

JOHN P. HOWE, III, M.D. RETIRES

HOWE STATEMENT

As you know, nearly three months ago I announced my intention to retire after 14 years at HOPE.

My colleagues and HOPE's partners around the world have made those the most inspiring years of my professional life, because together we have improved hundreds of thousands of lives and created a future of hope for millions.

What possibly could have been more important or fulfilling for me in my lifetime?

For that reason, the decision to leave HOPE was painfully difficult as I agonized over it toward the end of last year.

More recently, I have been considering the specific timing of my departure and decided that the appropriate moment is now. As a result, I will retire effective March 31.

As I said in January, I have ten great reasons - my grandchildren and my wife - for taking a different tack in life.

That is still the primary driver of all my plans for the future.

Although my health is good, I feel at this stage I must take full advantage of that priceless asset, spending much more time with my family.

And, as I also stated in January, the most important source of comfort for me in leaving HOPE is its strength as an organization, with superbly professional leaders and staff, all dedicated to making the world a better place for its least fortunate people.

My colleagues at HOPE, together with its partners and supporters everywhere, have made that achievement possible.

For that, I will be forever grateful to each and every one of them.

Of course, like any organization, however noble its cause, HOPE constantly faces many kinds of challenges.

But we always have overcome them and moved on - to new and greater humanitarian achievements.

I certainly believe this historical pattern will continue, and that HOPE has a very bright future.

That confidence rests on our rock-solid foundation of faithful donors, the deep commitment of our staff, the sacrifices of our volunteers and HOPE's long, unique record of success in serving humanity.

As I step down, Dick Clark, Chairman of HOPE's Board, will assume my responsibilities until a new CEO is named. He is going to provide you additional information shortly.

As our leadership transition moves forward, I know HOPE will continue its work with the same selfless passion that has always driven the organization. I have been honored to lead that work. I will always support it in any way I possibly can. And I will carry the spirit of HOPE with me wherever I go.

HOPE STATEMENT BY RICHARD CLARK

As John shared with you earlier, he has decided to move up his retirement date to allow him to spend more time with his family. We understand the decision to retire has been a difficult one for John, but after his many years of service, we certainly respect his decision to step away now and spend more time with Tyrrell and their grandchildren.

As I have said before, under John's leadership and with your hard work, HOPE has become a model of effective, reliable and compassionate care for people in desperate circumstances. Guided by his medical expertise and profound empathy for others, John has made HOPE a leader in providing lasting solutions to profound health problems around the world. We thank John for his service and wish him all the best as he starts this new chapter in his life.

Until John's permanent successor is named, I will assume John's duties effective March 31. John will assist me in the transition to a new President and CEO.

With all of you, I share a deep commitment to HOPE's humanitarian mission. Your record of personal sacrifice and professional accomplishment is a source of great inspiration to me and all the other members of HOPE's Board of Directors.

I truly look forward to working with you, our superb corps of volunteers, as well as our loyal donors and partners. You, and they, are the reason HOPE has a most promising future. All of us together will continue – and build upon - HOPE's unique legacy of service to others.