

The *scroll*

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2020

Ethiopia's First Lady Promotes Mobility



Meserat is now able to freely join in her community's social activities thanks to her gift of mobility.



Ethiopia's First Lady braved the challenges brought on by the pandemic, to help people obtain mobility.

Despite the constant challenges posed by the global pandemic, Ethiopia's disabled community has been receiving a great deal of support this year thanks to the hard work of Agape Mobility Ethiopia. Hundreds of Mobility Carts and wheelchairs have been distributed throughout the country, even in a region claimed by neighboring Somalia, according to Saba Marcos, the Executive Director of the organization.

Zinash Tayachew, Ethiopia's popular First Lady was so impressed with Agape's efforts that she began helping people into their Mobility Carts. The First Lady pledged continued support of the Mobility Cart provision and distribution operation.

Being independent in their mobility will enable Ethiopians to better socialize among their peers which is an important factor in maintaining dignity and confidence.

The carts that were given away to those in need are ideal for much of the countryside throughout Ethiopia where pathways can be quite rough or difficult to traverse in a standard wheelchair. Many of the recipients at the various locations were seen crawling in the dirt to get to the distribution site. And in an instant, their circumstance changed as they were provided with mobility and more.



Workenesh says she will be able to provide better care for her new baby now that she doesn't have to crawl in the dirt.



Cheru, a young boy from Ethiopia, is seriously happy with his new Mobility Cart.



Kasm couldn't wait until his Mobility Cart was even unwrapped before claiming it as his own.

Donor Impact: Step2 is Leading the Way

The Step2® Company LLC, a leading toy and home solutions innovator, is helping lead the way in the development of a lighter weight molded resin cart. This autumn, 250 of the new carts were sent to distribution partners abroad who are willing to perform in-depth reviews of the cart's performance to see where improvements can be made.

Original timelines had to be modified in light of the pandemic and the resulting slowdown in freight, but the carts are now in country or on their way.

The product design team of Step2 has spent countless hours helping guide the development of the new cart in collaboration with Mobility Worldwide's R&D committee. Adjustments were made during the earlier testing phase which strengthened the cart while adding features for the comfort and convenience of the user.

In addition to studying the cart itself, leaders are examining how the new carts move through Mobility Worldwide's logistics chain. For example, the molded resin cart bodies cannot be disassembled to fit into smaller boxes. That in itself will require modifications to how shipments are made.

When a new resin cart is finalized and approved for use, it will be added to Mobility Worldwide's catalog of products. It will not replace current carts but rather offer yet another alternative to those in need.

A Kenyan man will help test the new molded resin cart under the supervision of Partners for Care, a valued distribution partner.



Tony Ciepiel, CEO of Step2, speaks to volunteers during the MW Annual Conference in Stow, OH.

On the Move in Ecuador



It seemed like a non-stop effort as entire communities throughout Ecuador rallied in support of those in need of mobility assistance in the midst of a global pandemic.

In a remarkable show of resilience, Ecuador's Meritorious Society for the Protection of Children, in collaboration with MedShare and several municipalities, provided Mobility Carts to more than 100 children and adults during a widespread pandemic there.

Organizers identified those in need within several communities and ensured they were properly fitted into their carts throughout

September. Many social service agencies were involved in the effort to navigate through the various roadblocks posed by the corona virus.

MedShare has been one of Mobility Worldwide's strongest distribution partners as it sponsors multiple shipping containers filled with Mobility Carts bound for South America, Africa and elsewhere.

Famine Avoided



This fall in Malawi, aid workers returned to check in on Watson, a man who received a Mobility Cart a few weeks prior. Social workers found him harvesting his corn thanks to his new found independence.

"While so many continue to suffer from famine in Malawi, Mr. Watson has used his cart and his determination to bring a successful year to his family", an aid worker from Action for Progress reported.

Ketut the Mighty



Ketut attends school in Indonesia with his twin brother thanks to his Mobility Cart.

Ketut is a 10-year-old Indonesian boy who has a mighty good chance at success. His progress can be attributed to the mobility assistance he is receiving and also his determination to attend school with other children his age.

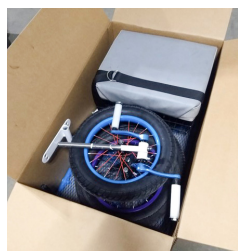
His twin brother is healthy and mobile, but Ketut is unable to walk by himself. This has held him back in a number of ways. It was especially troublesome for Ketut as he watched his older brother go to school each day while he was forced to stay home.

That all changed recently when he was given a sturdy Mobility Cart, replacing his broken wheelchair. The Mobility Cart is better suited to handle the rougher terrain in his northern

Indonesian neighborhood. Things really came together when an elementary school class in Australia stepped up to sponsor Ketut by paying his school fees.

Ketut wouldn't give up his dream of attending class as he continued his efforts to persuade others to give him a chance. Today, he has mobility and more thanks to generous donors who helped provide him with a Mobility Cart and the resources needed to accommodate him in class.

Single Mobility Carts Coming



Mobility Box will meet checked luggage size and weight restrictions.



Another new concept called Mobility Box is being developed under the direction of Mobility Worldwide's R&D Committee. A Mobility Box will allow humanitarian aid workers to take a single Mobility Cart with them while serving abroad.

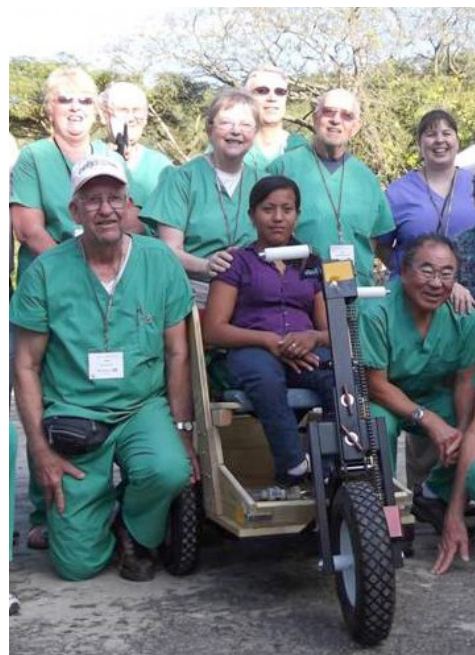
Today, Mobility Worldwide sends carts in a large shipping container but some aid workers would rather only take one or two with them.

While a Mobility Box is tailored for any aid worker, it's ideal for those who usually offer humanitarian assistance unrelated to mobility. For example, an optometric group

traveling to Honduras to perform vision clinics took a single Mobility Cart along with them for a young lady unable to walk by herself.

The Mobility Box will adhere to the airline industry's checked baggage size and weight limits. At this time, the Bicycle Corporation of America (BCA) is leading the way in designing the concept using an expanded metal platform.

Designers are using manufacturing methods that can be duplicated in affiliate shops and in host countries. The goal is to roll-out the Mobility Box in 2021 after further testing.



During a missionary trip to Honduras, a group from Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH) provides a Mobility Cart to a 14-year-old girl unable to walk due to polio.



Sid Rooy, Florida's Volunteer of the Year

FL Volunteer of the Year: Sid Rooy

Sid Rooy, the longest active volunteer at the Penney Farms Mobility Worldwide Affiliate, has been recognized as LeadingAge Florida's Volunteer of the Year. Sid was presented with the honor during a community get-together recently at the continuing care retirement community.

Friends and colleagues know Sid as the most kind and humble person you would ever have the pleasure of meeting. The 93-year-old statesman is one of three floor supervisors at the Penney Farms shop. He enjoys the support of his wife

Mae while overseeing nearly every aspect of production there.

Sid has personally led the team in its recent milestone of handcrafting over 800 Mobility Carts in the last five years alone. For almost 20 years, Sid has selflessly given his time and talents in leading the Penney Farms organization in providing mobility to nearly 12,000 people in 45 countries around the world.



Vision:

End immobility in the world

Mission:

Mobility Worldwide seeks to reflect the love of God by bringing mobility & dignity to those in developing countries who are unable to walk.

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Your
greatness
is not what
you have,
it's what
you give.



Help Those Who Are Unable To Walk

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