

SUMMER 2021

Affiliated with



Mobility
Worldwide®

Empowering People

Mobility

Ministries, Inc.

A Ministry to the World . . . from Northwest Indiana

Check out the
New Seat
on Page 3!



Joyce

Malawi
Minister of Health

Wilson Tembo

Mobility Cart Unlocks an Important Door

Malawi — The three vehicles moving quickly through the Malawi countryside attracted the attention of passersby. Many could only wonder where they were going in such a hurry. Yet one could surmise their purpose since the front vehicle was loaded with several highly visible brightly colored mobility carts. Behind the lead vehicle came the Minister of Health for Malawi, Mrs. Khumbize Kadondo Chiponda. Then came the *Action for Progress* team in the third vehicle. As the vehicles neared their first stop, several women and children ran along behind the vehicles; it was evident something important was about to happen.

Coming to a stop, the group was warmly greeted by the leaders of that district, Senior Chief Chilowa Matambe and his council. A crowd had gathered and among them was Joyce Kalilani, a physically challenged 16-year-old girl, reported as a childhood victim of polio.

As everyone grew silent, Joyce's father outlined the challenges the family was facing with their daughter. One main problem was that the school was too far away so Joyce had to drop out because there was no way the family could get her to her classes. Joyce was curious about everything taking place around her, and she seemed not to know she was

she was to receive a special gift. Then, when it was announced she would receive one of the new mobility carts, everyone clapped in joy and appreciation.

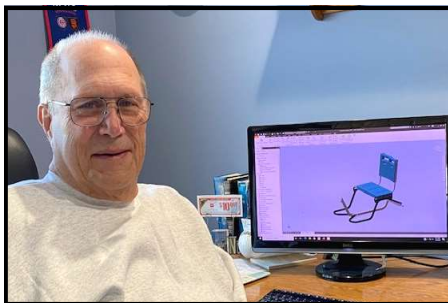
The Minister of Health thanked Wilson Tembo and *Action for Progress* for their support. She said the government was committed to helping those with disabilities and recognized *AfP* as a strategic partner in this area, and noted that, ***“Without Action for Progress, Joyce Kalilani [and others] would still be crawling, but today she is smiling because of your gracious deeds.”***

Wilson Tembo, the Executive Director, expressed appreciation for the good working relationship with the government and their support for those with disabilities. Joyce’s father added, *“With this mobility unit Joyce will soon be enrolled in classes again.”* As he finished, Joyce was given the opportunity to peddle the cart to make sure of her ability to use it successfully. Joyce smiled knowing she will go back to school. A new chapter in her life has begun with the opening of this door.



Action for Progress is a Malawi not-for-profit organization created to assist in the distribution, oversight, and encouragement of programs supported by the Malawi Project and Mobility Ministries.

Submitted by Richard Stephens



“Meet Jim Stoub — he has been a huge help to me in mapping all my ideas for changes and design improvements into the proper digital format (CAD) so our parts makers and suppliers can plug the info into their computers and machinery and work through the new designs with us.”

— Bob Gabrielse

Container #14 Shipped — On March 30, 2021 we packed 231 carts in Container #14 — the maximum to be sent in one load! Also included were 100+ mobility devices such as walkers, crutches, and canes, all stashed in the top 5” of the load. Ryan Kats (6’ 4”) climbed into the last hole to max out the load — but we did allow him to escape before we added



Sam & Rob Ryan Rodney Bob



The First Major Steps for a Totally New Cart Design

*Design Thoughts
from Bob Gabrielse*



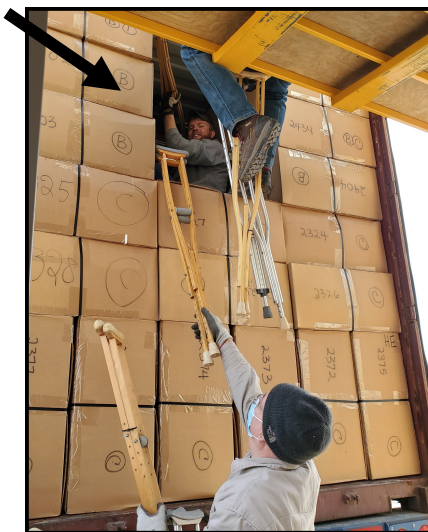
Ever since I became involved with Mobility Worldwide the ‘design’ issues intrigued me. I saw the tremendous benefit of individuals gaining *Mobility* and *Dignity*. Just as in the commercial world, there is always the need for improvement to make a better product to serve the recipients. Now the dreaming and the experimentation are becoming a reality. We have full CAD drawings for a totally new mobility vehicle that addresses many aspects that need improvement.

The Seat System shown here is the first eye catching feature of the new vehicle being developed—yet we have made it fully adaptable to, and are already using it on, the current *Mobility Carts* we continue to build. It is lighter than the wood seat, and it features rotomolded plastic, embedded metal anchors (“nuts”) and a contoured Seat Back. Seat Back supports give much needed strength for pushing the vehicle, and are adjustable; the slotted Seat Base mounting brackets give greater adjustment capabilities also. In the future this new Seat System and other new design characteristics of the new vehicle will give it much greater versatility—even accommodating younger recipients; and it fits in the packing boxes beautifully, allowing us to continue to pack 231 Carts in a Container—and maybe even more in the future. Mobility Ministries, Inc. will always look for the best!



Our Mission Statement: To reflect the love of Jesus Christ by bringing MOBILITY and DIGNITY to those in emerging countries who are unable to walk.

the last 3 boxes! Finally, all workers present gathered to ask God’s blessing on the container’s 3 month journey, and on the people whose lives would be changed when the container landed in Malawi. It was a very satisfying morning to once again see our hard work leave the building to become the real blessings of *Mobility* and *Dignity* to so many people!



“As I watched, the loading, I could sense the presence of God all around me. He is at work in this place, I said.” —Matt Smith

Matt is a member of Crosspointe Church a provider of Chichewa Bibles for recipients of 380 Mobility Carts.



Good News on the Radio



Blantyre, Malawi — Ireen had been working as a nurse for 26 years when suddenly in 2016 that all ended. She was struck with a devastating stroke; she was no longer able to provide for herself or carry out a second business she needed for income. Not only was she unable to move around by herself, but the offices she needed to visit for her business were not accessible for one with mobility issues. It was an impossible situation.

Ireen went from being a dependable, independent provider for her family, to an invalid who could do little for herself.

Then one day listening to her radio, she heard about *Action for Progress* and the mobility program being carried out by *AfP* throughout Malawi. As she continued to listen, she heard Wilson Tembo, describe the mission of *AfP*, and she realized she might qualify for a unit. The fact that the units were free gave her a great deal of joy because she could never afford to purchase one. Ireen contacted *Action for Progress*, and it was determined she did qualify for one, and they would get one ready for her. With her new mobility unit, Ireen can now move about and is again able to do things for herself, even attending church services each Sunday, something she had been unable to do since her stroke. Ireen expresses her gratitude to her Almighty God and prays for the continued success of *Action for Progress* in its daily efforts to help the underprivileged in Malawi.

— submitted by Richard Stephens

Elementary Students Raise Money

Wheatfield, IN — The students at the Wheatfield Elementary School raised \$600 for the purchase of two Mobility Carts! Riding the carts helped them to experience how a leg-disabled child's life could be changed with the gift of a cart. We admire the staff of the school for wanting the students to learn about the needs of others, and teaching them to respond to those needs by giving leg-disabled children the “*Gift of Mobility and Dignity.*”



**WE ACCEPT
ONLINE
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