



## WINTER NEWSLETTER 2025

Mobilityworldwidewm.org



***Give the Precious Gift of Mobility to a Child this Christmas***

***As a Living Tribute to someone Special in Your Life!***

Americans are expected to spend an average of \$902 each this Christmas for gifts for family members and friends, according to September 2025 figures from the National Retail Federation. Gift cards are one of the most popular presents because they offer a means to meeting a need.



As you plan this Christmas, consider honoring “someone special” in your life (living or passed) with a Living Tribute. **Give the Precious Gift of Mobility to a child without the use of their legs and direct the volunteers at Mobility Worldwide West Michigan to attach a tag with the name of that “special person”.**

A donation of \$400 toward a complete Mobility Cart meets a vital need for a child who would otherwise be isolated at home. With a Mobility Cart, that child can now pedal to school, church, social gatherings, learn a trade, and participate in life itself.

Make a Living Tribute to someone special in your life and transform a child’s world forever! The Gift of Mobility will outlast flowers, clothes, electronics, jewelry and other consumer goods. What a BLESSING to both people!

### **DeLeeuw Lumber—Our Featured Vendor!**

DeLeeuw Lumber has partnered with Mobility Worldwide West Michigan for many years. We are honored to feature them in our winter newsletter. DeLeeuw Lumber was started in Holland Michigan in the year 1947 as a Family run company. The company is now run by the 3rd generation of the family and continues to be a valuable member of our community. Tom Webber from Mobility Worldwide WM has established and maintained a close relationship with them for many years.



At DeLeeuw Lumber, they focus on building genuine connections and offering personalized attention to every interaction. They provide high-quality products, going above and beyond basic grading standards. We have found that to be true in our connection to them. Their service and products have helped us send quality carts to thousand of kids though out the world. Michael Vandenberg has represented the company well and provided everything we need from DeLeeuw Lumber. This company has even gone as far as to allow us to bring in a display and show the good works that we are doing in helping kids though out the world that don’t has use of their legs.

We thank them for partnering with us and hope to continue this relationship for many, many years to come.





## Invite Us to Share Our Story: Schedule a Presentation

Mobility Worldwide West Michigan is proud of our life-changing ministry to children without the use of their legs. Please invite us to share our story.



Schedule a presentation at your church, mission, conference, Bible School, non-profit organization, business, School, or club. In a 10-30 minute time frame (your choice), we will amaze you with stories, videos, and a cart demonstration.

For information concerning a presentation, please contact our office at (616) 396-2031, or call Jo at (616) 610-3442. Please assist us by supplying these details:

- Your name, email address, and phone number
- A description of your group and location for the presentation
- Possible dates, times and the length of presentation you prefer



## 8,000 Mobility Carts Produced to Transform the Lives of 8,000 Children

Mobility Worldwide West Michigan has manufactured 8,000 carts to provide mobility for kids without the use of their legs around the world!

Here are just a few of our happy volunteers helping to change the lives of these children. They are surrounding cart #8000.



## Mobility Worldwide West Michigan Shipments in 2025:

This past year, our donors helped change the lives of 562 kids throughout the world. It's amazing how these kids go from being immobile and unable to live a full life, to having that experience of freedom with their mobility carts. Here is a list of where our carts were sent this past year.

- 2/13/2025 30 carts sent to Liberia
- 4/8/2025 8 carts sent to Malawi, Africa
- 5/20/2025 30 more carts sent to Malawi, Africa
- 6/3/2025 50 carts sent to multiple locations
- 7/17/2025 275 carts sent to Uganda, Africa
- 8/1/2025 4 Carts sent to Zambia
- 8/26/2025 100 carts sent to Peru
- 9/23/2025 60 carts sent to Liberia, Ukraine and other locations
- 11/11/2025 5 carts to Assumption Church for delivery to kids in need.



## Mobility Worldwide West Michigan began in 2009 as the 13th affiliate of Mobility Worldwide International.

The World Health Organization estimates there are 70,000,000 disabled people in need of mobility assistance. Many of these are children suffering from diseases such as polio, congenital deformities, accidents, and even land mines. Standard wheelchairs are ineffective in rural and developing areas because of rough, unpaved terrain.

Our rugged carts are designed for use in such challenging environments.

The West Michigan affiliate of Mobility Worldwide exclusively builds small, rugged, hand-cranked mobility carts for children without the use of their legs in challenging, remote rural areas. Areas where standard wheelchairs are ineffective. Mobility carts free children from isolation and enhance their place in their families, villages, society, and world. The mobility cart affords dignity, inclusion, opportunities to interact with other kids and develop friendships, to attend school and church, and to participate in their communities - in short, life itself!



# Witnessing and Experiencing the Life-Changing Gift of Mobility!

In August I witnessed and experienced the life-changing Gift of Mobility in Zambia. Through a distribution partner, New Life Zambia, I shared the magical moment when Chipego, an eight year- old girl born with spina bifida, sat down on one of our Mobility Carts from the Holland shop and put on her seat belt.

Chipego’s loving mother had previously secured a chair with four equally-sized wheels for her that kept her off the dirty ground but it was inefficient on the dirt roads in her town of Livingstone. Spina bifida had isolated Chipego and offered her no hope for independence and a normal life.

Moments before Chipego sat down onto the Mobility Cart, it had been adjusted. Before a local staff member had time to share instructions in her native language, Chipego took off with ease and circled the New Life storage facility a lap or two! Soon Chipego was outside navigating the rugged terrain and ready to leave the compound. Of course, vital information was given to her and her mother about proper care for the cart, storage to prevent theft and instructions to contact New Life with any concerns.

The next day I heard that Chipego had independently navigated herself to church for an afternoon program, With joy and wonder, I realized that she had her life transformed in only one day! The cost to change her entire life and that of her family: \$400!

The precious Gift of Mobility not only changed Chipego and her mother’s life that day, but also my own! I knew that I had been involved in a God glorifying life-changing mission, but this witness of the miracle in Chipego’s life led me to recommit myself to the service of God in this ministry. Volunteering locally in the Holland shop and on the local and international boards has new meaning.

Thank you, newsletter readers for your prayers, volunteer hours and financial support! God is GOOD!

Joel Wolfe, President



Chipego



## Board of Directors



Bruce Wickmann



Conrad Mutschler



Jo Bird



Dale Dykema



Joel Wolfe



Tim DuMez



### **Mobility Worldwide West Michigan Contact Information:**

Address: 414 E. 40th Street, Suite 3, Holland, MI 49423

Phone#: (616) 396-2031, Email Address: [info@mobilityworldwidewm.org](mailto:info@mobilityworldwidewm.org)

