Travel has the extraordinary power of broadening one’s mind, but during a trip to Romania in 1996, Dr. Mark Kline found it also opened his heart, and eventually changed many lives. The pediatric infectious diseases expert from Baylor College of Medicine was shocked by the number of Romanian children dying from HIV and AIDS because they lacked access to antiretroviral medicines.

A plan quickly came together, and soon the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) at Texas Children’s Hospital was formed. BIPAI opened a children’s treatment center in Romania and eventually extended into Africa—first in Botswana and in the years that followed, across the continent. As part of this global initiative, Baylor doctors currently care for more than 300,000 HIV-infected children and their family members at 15 centers and satellite clinics. By restoring hope and health to entire communities, Baylor helps patients to go on to achieve amazing things.

Look in the Medical and Science section every Monday and visit bcm.edu to see how Baylor is achieving the amazing in our community.