

SUMMER 2022



# Mobility Ministries, Inc.

A Ministry to the World . . . from Northwest Indiana



**Joy with  
Sadness  
-- then Joy!**

**Rumphi, Malawi** — For Maria Makankhala, the birth of her baby brought great joy! But with one of the happiest moments of her life also came one of the saddest moments. During the delivery, complications left her unable to walk. While her husband and younger sister gave her unconditional support in raising her child, this did not satisfy her desire to do more for herself and her family. It constantly troubled her that when they

were away from the house, she could not even fetch water for her child. There were times she was unable to reach the clinic for her child's check-ups. The family's repeated efforts to find someone to help with any sort of mobility device failed. Then one day a local preacher crossed her path and Maria told him her story. *This pastor knew people in Jomo who could help her! Hope sprang alive!*

Regional volunteers at the Jomo distribution center who were associated with *Action for Progress*, were contacted and they made a trip to Maria's village to meet with her. While one team member obtained the details of her difficulties and challenges, the remaining members assembled the mobility unit. When it was completed they stood back, with huge grins that matched Maria's, as she peddled the new bright turquoise, lavender and red unit around the property! The distribution team gave instructions to this new recipient how to properly use her cart — and Maria did just fine!

*(continued on p.2)*



Maria Makankhala

Then Maria’s face brightened as the team also handed her a new Chichewa language Bible, thanks to Christians who contribute funds for Bibles to go with the new mobility carts. She extended her deep appreciation to the contributors:

“Thank you very much for these gifts and may the good Lord who knows how to reward, bless you with more knowledge, energy, and strength so that you may reach areas where He directs you to go.”

Though it had been a long time coming, Maria is now able to get around on her own. Her prayers had been answered and new Joy had entered her life in the form of *mobility, dignity, and God’s Word!* — Submitted by *Action for Progress*

*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.



### What does it take to Change the World?

“It begins when someone sees or learns about something they feel needs to change — like children drinking contaminated water or dying from malaria. Or witnessing someone physically challenged crawling on the ground.

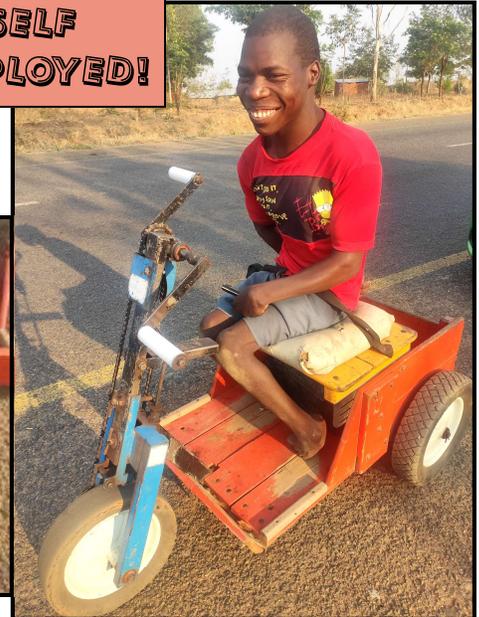
It then becomes this question: “**What can I do to help change the world?**” From there it gives birth to ideas and ways we could help — such as water backpacks, bed nets, and mobility carts. With passion and determination, ideas turn into vision, and step by step, life-changing programs are developed . . . changing the world for many people.”

— Connie Cheren,  
Founder of *Partners for Care* in Kenya, East Africa (near Malawi)



**SELF EMPLOYED!**

High mileage!!



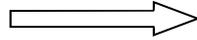
**Matowe Village, Malawi** — In 2016, Ibrahim Imran was one of the first recipients of our mobility carts. He was just finishing high school and 2 things were on his mind as he got his new cart: he’d now be able to watch football (soccer) games, and, he could start a small business. Now its 6 years later and Ibrahim has his own business where he cuts music to CD’s and sells them. This particular day he was traveling more than 7 kilometers (4.3 miles) to collect music from a friend.

Ibrahim says he dreams of opening a grocery store at the local trading center (market); he is trying to raise enough money to begin that business. Even now he is generating enough money to support himself and his parents. “My parents are old; they depend on me to provide for them. This mobility unit has made it all possible,” Ibrahim proudly reports.

## Supply Chain Shortages!



Some of our 126 lonely boxes waiting for wheels for 4 months . . .



. . . then 780 wheels finally arrived in March making for a much happier Manager!



We Got The  
**WHEELS!**  
(after a 4 month delay)



The grins spread to the assembly guys . . .

. . . and the packers celebrate with other shop volunteers gathered to cheer on the packing of the first of many carts waiting for wheels!



## The Dignity He Deserves

**Lilongwe, Malawi** — One thousand meters (more than half a mile) is the distance 18-year-old Tione Mphadwe crawls to get to and from school. For most people in first-world nations, this is hard to comprehend. No one crawls on the ground for a half mile to get to school. In most cases they are picked up by a specially outfitted bus for a much easier and shorter ride to school. However, for a boy in Malawi with paraplegia (a paralysis often caused by an injury to the brain or spinal cord) there are few, if any, resources to assist his movement, especially not a bus and driver. There are no mechanized means of transportation, not even a bicycle or oxcart that can carry him to school. He is too large for either his grandmother or his sister, with whom he lives, to carry him on their back through sand, rocks, and often mud, to reach the Kanyandule Primary School. If he wants an education, he must crawl all the way. Tione is determined to learn, so early every morning and late into the day he exhaustingly follows the familiar route from home to school and back.



Through a joint effort by *Mobility Ministries*, the *Malawi Project*, and *Action for Progress*, Tione can now move about, not only to school but to the houses of his friends, to the soccer field, to the nearby trading center, to church and out into the world around him. More than that, Tione can become a productive citizen in his community, and he can do it all with the dignity he, and millions like him, deserves.

## Action for Progress

Our Distribution Partner in Malawi  
Wilson Tembo, Director



### *The new Distribution Center finally gets a “monsoon-proof” driveway!*

When Containers arrived during the rainy season, trucks could not get off the road to the Distribution Center, and 34,000 lbs. of Mobility Cart boxes weighing 150 lb. each were carried, one box at a time, through the mud.

Now a good gravel base has been installed, and a strong finished concrete driveway poured, so during the intense rainy seasons, the Containers are delivered regularly and unloaded directly into the Distribution Center—no delays!



***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.***

## Honor to Our Veteran



**Lafayette, IN** — On a beautiful evening in May, a cluster of volunteers from our Shop joined approximately 300 other well-wishers at Purdue Airport to cheer for the veterans of WWII, the Korean War, and the Viet Nam War as they returned from their Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. This time Dan Allen, of our packing crew, was onboard the flight. Since this is our third volunteer to be honored in this way, those of us who travel to be part of the celebration have made it a tradition to stop at *FIVE GUYS* first to enjoy a burger and fries — you know food always has to be in the mix!

**Thank you to Dan and all the other folks who faithfully served in our military, at home or abroad!**



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