

## Life will Return to Normal

Dear Community,

The last three months have been the most challenging that we have faced in our company's 30 year journey in Shanghai. As we started Chinese New Year holidays no one could foresee the events that would result in a lockdown of our beloved city. Over these months we have witnessed the valiant efforts of our staff and suppliers, working through extremely difficult circumstances, to resume operations. We have witnessed many organizations, like the Community Center, find creative ways to help the community in its time of need. It has been a testimony of the human spirit rising above the challenges we face. Now three months later, we are seeing signs of a return to normal, or might we say a “new normal”, as offices and businesses reopen. As China begins to normalize other countries are just beginning their journey with the virus.

As a global company, we are not only witnessing the spread of the virus and the challenges it brings, but also participating in bringing help to as many communities as we can, from food and water distribution to shipping masks to needy areas. This journey started with a focus on helping China but is now shifting to helping countries around the world. We, as well as other companies, are fortunate to have infrastructure globally that gives us unique opportunities to help. What was created for business can now be used to bring hope and relief to communities in need. Our Shanghai staff now play an important role in procuring medical supplies for countries in which we operate. Never before have we seen such a global effort to fight a common cause.

What we all wonder is when will life return to normal. When will we be able to do all the things we used to do? We find ourselves longing for the many things that we used to take for granted. Bring back the good old days! Those days will come and it will be quite the celebration when our kids return to school, have their first soccer match or perform in their first concert. We look forward to a time when social distancing is a thing of the past and our churches and community organizations can resume. When Disneyland re-opens! Life will return to normal, but it is my hope that as it does we will remember how much we missed these things and will cherish every moment and experience.

The “good old days” will return and when they do I know we will all appreciate, even more, the amazing city of Shanghai that we get to call home.

Love,  
BMF

