



PET® Mobility Project

SPRING 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ PET cart #728 to be packed by end of April !
- ◆ PET Volunteers increase shop production to 6 PETs per week in January, 2015
- ◆ 82 PETs are on a ship to Swaziland —should arrive in early May to be distributed to leg disabled persons through our new partner, **The Luke Commission**
- ◆ To date In 2015, you as the Donors have given \$24,000 to build and ship PET carts !
- ◆ God is clearly blessing PET !

PET partners with TLC !

PET Carts join Medicine in Swaziland, Africa!

As you read this, a 40 ft. long shipping container, packed right here in Wheatfield, IN, is crossing the Atlantic Ocean on the **Buxlink**, a cargo ship carrying more than 1,200 shipping containers from the US to the African Continent. There are 82 of your PET carts packed inside that container along with thousands of pounds of supplies and



Building materials are one of the many supplies TLC needs to build a warehouse for medical supplies and PET carts.



materials needed by **The Luke Commission!** What better way to distribute PET carts made right here in Wheatfield than to *partner directly with a specialized Medical Missions Team that operates Mobile Medical Clinics* in the African country of Swaziland! All of our PETs are being shipped directly from our Shop to **The Luke Commission (TLC)**, an amazing Christian ministry team led by Dr. Harry and Echo Vanderwal, who live in Swaziland with their 6 children (see map). Nine years ago the Vanderwals became convicted that God could use them to meet the needs of the rural Swazi people who have no access to health care; and in 2006 this ministry began. TLC brings healthcare 'on the road' to every Swazi village they

can serve. In 2014, the TLC Medical Team provided 214,000 medical services to more than 53,680 patients ! . . . and this included distributing **hundreds of PET carts**, as well as wheelchairs, crutches and canes. The Vanderwals are anticipating greater numbers in 2015 as their team grows and splits into two outreach teams! TLC is a huge blessing to us, and PET is a huge blessing to TLC.





How PET carts enhance the ministry of *The Luke Commission* in Swaziland.

In much of the world where medicine and medical treatment is scarce, or non-existent, a person with leg disabilities is viewed as an extreme burden to families, villages and communities—an unproductive mouth to feed. These disabilities are often seen as curses brought on by God as a punishment for



something. But, these people did not choose to step on a land mine planted by another, or get polio, or have an accident or injury they could not avoid—no, they suffer because their society and local community are not able to medically meet their needs! **God has wonderfully given us the ability to provide that assistance to them**—in the form of doctors, nurses, medicines, health education, and now PET carts and wheel chairs. The lame may not walk, but with the Gift of Mobility they become mobile like never before. No longer do they crawl in the dirt or over sharp stones; no longer do

they need to be carried. They receive an instant change in their life; it is the gift of dignity, of being able to look someone in the eye—person to person! It is a gift of the ability to be productive for one's self and for others! **It is the restoration of a person to be more like God created us to be.**

Swaziland — Dumsani Dlamini came to a *Luke Commission* mobile hospital outreach to see the doctor, hoping to receive some medications for various problems. He came “driving” his PET cart, though the road was especially muddy that day. “As long as the chain is greased, I move,” he grinned.

This 40-year-old Swazi has not walked since birth. Last year, when TLC came to his community, he was given a PET—his independence—he could move around on his own. Now Dumsani travels 3 kilometers a day on his PET cart. “This type of vehicle is good for me,” says Dumsani. He “pedals” his PET with his hands and arms. “I have another type of wheelchair that has small wheels but it does not work so good outside.”

He has never been able to go to school. He is not married. His two sisters cared for him, but now one is not well herself and his other sister also provides care for her own child.

“Thank you for helping me again” he repeated several times after Dr. Harry treated him.



“As long as my chain is greased, I move.”

-Dumsani

Imagine the impact when a gathered community, waiting for medical care, sees a disabled person who has been despised and ill-treated ride away on a colorful PET — it speaks of self-worth and dignity for all!

- Echo VanderWal



Rosie Sullivan and Cindy Westerhoff

Pre-Packing and Packing Crews



Dale Nommensen

Ray Poortinga, Dan Allen, and Sue Allen



Wally Wyman, Dan Allen, and Gary Love



Tuesday mornings find Rosie and Cindy preparing donated jugs for packing in the PET boxes; each PET box will need 15 jugs and 6 bags stuffed with plastic. *The ladies request that all folks who have been donating jugs please clean them—we will not use smelly jugs—they must be clean!* Gary, Dan, and Sue assemble the 6 large strong cardboard boxes that will transport the PETs. Then Ray, Dale, and Wally join them to put each PET into a box and carefully pack them. Wally makes sure all paperwork is in order, including assembly instructions, a permanent Serial Number sticker applied to the PET, and a Shipping Label placed on the outside of the box. By the end of April, 2015, the Wheatfield PET Shop will have packed 728 PETs since it opened its doors in January, 2012!

A Huge Cause for Celebration and Thanksgiving !

50,000 PETs

have been built !!!

A huge Milestone for PET was reached early this year: all of the Pet Affiliates together have built and distributed over

50,000 PETs which means 50,000

people have been given the **Gift of**

Mobility! DeMotte built 728 of them!



50,000

**Remembering Bill's
selflessness!**



Bill Becker

. . . . using his hands, so those without feet could ride!

Bill was one of our dedicated wood workers, making the wooden seats and seatbacks. He was a devoted, quiet, behind-the-scenes kind of guy. He would still come in to work even after his illness was diagnosed, and whenever he regained enough strength after a treatment. He wanted to work at PET as long as he could—he even asked if he could work ahead so when he couldn't work anymore, production could keep going.

When he wasn't working in the wood department assembling the seats for PET, he spent time at home on woodcarving—he was very good at it! Bill passed away in March of this year, our God took him Home—now his hands and feet are quiet—but only here on earth. I'll bet they're humming in heaven!

We received many wonderful donations to honor Bill's life. These donations will not only benefit many PET recipients, but also honor his family. Thank you, Bill, for your dedication!

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

We are Growing! . . . and we Celebrate!

As of the first of this year the PET Shop increased its production of PET carts from 5 carts each week to **6 carts each week!** That's 52 more PET carts this year for 52 more disabled kids, moms, and dads.

We invite you to be a sponsor of one or two of these 52 new PET carts for 52 new recipients—they simply need you. They don't "walk" without your help.

We thank God for each of you, and for your love of PET, and your generosity to PET. You make a difference!

*Recent
Special
visitors*

- ◆ Wheatfield Volunteer Fire Department
- ◆ KV Rotary Club (a Sponsoring Club)
- ◆ 6th Grade Sunday School Class from Community Church, Roselawn
- ◆ Wheatfield Baptist Church Women's Group
- ◆ Many friends and family members of our volunteers



PET Ministries, Inc.

12352 N 550 W
Wheatfield, IN 46392

Phone: 219-789-8617

E-mail:

petdemotte@gmail.com

www.petdemotte.org

Credit card and ACH
donations can be made on
the website.



*PET Ministries, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.
All gifts to PET Ministries, Inc. are tax deductible to the extent allowed by federal law.*