get in our run before the heat index reached the triple digits and the juggling of our kids’ schedules in order to carve out time for our long runs.

For those that exceeded their fundraising commitment, the weekend began on Saturday morning at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, VA. After a morning filled with taking in the incredible 241 year history of the United States Marine Corps, participants enjoyed a delicious private pasta luncheon at the Devil Dog Diner. The day culminated in a check presentation ceremony with InterVol Co-Founders Ralph Pennino, MD, and Tim O’Connor, MD, InterVol Director Nicole Jones, and Daniel Palmier, Founder and CEO of UC Funds and The Palmier Foundation, who raised \$70,100 in support of InterVol.

While Team InterVol arrived in DC ready for the run through the historic monuments, honoring both the Marine Corps and our nation’s capital, the Marine Corps Marathon proved to be far more than a race to the finish line. Both scenic and moving, it was an experience that filled runners and spectators alike with awe, pride, and patriotism. Along the Blue Mile, a mile-long tribute to fallen service members, there was nary a dry eye. Many runners stopped to touch the photo placards, commiserate with friends and family, or salute those that gave their lives for our country.

InterVol is pleased to announce we surpassed our fundraising goal for the weekend as well, with 685 supporters donating a total of \$111,523. Congratulations go out to all of our runners, especially Dan Palmier, the top fundraiser, and Blake Landry, the fastest finisher on our team!

Semper Fi!



Above: Some early risers on marathon morning



ÉCOLE L'ÉRUDIT DE LÉOGÂNE: ▼
Education Today for a Better Tomorrow

Every day, InterVol works to improve lives around the world, and we believe that education is one of the key components to creating a better future. Unfortunately, many countries don’t have an effective public school system, leading to illiteracy, a lack of opportunities, and continued poverty. In these countries, education is heavily or completely privatized; only the wealthy can afford to send their children to school, leaving impoverished children with no way to improve their circumstances.

Haiti is one such country, where 92% of primary schools are private; public schools are rare in cities and nearly non-existent in rural communities. As it is also the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, many Haitian children have little or no schooling, with only 22% moving on to high school.

InterVol is committed to seeing that change. In conjunction with the Rotary Club de Léogâne, InterVol has been instrumental in building and supporting a revolutionary new school called École L’Érudit de Léogâne, where 82 students are now enrolled in Léogâne, Haiti.

Children attending École L’Érudit, which translates to “School for the Clever,” learn reading, math, history, and more from five teachers. They are also provided with a uniform for the year and a nourishing lunch each day. Most of the students come from families so impoverished, that they take their lunch home to share, as food is considered a luxury and may be the only sustenance the entire family will have for the day.

What makes this school so revolutionary is that it isn’t giving the families something for nothing; in return for the food, clothing, and education, a parent is required to volunteer one day a week doing whatever needs to be done, such as cleaning the building, repairing the furniture, or painting the walls. With 100% family engagement, the students are not only learning quickly and keeping their grades up, the cost for the school is kept down to \$500 per child per year.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of the Rochester community during our direct appeal at this year’s Off the Vine on September 16, we raised enough money to cover the full cost for 50 clever Haitian children this year.

If you would like to donate to support a child’s education, please contact Nicole Jones at nicole.jones@intervol.org or 585.922.1997.

OFF THE VINE: ▼
A Toast to the Future

Our largest and most glamorous fundraiser of year, Off the Vine took place at the Memorial Art Gallery on Saturday, September 16, 2017. Once again, the event sold out to 265 supporters, community leaders, physicians, and Rochester Regional Health hospital leaders. The evening began with a cocktail hour and silent auction, followed by dinner catered by Max Rochester. After the delicious, family-style meal, California-based professional auctioneer Matt Chung presided over a spirited live auction while attendees noshed on decadent desserts by One Sweet World.

Proceeds from Off the Vine will be used to benefit our organization and its three major programs. The Recovery of Unused Medical Supplies (RUMS), which collects tens of thousands of pounds of supplies and equipment throughout Western New York, will be able to distribute more shipments locally and overseas. Funds will also help expand our Volunteer Medical Professionals (VMP) program, which sends physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals to developing countries to work with local healthcare personnel, as well as our Friends Across Borders (FAB) program, which provides opportunities for service learning and civic engagement for local students.

Dan Meyers, President Emeritus of Al Sigl Community of Agencies, served as Honorary Chair, and was delighted to lend his support, as was guest speaker Jean Marc Brissau, who traveled from Haiti to speak about the strides InterVol has made in rebuilding Léogâne since it was decimated by the earthquake in January of 2010. Thanks in large part to the eloquence of these two extraordinary men, as well as Mistress of Ceremonies Ginny Ryan, and many of InterVol’s Board Members, this year’s Off the Vine was the most successful to date.

InterVol thanks all of its volunteers, supporters, and sponsors, including Constellation Brands, Rochester Regional Health, DGA Builders, the O’Connor and O’Connell Families, and the Pennino family. We also thank Anesthesia Associates of Rochester, Boev Clinic, Bond Financial Network, Cardiology Consultants of Rochester, Finishing Touch, LeChase Construction, Peter Parts Electronics, The Riedman Foundation, Rochester Radiology Associates, Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, and Waldron Rise Foundation, as well as the multitude of businesses and individuals that contributed to the exciting events.

Without the support of the local community, InterVol would not be able to reach out to those in need all over the world. Thank you!



Right: Dr. Ralph Pennino and Dave Conquest
Below: Over 250 supporters attended Off the Vine.