

# **SPRING NEWSLETTER 2025**





From birth, Anthony suffered from spina bifida, a condition which left him unable to walk. The child's only means of movement was to crawl in the dirt.

Dragging himself along the rough and rocky paths which lead to his school, serious and painful injuries to Anthony's feet and ankles soon developed.

Left untreated, these injuries could have caused a life-threatening infection.

Because Anthony had no access to a mobility device, his only means of mobility was to crawl on the ground.

Happily, for Anthony, his parents were introduced to our ally in Kenya, Partners for Care. PFC staff examined Anthony and lovingly treated the child's wounds.

To address Anthony's need for mobility, PFC staff gave him a Mobility Cart, built by Mobility Worldwide West Michigan.

Now, Anthony's wounds have healed, and his Mobility Cart provides him with transportation to school. He and his family have a newfound hope and dignity.



### Happy Mother's Day! Happy Father's Day!

Honor a Special Parent with a Living Tribute: The Precious Gift of Mobility

In 2024, US consumers spent a total of \$33.5 billion to honor Mothers and \$22.4 billion to honor Fathers. The top gifts purchased were jewelry, special outings, electronics, flowers and clothing.

This year, Give the Precious Gift of Mobility "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a Special Parent!

Transform the life of a child forever (who is without the use of their legs) by giving funds toward a Mobility Cart. Fund a complete cart (\$400), and direct Mobility Worldwide West Michigan to attach a plaque with the name of the person you're honoring! (Living or passed on). Use the white envelope enclosed in the newsletter.

A Mobility Cart is a gift that affects a child and the child's family for generations. More than a vehicle for transportation, it grants life itself: the opportunity for a boy or girl to leave the house, attend school, worship, socialize, make friends, and learn a job.

You are the compassionate power behind the life-changing cart! Give the \$400 yourself or pool resources with others to fund a complete cart. A Mobility Cart will be a <u>Living Tribute</u> for years.

## Mobility Worldwide



West Michigan

## Mobility Worldwide West Michigan's 2024 Annual Report

PET MI- Holland dba Mobility Worldwide West Michigan (MWWM) is part of a bigger picture. This Report provides metrics for last year on our Holland, Michigan based 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization as well as shares a story of how we are an integral part of a larger network that achieved an amazing milestone last year.

#### Mobility Worldwide West Michigan

Mobility Worldwide West Michigan's mission is to provide mobility to disabled children living in developing countries around the world that have lost the use of their legs due to diseases (typically polio), congenital conditions, animal attacks, land mines and other severe circumstances.

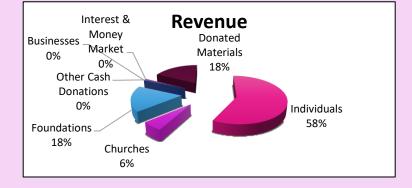
MWWM operates from a 7,108 square foot shop located on the southside of Holland, Michigan. Approximately 70 – 80 volunteers, mostly retired men and women build the three-wheeled, hand propelled carts. The carts are sized for children and have wide tires that make them suitable for off-road travel. Lifting them off the ground, with all the other children.

At MWWM, there are no paid positions or staff. Last year, MWWM's volunteers built 700 child sized carts, from steel, wood, rubber and other component parts, during the year of 2024. Carts went to the Brother's Brother Foundation, Partners for World Health, Americares, Convoy of Hope, Partners for Hope Africa, and to Brazos Valley, TX – Going to Liberia.

As a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation, PET MI- Holland dba Mobility Worldwide West Michigan relies on contributions received from many individuals, Churches, foundations and businesses.

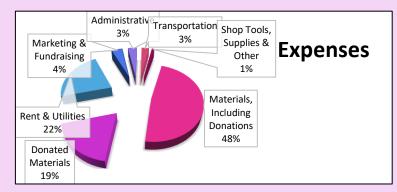
## Revenue & Support for 2024/Sources of Funds:

| Category                |       | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------------|-------|---------------|
| Individuals             |       | \$ 168,070    |
| Churches                |       | 17,305        |
| Foundations             |       | 51,236        |
| Businesses              |       | 1,038         |
| Other Cash Donations    |       | 606           |
| Interest & Money Market |       | 971           |
| Donated Materials       |       | 50,700        |
|                         | Total | \$ 289,926    |



#### **Expenses for 2024/Uses of Funds:**

| <u>Category</u>                    | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Materials \$                       | 129,005       |
| Donated Materials                  | 50,700        |
| Rent & Utilities                   | 58,968        |
| Marketing & Fundraising*           | 17,340        |
| Administrative                     | 2,657         |
| Transportation (Domestic Trucking) | 7,413         |
| Shop Tools, Supplies & Other       | 2,487         |
| Total \$                           | 268,570       |



\*The "functional marketing and fundraising program support" expenses that were charged to the Howard Trust Fund was \$ 24,636.28.

#### Other Facts & Figures:

Total Hours of Volunteered Service 7065 Hours

Cost per Cart is approximately: \$400.00

| Carts Shipped To:                   | No.       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Brother's Brother Foundation -      | 50        |
|                                     | 50        |
| Partners for World Health           | 30        |
| World Vision                        | 110       |
| Americares -                        | 110       |
| Convoy of Hope                      | 110       |
| Partners for Hope Africa            | 275       |
| Brazos Valley Tx – Going to Liberia | <u>30</u> |
| Total                               | 715       |





Here we are! Finishing the loading of the container with 275 carts going to Uganda to help kids with no use of their legs. Imagine how many lives we are all changing with just this one truck!







## **Dick Jones:**

Born: April 23,

1936

Passed: April 14,

2025

## Honoring our Team Member!

Mobility Worldwide West Michigan is honoring our good friend and team member Dick Jones.

From 2017 until 2025 Dick resided in Holland, MI in the Appledorn Community. During this time, he loved volunteering with Mobility Worldwide West Michigan where he painted carts to be sent to children around the world who don't have use of their legs.

Dick had the spirit of giving and helping children in his heart and in his soul. We will miss him, but we know that God has welcomed home a wonderful man.



# THE MANY BLESSINGS OF OUR MOBILITY MISSION,

Gratitude. I suspect that many of you, like me, practice gratitude. Life is so much more pleasant when we give thanks for our many blessings instead of focusing on what we may otherwise wish we had.

What a joy it is to be part of the local and international community that gives thanks for giving the gift of mobility and knowing how the gift of one of our \$400 small mobility carts will radically change a child's life trajectory in the rural developing world. Instead of being shunned and shut-in, life has the potential of more normalcy with the ability to independently get out of the house to play with neighbors, go to school, and go to church.

I find the partnership of our many distribution partners, our 40+ suppliers, our 70 volunteers and our countless donors to be a true blessing. How wonderful it is to make the world a better place by changing the life of one deserving child at a time, one after another. I truly give thanks for being part of this sacred mission.

Our commitment is to continue this life-changing mission and, through our partnership with our distribution partners, to highlight many of the changed lives our mobility carts afford. Getting to know our recipients will give more joy to all who serve in the partnership of our mission. We also intend to highlight suppliers, volunteers, and donors.

Personally, I joined Mobility Worldwide West Michigan shortly before retiring from being a physician four years ago. I feel blessed to continue a life of service. Like all of you, I look forward to continuing this service as long as the Lord is willing. Thanks to you all for joining me.

Sincerely,

President

Joel Wolfe MD



## **Board of Directors:**



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