

Our Mission:
PET International
seeks to reflect
the love of Jesus
Christ by bringing
mobility and
dignity to those in
developing
countries who are
unable to walk.

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Volume 10

May 2012

Distributions in Peru and Zambia



Medical Ministry International continues PET cart distribution in **Peru**.

"Greetings, I wanted to send you the picture of a woman in Ayaviri Peru who received a PET cart. She had an ankle fracture and surgery that makes it difficult for her to walk. She is also an active member of the local organization that helps people with disabilities, so I'm hoping she will send me names of other folks who might need a PET cart.
Yodee Fortner, MSPT, C/NDT "
January 2012 (In 2011 5 PETs were sent.)

Life Restoration Partners International report excerpt:



"On a trip to **Zambia** in July 2011, our short term ministry team was taking time to follow up with OVC Advocates with whom we have developed a partnership. There are so many orphans and vulnerable children in Zambia...Many needs were presented to us, but we developed a special burden for two children, Mapalo and Blessings.

Blessings and Mapalo both suffer from Cerebral Palsy... the 6 year old girl, Blessings, arrived tied to her caregivers back using a Chitenge. As one would

Objectives: The promotion of PET vehicles for individuals with disabilities who have no appropriate means of mobility; to coordinate PET work sites where PETs are constructed; to assist in the dissemination of vehicles to international agencies/sponsors.

PET Affiliates

PET MO—Columbia
PET FL—Penney Farms
PET TX—Brazos Valley
PET TN—Murfreesboro
PET FL—Tampa

PET Southwest MO
PET NY—East Jewett
PET WA—Spokane
PET KS—Moundridge
PET TX—San Antonio
PET IA—Hawarden
PET ME—Waterboro
PET FL—Jacksonville
PET TX—Austin
PET MI—Holland
PET TX—Rio Grande Valley
PET MI—East MI
PET TN—Memphis
PET IA-Leighton
PET MN-Twin Cities
PET IN-DeMotte
PET UT-Northern Utah
PET Zambia

imagine, it is not easy to take her places, but at age 6 she is still small enough to transport. Mapalo, on the other hand, is a 12 year old boy who has grown larger than his grandmother who serves as his primary caregiver. He could stand and take a few steps with assistance from his grandmother, but in a society where walking is a way of life, he is rarely able to go far...but the relationship that the caretakers had with their children also stood out to us. ...Upon returning (to the US) we began searching for options...One of the team member's mother learned about a group that made PET carts here in the US. These seemed to be perfect since they are designed to travel on non-paved, less-than-ideal roads and paths. When communicating with Von Driggs of PET International, we learned that they had a person who made these carts in the neighboring town of Kitwe, Zambia! The communication was a breeze – Von was quick to respond and introduce us to his Zambian counterpart, Delbert, who manufactures the PET chairs from the New Life Center (PET Zambia) in Kitwe. He was able to build specialized chairs for the children, which were ready for pick-up in a short amount of time. We are very grateful for the work of PET International and the New Life Center in Kitwe for stepping up to meet the needs of disabled children and be a visible expression of the love of Christ... Tannen VanZwieten, Director"

Volunteers come full circle in Dominican Republic.



Mark Griffy (shown above) and his team of volunteers at PET Memphis have made great investments in the PET mission. He went to Florida for training at one of our designated sites. PET Memphis was approved in 2010. A PET International board member, Freddie Brown at PET TN-Murfreesboro, assisted them in a variety of ways including inspection of their first PETs before shipping

Vision Statement:
PET International envisions a ten-fold increase in PET production and distribution by 2015.

Special points of interest:

- In early 2012 we approved our newest Affiliates:
PET IN-DeMotte & PET UT-Northern Utah.
- Venture International reported they wanted to send 140 PETs to Lebanon and Syria, but had to wait because of the political climate there.
- Remember to sign up for our e-Newsletter on our website's home page.
- We can receive online, charge card donations through **PayPal**. Go to our website and click the yellow donate button. (Checks can be sent to the address below. Form on page 5.) Auto debit donations are available. Find the form on our website. Thanks for your consideration.

Please send gifts to:

PET International, Inc.
503 E. Nifong Blvd. #186
Columbia, MO 65201

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pet@petinternational.org
501 c 3 non-profit

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could proceed. In May 2011 Mark and Mark Bogan went to the Dominican Republic to meet Kristin Hamner, National Director of Mission Programs in DR, for The Foundation for Peace. They felt good about their meeting and left Kristin with our Partnership Application. While they were there, they were able to distribute their first PET built at their shop to Leo who had lost a leg in an accident.



In November 2011 the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp delivered 113 PET carts from three of the PET Affiliates in TN, FL and MI. Mark Griffy led a team of PET Memphis volunteers back to DR to help reassemble the PETs and distribute. They are off to a great start in their work to help the disabled thru PET.



Other Tidbits

Distribution Partner reports:

Mission Inter **Senegal** sent a completed distribution report of the 434 PETs they received in 2011. Included were statements by leaders of local organizations, several testimonies from PET recipients and a list of the organizations that received the PETs which included two Baptist churches, a mayor and a hospital.

At the end of the report was a section titled "Problems: As you have seen in the above table of distribution, the number of wheelchairs received did not meet the demands. We wanted to provide a chair for all of those in need but

could not. Even now we continue to receive requests for more chairs. So we are looking for more wheelchairs to respond to the handicapped that have a dire need to be mobile.

Conclusion:...We thank PET with all of our hearts for their generosity to the handicapped people of Senegal through MIS and CBN."

Landmines: They are one of the main reasons PETs are needed and will be needed for some time to come. The National Geographic magazine in January had a story called "The Healing Hands". In it there was a chart of the world highlighting the reported number of people killed or injured by landmines by country from 1999 to 2010. Colombia, Afghanistan, Iraq and Cambodia had the highest numbers. PETs have gone to these countries but in few numbers.

PET production achievements and goals:

In December PET MI-Holland celebrated building their 1,000 child size crank PET. PET MO-Columbia, who started PET production eighteen years ago, has a goal this year of building "2012 PETs in 2012".

The Affiliate production sites range in age from 18 years to less than one year. Once they get a shop established, they build anywhere from 1 to 40+ a week. Each PET built, shipped and distributed is very important.

PET International Representative in Zimbabwe

On April 18, 2012 the Board of Trustees of PET International voted unanimously in favor of a proposal for Morgan Matsiga to serve as their mission representative headquartered in Harare, Zimbabwe. Morgan is a citizen of Zimbabwe who is returning to his native country for two years to fulfill a commitment for receiving a student visa from the US government in the late 1970s.

Morgan and his wife Becky have three children. His family, all US citizens, will remain in the US. Morgan plans to return to the US and apply for citizenship at the end of two years.

Morgan has been a regular volunteer at PET MO – Columbia for several years. He is a member of Community United Methodist Church (CUMC) in Columbia. He is passionate in his Christian ministry serving the less fortunate of our brothers and sisters around the world. Members of CUMC are partnering with PET International in providing financial and spiritual support for Morgan.

Morgan attended the University of Missouri in Columbia, holds a masters degree, and has completed all course work for his PhD in entomology. In his new assignment he will be performing key tasks that PET International has longed to do, but has not, until now, had the necessary resources. Evaluation is the most operative term to describe Morgan's key task. There are several thousand PET recipients in southern Africa. Morgan will evaluate how the PET carts have been holding up under varying use conditions and reporting his findings to the Standardization Committee of PET International. Morgan, with the help of physical therapists in Zimbabwe, hopes to evaluate PET recipients, too. Recipients have a variety of physical and mental disabilities. It is very important to know the long term effects on the recipients of using a PET



to determine if additional modifications are needed. Changes in PET seats are currently being evaluated because of evaluations and recommendations from our distribution partners.

Look for stories and reports from Morgan on the PET International blog and newsletters. And feel free to contact Morgan at Shumba3@hotmail.com.

Fundraising can be fun.



Our volunteer, Walt Hays, in Alaska told us how youth raised money to do mission work in **Cameroon** this May.

"Cardio for Cameroon at the Dome" included 60+ youth and adults. The Cameroon Mission Team from St. John United Methodist Church in Anchorage raised thousands of dollars. Over 20 youth and adults will go on the ten day trip. Delivering 70 PETs to disabled children and adults will be one of their tasks.

This is just one example of fundraising going on around the country by local persons to provide PETs or help distribute them. We invite you to come up with your own fun way of raising money to help PET International tell the PET story, assist & train Affiliate production sites, and coordinate shipments. We can send you promotional materials by email or mail you brochures and a DVD to help you share the PET story. We are also looking for volunteer promoters who will regularly give presentations to groups as the opportunities arise.

Gifts in honor or memory

In honor of Shirley Meinert by Susan Meinert; Richard & Joan Harrington by Fred Reese;

In memory of Rev. John Williams by Ms. Sue Williams;

Support PET International

I want to Give the Gift of Mobility. (If your information is printed on the reverse, you need not fill in here.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____, Zip _____

Enclosed is my gift of: \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$250 ____ Other amount \$_____

Memorial or Honorarium on behalf of _____
(If a name & address are provided, an acknowledgement card will be sent.)

Please send this form with your gift to 503 E. Nifong Blvd. #186, Columbia, MO 65201.

A receipt will be sent. PET International is a 501c3 organization.

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January 2012 report from Guinea

Hope Clinic began distributing PETs in 2008 and have sent us many wonderful reports.

"A lady worried about losing her pregnancy crawled into the clinic recently. A big muscular lady with shriveled legs. Our woodworker/welder Mr. Ce Kona spotted her and told me. We gave her a PET cart. All the staff told me later that she was so happy. She would not let anyone touch it.

Another PET went to a young man who fell out of a palm tree and broke his back. His friend, a PET owner, was going to church and sending his PET to this guy's house so he could come too. He would pedal to church and then the procedure was reversed at the end of service. They were both very happy to have him get a PET cart of his own.

Blessings my friend. Jon Erickson"



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