



I'm Kathy Gailey, the Director of Community Outreach for the Wheelchair Foundation. I am responsible for running the From the Heart Program. Don Routh has officially retired from the everyday running of The From the Heart Program and is working on expanding the program.

Our goal this year is to make a trip to Argentina to deliver wheelchairs. We still have scholarships and the wonderful letters in Spanish that are written by you. I will deliver the letters that were written to you in Ecuador and Bolivia this past summer when I visit your school. I'm sure you will enjoy them as much as the wheelchair recipients enjoyed reading your letters.

An exciting addition this year!!! We are looking at holding wheelchair basketball championships between rival high schools. BORP will provide specially designed basketball wheelchairs and their players will coach the opposing teams on the secrets of wheelchair basketball. Stay tuned for more details!!

Select A Date

Things to Consider:

- Do you have an Ability Awareness Program coming up? Run your From the Heart Program along with your Ability Awareness Program, they are perfect compliments of each other.
- Do you have a dance coming up where you could use the wheelchairs?
- Do you have a basketball game coming that could use some challenging half time show with wheelchairs?



- Connect your fundraising ideas with weather or around a holiday to determine your program timing.



Your Check List

These are the things that need to be completed a.s.a.p. if you have not done them already.

- - Select a date for your wheelchairs to be delivered.
- - Select a date for your assembly.

Thank you to the schools that have reserved dates!!!

- Village High School
- Live Oak Elementary School
- Skyline High School
- Alamo Elementary School
- Montair Elementary School
- Donlon Elementary School
- St Isadore's School
- Vintage Hills Elementary School
- Bollinger Canyon Elementary School
- Green Valley Elementary School
- Lydiksen Elementary School
- Twin Creeks Elementary School
- Rancho Romero Elementary School
- Wlanut Grove Elementary School
- Harvest Park Middle School
- Coyote Creek Elementary School
- Mohr Elementary School
- Hearst Elementary School
- Hidden Hills Elementary School

Let me know your dates **ASAP** so I can accommodate the best dates for you!! [Click Here to send me your dates!!](#)

Fundraising Ideas

There are lots of fun things that students can do to earn money for wheelchairs. We love to hear what your school is doing. Here are some ideas:

- Car wash
- Bake sale
- Hold a Mega Yard Sale
- Charge to use the wheelchairs for a



specific period of time.

- Sell flowers or balloons for special occasions and deliver them.
- Sell healthy snacks.
- Hold a raffle from local business donations



Bolivia & Ecuador Wheelchair Distributions

A teacher's reflection on her trip to Bolivia:

Helping those that needed a new wheelchair was an amazing experience. There was such a diverse group of people that needed these chairs. One little boy, that stole my heart was able to maneuver his chair in circles by the time he got to the parking lot. Another man, who was a teacher, explained how the chair was going to help him get around better at work. I couldn't help but think how much a chair that was given to a man who had a wife and 3 young, active boys was going to change the wife's life as much, or more than the man. There were as many amazing stories as there were 200+ chairs that were given.

A student's reflection on her trip to Ecuador:

Upon my return to the United States, people bombarded me with the same question, "How was Ecuador?" And honestly, this experience was so much more than an, "It was great!" Going on this trip not only improved my Spanish, but exposed me to a completely different culture, broadened my perspective of the true experience of struggle, and gave me the opportunity of a lifetime. People always ask if distributing wheelchairs was hard or tiring, and sure, it was draining at times, but I don't regret the lack of cellular

service, hour naps on the bus, putting caps on kids in their new wheelchairs, engaging in conversations in Spanish with wheelchair recipients, rushing back to the hotel with the other teens after Wingers so we could go to sleep early (knowing we had a distribution in the morning), trying delicious Ecuadorian food for the first time, and even making international friendships. This wonderful trip was like nothing I had ever done before, and I would like to thank the foundation, Don, Josh, David, Mr. Anderson and everyone who made this experience happen for me. I couldn't wish to have spent my summer any other way, hopefully I will be able to attend another distribution in the future!

Enjoy Some of Our Happy Moments in Ecuador!!
These are only possible because of your efforts!!!
Thank you for all your efforts!!!



Please send me your stories and pictures to share!!!





Your Ideas and Pictures

Please send me your ideas, things you've tried and pictures to share !!!

[Click Here to share your stories and pictures!!](#)

Don't forget to post your pictures with #wheelchairfoundation !!!





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