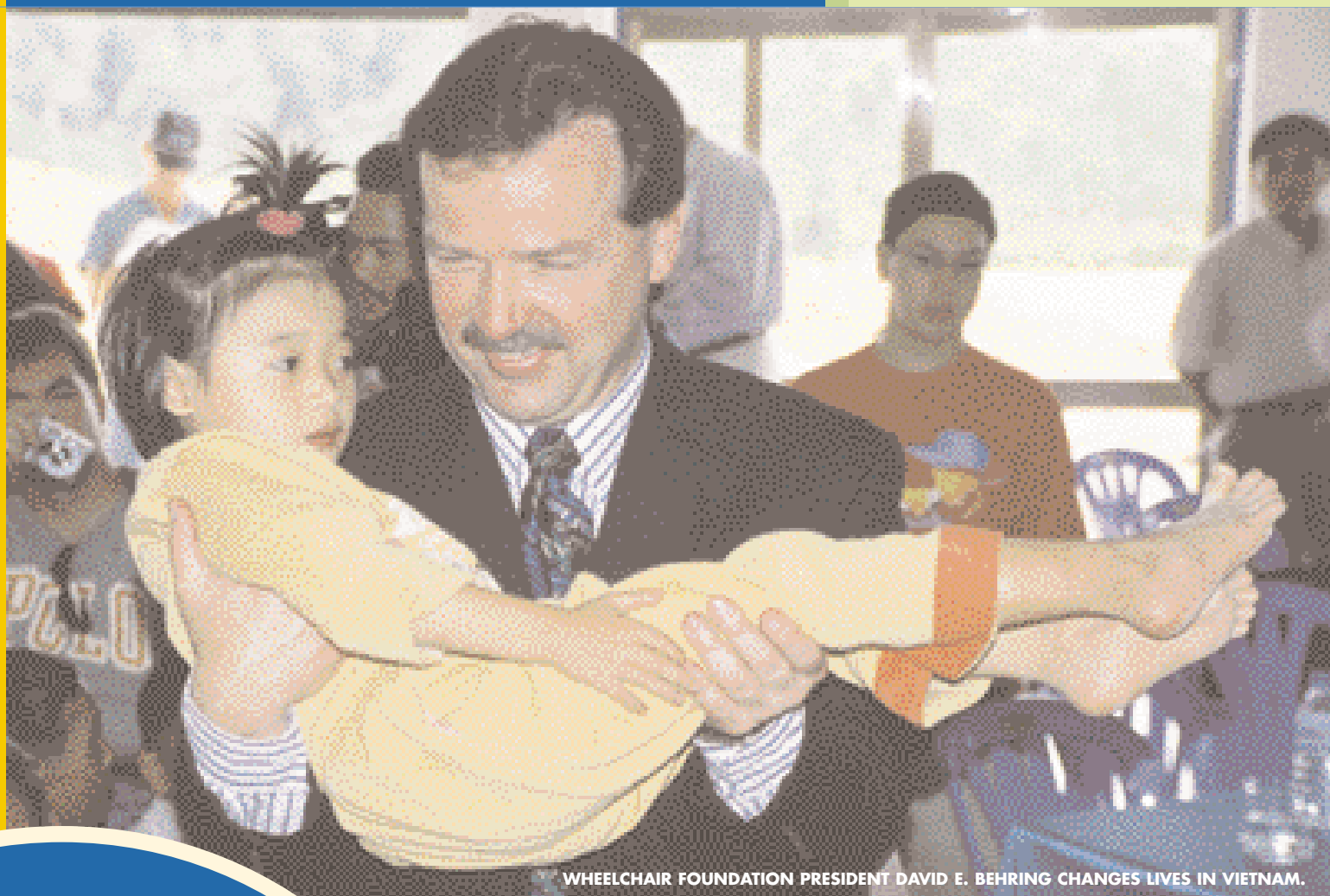


Changing THE WORLD

FALL 2003



WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION PRESIDENT DAVID E. BEHRING CHANGES LIVES IN VIETNAM.

INSIDE

Choosing a Path	1
A Message from Ken Behring	2
Mission and Goals	2
International Board of Advisors	4
Stories of Hope, Mobility and Freedom	5
Changing Lives in China	6
LDS Charities	
To Sponsor 40,000 Wheelchairs in 2003	7
Afghanistan: Openly Dancing	8
Foundation Photo Gallery	12-13
Lending a Hand in Papua New Guinea	14
Lessons Learned in Vietnam	16
Touching Hearts in Iran	18
Rotary Clubs Celebrate in Mexico	20
Wheelchair Foundation Chapter Updates	21
Frequently Asked Questions	22
Leaving a Legacy: Planned Giving	23

choosing a path

The goal at the inception of the Wheelchair Foundation in June of 2000 was to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world that needed one, but could not afford one.

More than three years of delivering wheelchairs later, we find ourselves on the leading edge of an international awareness and public education curve that is providing unique information to governments, concerned citizens, organizations and groups regarding the needs and abilities of the physically disabled.

Many organizations have come before us, many gladly continue helping crisis areas of the world, and many are seeing wheelchairs as an option for the first time.

The statistics that are available to governmental and relief organizations are usually based on census data that is more than 10 to 20 years old. Even then, the numbers of physically disabled that have been counted, are only a small percentage of the actual numbers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



A MESSAGE FROM KEN BEHRING



It is amazing to me how many people around the world have been touched by our efforts to deliver a life-changing wheelchair to the poorest of the physically disabled.

In the process of delivering wheelchairs to people in 109 countries, we have found that we are accomplishing much more than giving mobility and changing the lives of entire families. We are creating new awareness about the

needs and the abilities of the physically disabled. We are teaching people about the joy of giving to the less fortunate, especially when this has not traditionally been a part of their culture. We are being told on a daily basis the good we are doing for the friendship between people and cultures, and we are passing on vital information to relief organizations and governments about how we can all work together to help our neighbors in need.

Wheelchairs have never been an affordable relief option before the Wheelchair Foundation. We are delivering over 10,000 wheelchairs per month by 280-wheelchair containers, directly from the factories in China, and we are doing it with a donation of only \$75 per wheelchair, or \$21,000 per container. Disabled children can now go to school, adults can go to work, and the elderly can be a part of family life once again. There are so many physically disabled people with great abilities, and a basic mobility wheelchair is all they need to fulfill their dreams.

Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the lives of so many people around the world. The joy that we bring into their lives can only be matched by the joy it gives us to be able to embrace them and let them know that someone cares.

Together we are changing the world.

Thank you,

Kenneth E. Behring
Founder & Chairman of the Board

mission and goals

Our Mission

The Wheelchair Foundation is a nonprofit organization leading an international effort to create awareness of the needs and abilities of the physically disabled, to promote the joy of giving to the less fortunate, creating global friendship, and to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world who needs one, but cannot afford one. For the physically disabled, the Wheelchair Foundation delivers Hope, Mobility and Freedom.

Our Goal

Over the next five years, the Wheelchair Foundation aims to deliver 1 million wheelchairs to people who cannot afford to buy one, and to further the awareness that a wheelchair is no longer an unaffordable relief option for delivery to developing countries around the world.

Mobility

In the first three years of delivering wheelchairs, the Wheelchair Foundation has witnessed thousands of examples of how mobility creates new possibilities for recipients and entire families. A mobile child is able to attend school. A mobile adult is able to get a job and provide for their family, or care for the children at home. An elderly person can rejoin society or family activities after years of staying in a bed. The joy and hope that a simple mobility device can deliver, is what gives people a new outlook on life.



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www.wheelchairfoundation.org

THE OVERWHELMING NEED FOR WHEELCHAIRS

- People require the use of a wheelchair for many reasons: accidents, birth defects, war injuries, debilitating diseases and advanced age.
- One of the most horrific causes of disability worldwide can be attributed to landmines. Every year, more than 29,000 people are injured by landmines around the world. This number does not include those that are killed by the landmines.
- An estimated 100-130 million disabled people worldwide need wheelchairs, though less than 1 percent own or have access to one. The number of disabled is likely underestimated, due to the difficulty in accounting for “forgotten” citizens who spend their lives in back rooms.
- It is estimated that the number of people who need wheelchairs will increase by 22 percent over the next 10 years, with the greatest need existing in developing countries.
- In developing countries, only a small percentage of those who need wheelchairs have them, forcing dependence upon family and friends to get around. For others, the only way to get around is to crawl, or lie in a bed or corner of a room for years at a time.
- Despite tremendous efforts of many relief organizations, they are still not sufficient to meet the overwhelming need. Traditionally there have been three wheelchair delivery options—sadly, none of which is adequate for a country's poorest disabled citizens:

>>> Wheelchairs manufactured in the West: The most basic durable wheelchair costs about \$375, not including shipping charges. This sum is out of reach for many impoverished people. In Vietnam, for example, a disabled person may earn about \$30 a month – if she or he is able to work.

>>> Refurbished wheelchairs: There are several organizations that refurbish and distribute wheelchairs very professionally and responsibly. Unfortunately, their efforts cannot hope to meet the overwhelming need.

>>> Wheelchairs manufactured in country: Some developing countries have domestic wheelchair manufacturing operations. But the wheelchairs still must be sold to disabled citizens and are almost always too expensive for the destitute.

The wheelchairs provided by the Wheelchair Foundation are purchased in bulk from Chinese manufacturers, and designed to be the best possible solution in developing countries. They cost \$150 each, delivered by a 280-wheelchair container, and are offered free to those most in need. Each donation of \$75 will be matched by the Wheelchair Foundation to deliver a wheelchair. \$21,000 will deliver an entire 280-wheelchair container.

Kenneth E. Behring

The establishment of the Wheelchair Foundation marks the most recent chapter in Kenneth E. Behring's philanthropic efforts to improve the lives of disadvantaged people around the world.

From his successful career as an automobile dealer in Wisconsin, Ken entered the world of real estate development in the 1960s. Over the course of the next 35 years, his companies created numerous planned communities in Florida and California, including the world-renowned Blackhawk development near San Francisco.

After purchasing the Seattle Seahawks football team in 1988, Ken established the Seattle Seahawks Charitable Foundation, which benefited numerous children's charities. The Seahawks Foundation was the most substantial benefactor for the Western Washington Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Ken Behring founded the Blackhawk Museum, The U.C. Berkeley Museum of Art, Science and Culture, and the Behring-Hofmann Educational Institute in Blackhawk, California, to benefit the San

“When I see the happiness on the faces of the people who get a wheelchair, I feel that this is the best thing I have ever done in my life.” —Kenneth E. Behring

Francisco East Bay region. In 1997, he pledged \$20 million to the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, and in 2000 he pledged an additional \$80 million to rebuild the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. For only the fourth time in the Smithsonian's 170-year history, the prestigious James Smithson Award was bestowed on Behring in recognition of his generosity and vision. The Blackhawk Museum is now an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution.

During his years of travel around the world, Ken has made it his personal mission to help those in need. His donations of food, medical supplies, clothing, toys and educational materials have helped people in some of the most impoverished nations on earth. His first-hand involvement has given him a realistic picture of how much help is needed worldwide.

In 1999 Ken donated shipments of wheelchairs to relief organizations in Eastern Europe and Africa. His personal contact with the recipients gave him a greater understanding of how much hope and happiness can be given to a person who receives a wheelchair. In the following months, he traveled the world delivering wheelchairs to numerous countries. In June of 2000, Ken committed \$15 million to his newly created Wheelchair Foundation.

Since June of 2000, Ken has tirelessly traveled the world delivering tens of thousands of wheelchairs to the disabled citizens of five continents. The relationships he has developed with world leaders have led to a greater awareness of the needs and abilities of the disabled, and are a great force in propelling the mission of the Wheelchair Foundation. In 2002, Ken was awarded an honorary doctorate by Brigham Young University for his worldwide charitable efforts.

Ken and Patricia, his wife of 53 years, reside in Blackhawk, California. They have five sons and ten grandchildren.



international board of advisors

MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF ADVISORS OF THE WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION ARE INDIVIDUALS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING WHEELCHAIRS TO CHILDREN, TEENS AND ADULTS AROUND THE WORLD WHO CANNOT AFFORD ONE FOR THEMSELVES. THE ADVISORS BRING THEIR EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE TO BEAR IN PROVIDING VALUABLE COUNSEL ON THE DIRECTION OF THE FOUNDATION'S EFFORTS, SUPPORT IN ACCOMPLISHING ITS GOALS AND FULFILLING ITS MISSION.

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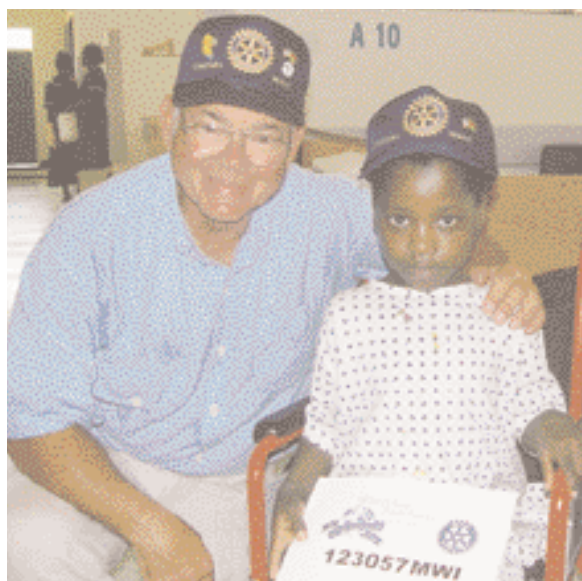
TOM TORLAKSON
State Senator, D-California

WHEELCHAIRS COMMITTED OR DELIVERED SINCE JUNE 2000

Afghanistan	5330	Madagascar.....	500
Albania	50	Malawi	1920
Algeria	140	Malaysia	1450
Angola	3240	Malta	240
Argentina	720	Mexico	18593
Armenia	1354	Moldova	240
Bahamas	360	Mongolia	540
Belarus	240	Montenegro	120
Belize	240	Morocco	240
Bangladesh	240	Mozambique	600
Bolivia	2294	Nepal	446
Bosnia & Herzegovina	510	Nicaragua	1855
Botswana	50	Niger	240
Brazil	1335	Nigeria	780
Burundi	240	Pakistan	655
Cape Verde	226	Palestinians/Israel	1965
Central African Republic	240	Panama	2340
Chile	1440	Papua New Guinea	740
China/Tibet	28163	Paraguay	784
Colombia	360	Peru	3029
Costa Rica	3328	Philippines	730
Croatia.....	240	Poland	11
Cuba	240	Puerto Rico	250
Czech Republic	600	Romania	1090
Dominican Republic	4992	Russia	460
Ecuador	2289	Rwanda	5
Egypt	808	Saint Lucia (UK)	280
El Salvador	2026	Samoa	980
Estonia	250	Senegal	240
Ethiopia	1048	Sierra Leone	720
Ghana	720	Somalia	88
Greece.....	240	South Africa	2460
Guam.....	250	Spain	775
Guatemala	2916	Sri Lanka	240
Haiti	531	Sudan	200
Honduras	2504	Suriname	240
Hungary	120	Swaziland	240
India	2686	Syria	88
Indonesia	520	Taiwan	756
Iran	2160	Tajikistan	240
Israel	4010	Tanzania	568
Italy	18	Thailand	2270
Jamaica	660	Trinidad & Tobago	1040
Japan	750	Turkey	1270
Jordan	1200	Turkmenistan	240
Kazakhstan	480	Uganda	764
Kenya	1760	Ukraine	1527
Korea, Dem. People's Republic	740	United States	14991
Kosovo	580	Uzbekistan	240
Kyrgyzstan	240	Venezuela	605
Latvia	240	Vietnam	1779
Lebanon	1749	Virgin Islands (US)	280
Macedonia	500	Western Sahara	153
		Western Samoa	191
		Zambia	120
		Zimbabwe	990

TOTAL COUNTRIES109
WHEELCHAIRS DELIVERED ...162,565

For current totals visit wheelchairfoundation.org.



LEFT: DR. BILL MCDADE HELPED TO SEND ALMOST 2,000 WHEELCHAIRS TO MALAWI.
RIGHT: JORDANIAN BOY WITH A HAPPY FAMILY.



STORIES OF HOPE, MOBILITY AND FREEDOM

Luanda, Angola: A group of five young disabled men were playing competition basketball in borrowed wheelchairs. We gave them their own new wheelchairs to make their lives easier. One young man told us, "My father has disowned me because I make him look bad when I crawl on the ground. He only acknowledges me and is proud when I play basketball." As tears began to form in his eyes, he sat up straight and said, "Now my father will be proud of me all the time, and that makes me very, very happy."

Wujiang, China: Shen Lin pointed at the motorbike tire that he had tied on his leg. He went on to explain that the tire helped preserve his legs from cuts and scrapes as he crawled from place to place. Shen couldn't recall the number of tires that he has worn to shreds, but he's been doing this for the past 45 years. Shen is now 49 years old, and is living on his own. After being placed in a new wheelchair, he cried, smiled, cried some more and said, "I have finally grown up."

San Diego, California: Rotary District 5340 Governor Larry Scott and Dr. Bill McDade of the Rotary Club of San Diego decided to start a fund-raising campaign to sponsor the delivery of 500 wheelchairs to the country of Malawi in Southern Africa, where their clubs

had previously delivered humanitarian aid. The "Wheels for Malawi" campaign touched the hearts of so many people that recognized the need of the disabled, that the number of wheelchairs sponsored rose to 1,920. Larry, Bill and many other Rotarians traveled to Malawi and personally delivered nearly 1,000 of the wheelchairs.

Hanoi, Vietnam: A 17-year-old girl that has been disabled since birth was the top student in her high school class. She always has had a dream and desire to be a doctor, but was afraid that she wouldn't be able to go to college because of her inability to move herself around. Up to this point in her life, she had to be carried by family or friends wherever she needed to go. Now that she has received a new wheelchair, she is able to fulfill her dream, and is going to attend college next year on her way to medical school.





changing lives in China

DELIVERING THOUSANDS OF
WHEELCHAIRS—AND TOUCHING
THOUSANDS OF HEARTS—IN CITIES
ALL AROUND CHINA

>>> The joy of giving.

>>> Hundreds of lives
changed in one day.

>>> Zou Xiaoliang
and Ken Behring.



In the past several months, Ken Behring has traveled throughout China distributing more than 2,000 wheelchairs with the China Disabled Person's Federation in the cities of Nanjing, Yangzhou, Suzhou, Dalian and Ningbo. During the wheelchair distribution in Ningbo on April 23, Mr. Behring was handed the following letter while shaking a man's hand.

March 29, 2002, is a day that has changed my life, and a day I will never forget, when I finally received a brand new wheelchair from Mr. Behring's hands.

I became disabled from polio when I was just 1 year old. From then on, I could only move with great difficulty by the means of a small stool. Carried around on other people's backs, I was able to finish 12 years of school. Without mobility, I was unable to attend the university. But by educating myself, I was able to earn college degrees in both Chinese and English. However, with only my small stool and disabled legs, I could not find any opportunity to apply my knowledge in language translation to get a job. Because of my lack of mobility, I could not go to any public facility to look for work, I never knew what was happening in the world, and I could not enjoy amusement of any kind. Therefore, my life was full of boredom and isolation. Sitting on my stool, I was jealous of all the people coming and going at will. I dreamed of a wheelchair that could take me wherever I wanted to go. I would ask myself, how could I ever own a wheelchair?

But now, I have owned a wheelchair given to me by Mr. Behring and the Wheelchair Foundation for more than one year. Sitting in the wheelchair and moving its wheels, I seem to grow a pair of wings, which make me fly freely and easily

anywhere. By wheelchair, I go to the library to learn more than I ever knew before. By wheelchair, I work for a translation service and can now support myself. By wheelchair, I spend some of my spare time in parks to enjoy fresh air and beautiful sights. On my face, you can see a happy smile and self-confidence. I even started a disabled association with more than 50 members. My goal now is to make full use of my wheelchair to inspire other disabled people, and to let them know of the philanthropic work being done by Mr. Behring and the Wheelchair Foundation. I am sure that my life is going to get even better because of my wheelchair.

Again, I would like to thank the kind Mr. Behring and the Wheelchair Foundation. Thousands and thousands of words just come into one, thanks.

Zou Xiaoliang
(A polio victim from China)
April 22, 2003

LDS Charities

to sponsor
40,000
wheelchairs
in 2003



LEFT: HAPPY GIRLS IN UGANDA. RIGHT: CRAWLING TO GET A WHEELCHAIR.

The humanitarian services provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints helps children and families of all nationalities and religions by relieving suffering, helping people to help themselves, and providing opportunities for service. Help is provided through response to emergency situations, major initiatives such as the distribution of wheelchairs, neonatal resuscitation training, clean-water programs, and vision treatment training, also through local area initiatives that meet chronic needs or just help people to help themselves.

Since 2000, the Church has sponsored the distribution of more than 40,000 wheelchairs to people without mobility in 65 countries. This year alone, the Church will sponsor 40,000 wheelchairs, on top of all previous deliveries! It is estimated that the delivery of a wheelchair to a disabled person changes the lives of at least 10 people. This means that in the year of 2003 alone, the Church could be responsible for changing the lives of 400,000 people around the world who are physically disabled, or have a disabled person as a part of their family or daily life.

Some highlights of 2003 so far include the distribution of 1,000 wheelchairs in one day in Mexico City with President and Mrs. Fox, Pacific Island distributions in Guam, Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Western Samoa, and major distributions throughout Africa and Afghanistan. Stories like the 13-year-old girl in the Philippines who can now start first grade because she has a wheelchair, can be told many times over. The despair that grips a person who is disabled by an accident, can be relieved by someone seeking them out because free wheelchairs are arriving

in bulk for the first time ever, as was the case in Guam. Lives are changed by the delivery of a wheelchair, for the recipient *and* those who provided it.

1985 TO 2002 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE DELIVERED BY THE CHURCH INCLUDES:

Clothing Distributed (Tons)	51,299
Food Distributed (Tons)	40,997
Medical Equipment (Tons)	5,262
Educational Materials (Tons)	4,386
Countries Served	150
Value of Assistance (U.S.)	\$545 million

Humanitarian programs are funded by donations from Church members and others, and thousands of individuals and numerous groups donate volunteer hours in service projects to help produce and prepare humanitarian relief supplies for shipment. In these humanitarian efforts, the Church often participates with private voluntary organizations, community agencies and other churches. Latter-day Saints Charities was established in 1996 as a private, nonprofit charitable agency.

Mr. Behring and all of the Wheelchair Foundation team members worldwide extend our most sincere gratitude for the overwhelming commitment that The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has made to help the physically disabled and less fortunate people of our world. This demonstration of true caring and friendship is an example for all generations of how people on this earth should embrace each other.

LEFT TO RIGHT: MOTHERS AND CHILDREN IN NIGERIA; TANZANIA; GUAM; RENN PATCH IN JORDAN.





Afghanistan
openly

dancing

RELIEF ARRIVES IN THIS MOUNTAINOUS, WAR-RAVAGED COUNTRY,
WHERE WHEELCHAIR NEED ESTIMATES REACH 10 PERCENT



Afghanistan is a mountainous country of roughly 27 million people in Southern Asia with a recent history of war and civil unrest. Listed by the United Nations as possessing one of the most widespread landmine problems, it is estimated that the number of physically disabled citizens that need a wheelchair approaches 10 percent of the population.

Nasir Durani is the president of an indigenous Afghan/American Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Afghanistan named The Afghan Center. Upon completing a recent wheelchair distribution in Kabul, Nasir filed a report, which read in part:

Kabul—Wednesday, June 25, 2003—The capital of Afghanistan was a scene of emotions and jubilation as it witnessed the distribution of brand new wheelchairs to 240 disabled people. Many had lost both legs as a result

of amputation for shrapnel wounds. Their conditions were primarily caused by landmines, grenade explosions or polio. The wheelchairs were donated by the Wheelchair Foundation and the Seton Institute of Redwood City, California, and were distributed in Afghanistan by the Afghan Center.

Today, Afghan Television reported in its 7 p.m. prime-time news: “The only way I can describe Kabul today is a grateful city. Our disabled sisters and brothers heard that for the first time, an Afghan/American NGO, the Afghan Center, in partnership with the Wheelchair Foundation and the Seton Institute, and the Ministry of Martyrs and Disabled of the Transitional Islamic Government of Afghanistan, distributed wheelchairs in one of Kabul’s largest humanitarian assistance efforts, freeing 240 individuals and



>>>> Two 13-year-olds with new leases on life. Both were victims of land-mines.



their families from imminent danger of total paralysis and confinement to their beds.”

Mothers, brothers, sisters and neighbors accompanied their disabled loved ones, all becoming overwhelmed with emotion and crying out with joy and happiness. Tears were raining down their sunburned and freckled cheeks.

According to the U.N. and the Ministry of Martyrs and Disabled, there are 24,000 disabled individuals registered with the two organizations. Over 1,000 of these people from all walks of life, ethnicity and gender attended with their friends and relatives. They came from as far away as Paghman, 25km West of Kabul, on whatever modes of transportation they could find, including mules and donkeys.

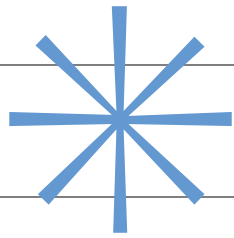
>>>> (Opposite page): Unloading wheelchairs in Kabul. (This page): Hoping to receive a wheelchair.

Working with district representatives, the Afghan Center identified 240 of the most qualified disabled persons in the area. The crowd was overwhelmed by feelings and emotions when some 25 women and children were carried to the distribution site, and once settled into their wheelchairs, their facial expression and emotions could only be described as giving a person a second chance to live.

Despite Afghan cultural constraints forbidding girls and women from expressing their feelings in public, the recipients could not refrain from dancing openly. Their eyes brightened and, along with hundreds in the audience, they started moving their hands and started dancing. Words cannot possibly capture the true picture and emotion of the scene.

Since my arrival in Kabul two weeks ago, I have been watching a 19-year-old boy named Najib who lives next to our local office. He has been confined to his bed for the past year and a half from an accident. This morning the bed was folded and there was no sign of Najib. Looking out from the second-floor window of the office, we noticed a large crowd outside. Najib was the center of attention; he was the hero. He was proudly briefing children on the operation of his new wheelchair. He was surrounded by dozens of curious children asking him how he felt and touching his wheelchair. He said, “I do not want to go home. I want to go to the shop down the street, and school, and play outside, to feel the outside air.”

The Wheelchair Foundation, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and The Knights of Columbus are currently sponsoring 5,000 wheelchairs to the disabled citizens of Afghanistan. In conjunction with the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of State, these wheelchairs are being transported and distributed by various NGO's currently working with the disabled population. Ken Behring and a delegation of dignitaries will be traveling to Afghanistan in September to take part in wheelchair distributions in and around Kabul. An additional 5,000 wheelchairs are scheduled to follow shortly thereafter.



choosing a path



SCHOOL BOYS IN PAKISTAN CAN NOW PLAY TOGETHER BECAUSE OF A WHEELCHAIR.

In developing countries, the physically disabled that can benefit from the gift of a wheelchair number approximately 6 percent of the population. In countries that have been cursed by an infestation of land mines, this number goes as high as Angola's 20 percent of the population, but Sierra Leone, Eritrea, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are not far behind.

Working with a network of hundreds of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), First Lady's organizations and local health agencies to distribute our wheelchairs, we are exposed to the actual needs of the physically disabled on a house-by-house, community-by-community basis. These organizations have ongoing missions around the world, and are the only accurate source of local needs.

There is undeniable evidence that the gift of a wheelchair to a physically disabled person contributes to the self-sufficiency of individuals, families and often the economic welfare of communities.

We have experienced literally thousands of incidents of physically disabled children being able to go to school because of the gift of a wheelchair, adults

that can now get a job and provide for their families, and elderly people that have much to offer to the support of their family or community, but have been unable to leave their home due to immobility.

In many African countries hand-made crafts or clothing are a vital part of the local economy. The very same day that a 20-year-old woman in Botswana was given a wheelchair, she was in a sewing shop learning how to make clothing for the first time in her life. She could now earn a living, the shop had another much-needed employee, and their productivity was just increased by another worker. This simple example could be multiplied by the 10,000 wheelchairs that we are delivering on a monthly basis.

Two of our most important global relationships in the effort to eradicate immobility are with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Rotarians worldwide. 1.2 million Rotarians enjoy a network of over 32,000 Rotary Clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical regions, and have helped us create an enormous amount of awareness regarding the abilities and needs of the physically disabled. Rotary Clubs have served as our NGO in many countries where they have sponsored and distributed the shipments of wheelchairs. To date, Rotarians have sponsored more than 50,000 wheelchairs to 60 countries, and have brought home thousands of stories about the life-changing experience of lifting people into their new wheelchairs.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has sponsored more than 40,000 wheelchairs to over 65 countries in the course of their humanitarian assistance missions. The church is also supplying additional relief supplies such as blankets and personal hygiene kits to thousands of wheelchair recipients. The church members and missionaries that have participated in the distribution of wheelchairs tell touching stories of a new awareness of the abilities of the recipients, now that they have their first wheelchair, and the importance this plays in the connecting of family members that have previously been unable to be a part of everyday activities.

This kind of selfless giving is definitely promoting global friendship on a level that has not been seen much before, and as been heralded by heads



>>> Ken Behring in Zimbabwe.

of state and local officials around the world. The Wheelchair Foundation and its distribution partners share common ground in the policy of helping anyone that needs a wheelchair, regardless of local issues or separations. This unobstructed delivery of hope, dignity, freedom and life-changing mobility is providing great satisfaction for the sponsors and distribution participants, because of the absence of an agenda, except to promote the joy of giving.

Throughout our worldwide efforts, we are discovering that there is a firm common ground among all of the governmental, corporate, religious, ethnic, relief and other organizations that participate in our wheelchair distribution program. We are finding that if we can educate our world community about the simplicity and life-changing nature of delivering a basic mobility wheelchair, we can help the estimated 100 million people who cannot help themselves. We have found that the more effort we put into educating the public, the more we are able to connect with people in other countries, and change lives along a path that started with the vision of one man, and has touched millions of people around the world.

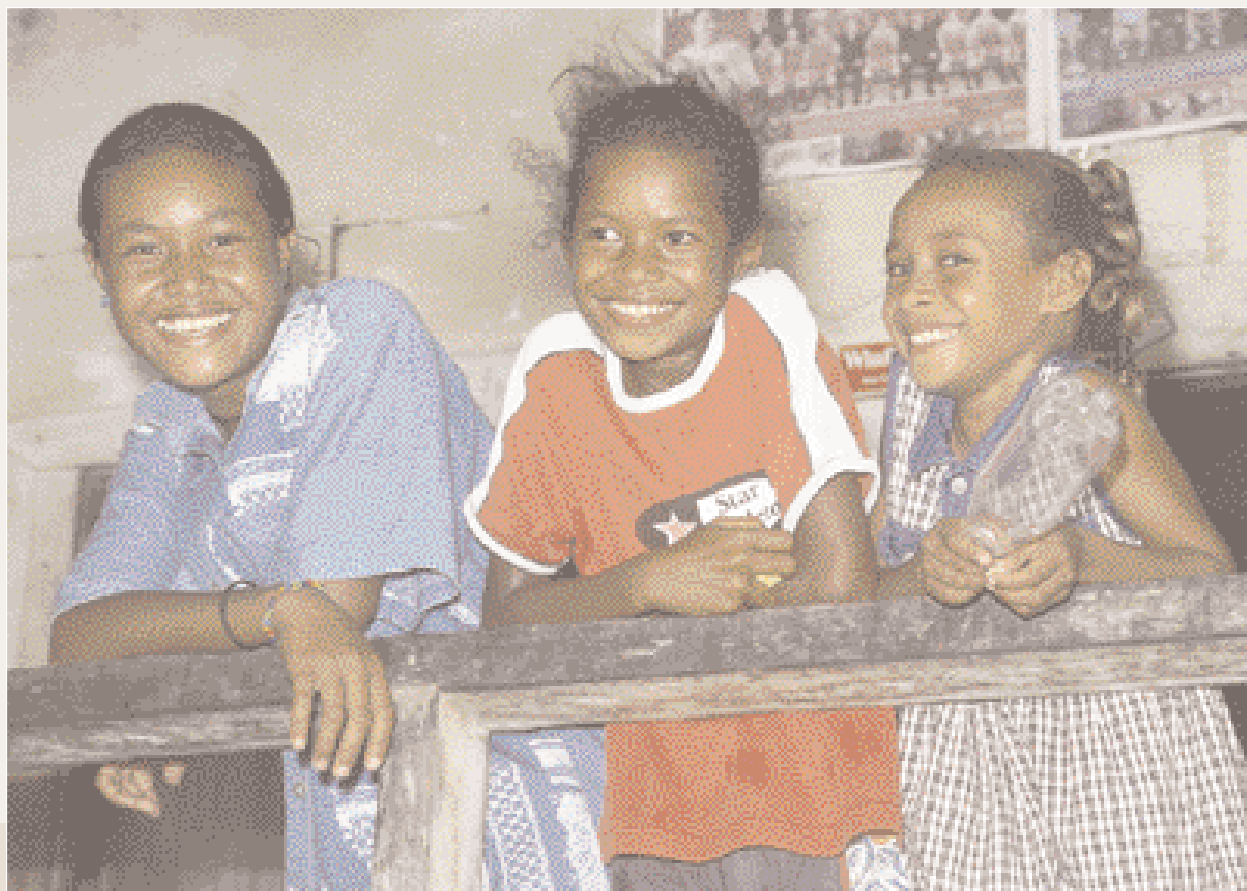
Our goal remains the same, our mission has expanded, and our support continues to grow on a daily basis. Thank you for helping us to touch people and change their world.

Special Thanks

Special recognition is due to the people who make the mission of the Wheelchair Foundation possible. We greatly appreciate your generous support, hard work and dedication to helping thousands of physically disabled people realize a brighter future.

The United States Department of State
 The United States Department of Defense
 Rotary Clubs and Rotarians Worldwide
 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 The China Disabled Person's Federation
 Ralph & Betty Engelstad
 The Oakland Athletics
 Smithsonian Magazine
 The Million Dollar Round Table
 Crystal Cathedral Ministries
 Pete Petrovich (Drive Fore Mobility Golf Tournament)
 Daughters of Charity
 Knights of Columbus
 Altria
 Seton Institute
 Samaritan's Purse
 Sister Cities International
 ChevronTexaco
 The Ann & Robert H. Lurie Foundation
 VN Help
 Publix Super Markets Charities
 The Steve & Terry Largent Charitable Fund
 Albert E. & Birdie W. Einstein Fund
 Children International
 Knights of Malta
 Major League Baseball
 Alma Jennings Foundation
 Huizenga Family Foundation
 Wendall & Twyla Stewart
 Weston & Rebeckah Watkins
 Los Medicos Voladores
 Wells Fargo Foundation

season highlights



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP >>> Receiving wheelchairs is a festive occasion in Papua New Guinea. >>> Rotary Club of Los Angeles members Pearl and Marc Leeka distribute wheelchairs in Angola. >>> Tutu can provide for his family much more easily now that he received a new wheelchair.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
 >>> Patricia and Ken Behring bring mobility to children in Mexico.

>>> A wheelchair brings smiles to faces that have very little to smile about. >>> A 7-year-old girl in Israel can now go outside with her friends and family. >>>

Trevor can hold his head high in his new wheelchair. >>> Libby Pataki talks with a young wheelchair recipient in Puerto Rico. >>>

David Behring hosts the "Wheel and Grace" fund-raiser at the Blackhawk Museum to send more wheelchairs to Vietnam. >>>

Ken Behring is embraced by Dr. Robert A. Schuller on "The Hour of Power" television show.



lending a hand in Papua New Guinea

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA RECEIVES A WARM WELCOME IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Members of the Rotary Club of Gosford West helped to establish Wheelchair Foundation Australia as their club's international service project, to provide free wheelchairs to disabled people in the Australia and Western Pacific regions.

In February of 2003, Gosford West President Tony Mylan and five other members traveled to Papua New Guinea for the distribution of 240 wheelchairs that were sponsored by Rotarians in the United States, and delivered to Port Moresby by sea container directly from the factory in China.

From the early years of the 20th century, Papua New Guinea had been administered by Australia up until its independence in 1975. During World War II, Australians bravely liberated the country from hostile occupation, and in doing so, found great allies in the indigenous people. Stories told since the 1940s recant the support and friendship that Australian troops received from the New Guinea people. It is this same support and friendship that Australian Rotarians have been giving back to the citizens of Papua New Guinea for many years.

David Conn is a member of the Rotary Club of Boroko, PNG, and served as our Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) responsible for the duty-free importation of the wheelchairs, their distribution to the disabled in need, and returning photos to us of the recipients.

The visiting Rotarians were completely overwhelmed by the warm reception and thankful gestures that they received from the wheelchair recipients and their families in the coastal towns of Gaire and Wewak. "It is very hard to put into words the way it makes you feel when you

change someone's life by putting them into a wheelchair for the first time," said Graham Allen. Donald Sullens commented, "When you give a kid a wheelchair here, you might as well give them the world."

Part of the frustration in getting foreign aid into developing countries such as Papua New Guinea has been that the dona-

tions of money rarely filter down to the people in desperate need of humanitarian assistance. "These tangible, life-changing wheelchairs don't get lost in the paperwork, and get directly to the people who need them, that's why I think this is the best project we have ever done," said Lyall Hood.

"As Rotarians, civic leaders and professionals we

have the ability to immediately improve the lives of disabled people, and to participate in an international service project that has succeeded far beyond anyone's expectations," says Harry Melkonian.

The volunteer directors of Wheelchair Foundation Australia, Harry Melkonian, Graham Allen, Lyall Hood and Tony Mylan have committed to a long-term relationship with the people of Papua New Guinea, and look forward to helping the physically disabled change their lives for the better with the help of basic mobility wheelchairs.

Recently, an additional 500 wheelchairs were sponsored in Papua New Guinea by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and were distributed by the Rotary Club of Boroko.



ABOVE: WATCH ISABELLE MOVE HERSELF FOR THE FIRST TIME AT OUR WEB SITE (CLICK PNG ON THE WHEELCHAIR DELIVERIES PAGE).



RIGHT: A WHEELCHAIR CHANGES THE LIVES OF ENTIRE FAMILIES.

Jon B. Grant



DR. Jon B. Grant has been a member of the Rotary Club of Foster City, California, for over 25 years. As a Rotarian, Jon has been involved in numerous international and local service projects. As Club President and then as 5150 District Governor, Jon focused heavily on the needs of the disabled, and even took a college course on how to build wheelchairs and teach others how to do the same in developing countries.

Since December of 2000, Jon has volunteered his time helping Rotary Clubs and the Wheelchair Foundation work together to plan the sponsorship and distribution of more than 50,000 wheelchairs to disabled people in 60 countries. Jon and his wife, Linda, have traveled the world, actively coordinating wheelchair distributions and speaking to Rotarians about the joint efforts of Rotary Clubs and the Wheelchair Foundation to help the physically disabled.

The Wheelchair Foundation thanks Linda and Jon Grant for their dedication to helping the disabled people of our world, and for the friendships they have helped us make with others that care about mankind.

To discuss Rotary Club sponsorship or distribution of wheelchairs, please contact Jon Grant at JonBGrant@aol.com or by telephone at (650) 574-0520 (California).



I Am Able

The US Paralympics and the Wheelchair Foundation have formed an alliance to launch the "Paralympic Academy" on September 17, 2003, in Washington, DC. The theme of the Paralympic Academy is "I AM ABLE."

The Academy will be working with partners in all 50 states to create awareness of the abilities of physically challenged people, get sports wheelchairs sponsored for use in their local communities, and encourage the young athletes to develop their abilities into competition level talents, that then may qualify them to participate in the Paralympic Games.

The Wheelchair Foundation will be providing the sports wheelchairs, and will be actively participating in the public education campaign.



lessons learned in Vietnam

By Zach Ruchman

ONE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EARNS HIGH MARKS DURING WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTIONS

Zach Ruchman is a 15-year-old student at Greenwich County Day School in Connecticut, and attended wheelchair distributions in Vietnam sponsored by Rotary District 5000 of Hawaii, and the Princeton University class of 1977.

Daily life in Vietnam, a nation of 81 million people, has not changed much in years. Many Vietnamese live day-to-day and a great number continue to wear traditional clothes. About 25 percent of the population is unemployed. More than 35 percent live below the poverty line, and the average annual income is \$2,100 USD. Many children are undernourished or do not receive all of their necessary vitamins and minerals. Thousands have suffered birth defects because of chemical defoliants used during warfare to thin out the jungle that covers much of the terrain. Numerous people have lost limbs to land mines that are remnants of the war. Some of these victims are physically disabled and cannot walk properly, if at all. Others suffer from disabilities such as cerebral palsy. I was lucky enough to journey to Vietnam this past March and help David Behring, the president of the Wheelchair Foundation, in conjunction with the Princeton class of 1977, distribute wheelchairs to some of those in need.

The first distribution center was at a meeting place of the Women's Union in the former Saigon, now known as Ho Chi Minh City. The wheelchair recipients, many of them barefoot, arrived by various modes of transportation, including bicycle, motor bikes, and rickshaws. All had to be helped to the distribution center and inside the building by friends or family members. We were told that the wheelchairs were expensive, and would be a severe financial burden to these people if they had been required to pay for them. We were allowed to help pick the recipients up and place them in their new wheelchair, thus letting us share their joy at being able to move around again, or for the first time. I have never seen anybody more delighted by movement in my entire life.

A second distribution followed in a small village near Hue



>>> An orphanage
near Hue.

that is currently being developed by the charity organization, Kids First Vietnam. This small village was in a very rural area, the landscape consisting almost entirely of rice paddies, water buffalo and manual laborers. We were in Quang Tri Province, not far from one of the locations that suffered the most during the Vietnam War. After we distributed the wheelchairs, we talked to some of the recipients through a translator. We found out how difficult the lives of these people are, and learned about how they have survived in their physically disabled state. One small, 14-year-old boy who was born without the full use of his legs and who had severely deformed hands showed us how, by dragging himself along on the backs of his hands, he managed to move short distances. His father informed us that none of his



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: >>> First mobility. >>> David Behring and Fred Gerhard distribute friendship and wheelchairs in Vietnam. >>> Carrying a child is her way of life before the gift of a wheelchair. >>> First help for her child.

son's siblings went to school because they needed to stay home and care for their brother. Now that he had a wheelchair, they all could go to school.

One of the most powerful and possibly the most enjoyable stops along our journey was an orphanage near Hue. Run by a group of Buddhist nuns, the orphanage provides a home for many children who either have no parents or were abandoned by them. In addition to being a place of shelter and survival, the orphanage schools all the kids, giving them an advantage that they might not otherwise have had if they had lived with their parents. While these kids certainly were not very privileged, they were definitely lively. They enjoyed running around in circles, playing on the slide, and were overjoyed by the lollipops and Greenwich Country Day School pencils that we gave

them. These kids were a ray of hope that shone through the darkness of the disabilities that we saw while distributing wheelchairs.

Unfortunately, my mom and I left Vietnam before we could help with the final wheelchair distribution, which was to be in Hanoi. We made an early departure because of the SARS virus, which had affected more than 50 people in Hanoi and killed four. We were afraid that the virus posed a great danger to us, especially since we were going to be in close contact with lots of people. We, along with another family, left after spending just hours in Hanoi. However, we came away with a new view of the world, thanks to an experience unlike any other. There is nothing in the U.S. that can compare with the poverty that the people of Vietnam live in and must negotiate every day of their lives. Even those who have jobs cannot afford anything that most Americans can. One superb lunch that we ate cost four dollars per person, or about 60,000 Vietnamese Dong. There is nowhere in the U.S. that I could have an excellent meal for just four dollars. Even that cannot be afforded by most of the Vietnamese. In school, we often learn about people elsewhere in the world and their impoverished condition. While I have always been grateful for what I have, witnessing firsthand the struggles that others live in because of poverty, disability, lack of proper medical care, and war has made me more thankful than ever. I would encourage everyone to go on a wheelchair distribution and experience the happiness that came into all of our lives during the trip to Vietnam.

After the final distribution in Hanoi, Tran Thi Nghua wrote to David Behring:

Dear Mr. David,

Thank you for your undreamed-of gift of a wheelchair. I feel very happy. I have learned English for only three years now, so please don't laugh. Now I can say that I am the happiest girl because I have a happy family, good friends and especially you, a new friend. My mother said "This is the first time I have met a handsome kind foreigner!" I laughed. I was cold when we met and you gave me my new wheelchair, then you shook my hand and I felt very warm in my heart. I was moved to tears. If only I could see you right now, I could invite you for Vietnamese tea, introduce my father, my older brother, older sisters, and take you to my school with my new wheelchair. Thanks to you I can go to school easier, visit everyone and do everything I like. Thank you very much for your gift from the heart.

Tran Thi Nghua

P.S. Could you send me your photograph?



touching hearts in Iran

A RECENT DISTRIBUTION BRINGS 1,200 WHEELCHAIRS TO DISABLED AROUND THE COUNTRY

The Semnani Foundation and the Persian Center in Berkeley, California, sponsored the delivery of 1,200 wheelchairs that were recently distributed in Tehran and several other cities in Iran. The Red Crescent Society coordinated the distribution effort, and was able to help many people who have never been a part of society.

Wheelchair Foundation team member Joel Hodge saw a disabled man in downtown Tehran who had flip-flops on his hands, and was moving around as best he could without the use of his legs. When Joel and an interpreter offered him a wheelchair, he started to cry because no one ever talked to him or paid any attention to him at all. The man responded to Joel's offer with, "Are you telling me the truth?" He did get a wheelchair, and visiting representatives from the Persian Center gave him some money and told him that he was of value to them. The man responded with great thanks and told them they had touched his heart like never before in his life.

The well coordinated efforts of the Red Crescent and Iranian Americans traveling to Iran to distribute wheelchairs has allowed many disabled children, teens and adults to have a chance for a better life in the face of numerous challenges. The Red Crescent communicated to the Wheelchair Foundation that in the month of May they were able to get wheelchairs to some of the neediest disabled people in Southern Iraq, who had been struggling for many years.

This is a perfect example of people worldwide who care enough to help the disabled, and agree with the policies of the Wheelchair Foundation to speak a single language, and practice a single act of compassion. We treat all people as important human beings, who have great potential and abilities. More often than not, the gift of mobility is the key to making their dreams come true.



TOP: THIS YOUNG MAN CAN'T WAIT TO GO TO SCHOOL.

BOTTOM: GOING HOME WITH THEIR NEW WHEELCHAIR.

first lady of Utah

JACALYN LEAVITT FINDS A DISTRIBUTION
IN PUERTO RICO A TOUCHING EXPERIENCE

First lady of Utah Jacalyn Leavitt traveled to Puerto Rico with Ken Behring and the Wheelchair Foundation team to participate in the distribution of wheelchairs. She wrote the following report for our readers.

I have had the privilege of participating in many worthwhile efforts, but the opportunity to assist the Wheelchair Foundation with their distribution in Puerto Rico was supremely unique. In my school-teaching career, I found music helped express feelings and reinforce virtues. These song lyrics describe my impressions on that day in San Juan when I lifted a boy named Angel into his own wheelchair:



JACALYN LEAVITT JOINS KEN BEHRING TO CHANGE LIVES IN PUERTO RICO.

A special gift is kindness
Such happiness it brings;
When I am kind to others
My heart sings

The experience made “my heart sing.” Angel suffers from a debilitating disease that tightens and pulls his ligaments inward,

distorting his body. Though he is small and frail for a boy of 13, I know he has the same desires and needs as my healthy 13-year-old son. Angel’s ailment robbed him of the dignity and independence teenagers so desperately want to attain. His new wheelchair returned some of that freedom. Angel responded to the wheelchair by quickly placing his hands on the wheels and exhibiting a great sense of satisfaction at his newfound mobility. He immediately began to maneuver himself about, very proud to show his mother and all of us the empowerment he had been given.

Because of the Wheelchair Foundation’s partnership with LDS Charities, some young LDS missionaries attended this event. I asked one to interpret as I spoke with Angel’s mother about how she had managed to transport him. She said at home he was able to scoot around on the floor, but she used a cart to pull him to his school. No wonder when Angel was placed in his wheelchair, the mobility it offered meant autonomy and ability. It was abundantly clear why he and I felt our hearts sing that day.

The need for help that the Wheelchair Foundation fulfills is obvious at these events. The desire to reach out beyond the disabilities that people have is profound. And the solution the foundation offers is immediate and life-changing.

My husband, Mike, met and talked with Ken Behring about his success in helping the neediest of people. It is readily apparent that Ken’s business savvy has made this humanitarian effort so effective. The same principles he has used to be efficient and productive in his professional life have been applied in this charitable endeavor. As Ken explains, “I run it like a business.” So, with the impressive support of their partners, the Wheelchair Foundation makes thousands of disabled people around the world the benefactors of this endeavor.

It was truly a gratifying opportunity to join Ken and Pat Behring and their foundation, and play a small part in their mission of giving kindness and hope. As Ken has said, and all of us in the group that day found, “giving is not a duty, it is a joy.”



EAGLE SCOUT JUSTIN GONSALVES HELPS TO DELIVER WHEELCHAIRS IN MEXICO.

Since March of 2001, Rotary Clubs and Districts have sponsored the delivery of over 50,000 wheelchairs to people in 60 countries. Over 15,000 of those wheelchairs have been delivered to Mexico.

From May 23 to May 25, Rotarians from the United States, Canada and Mexico came together for a "Mexican Celebration" to distribute 840 wheelchairs in Mexico City, Puebla and Huachuquingo. Present were past Rotary International Presidents Frank Devlyn and Rick King, Wheelchair Foundation founder Ken Behring, and former U.S. congressman Steve Largent.

The wheelchairs were sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Izcalli, Mexico (with a Rotary Foundation matching grant), Napa Valley, California, District 5220 and by Eagle Scout Justin Gonsalves from Union City, California, who raised funds for 110 wheelchairs as his Eagle Scout project.

rotary clubs celebrate in Mexico

MARKING TWO YEARS—AND 15,000 WHEELCHAIRS—IN MEXICO

Everyone participating in the distribution of the wheelchairs was incredibly touched by the gratitude and warmth expressed by the recipients. So many lives were changed in those few days. Not only for the recipients who now had mobility and their families, but also for the people giving them the gifts. Justin Gonsalves was able to see what all of his hard work had accomplished, and felt the kind of happiness he never thought possible. Phil Lakin, Bob Bitters, Tom Mills, Wayne Williams, Jon Grant and numerous other Rotarian attendees considered this one of the greatest events they had ever seen.

Victor Belendez, who has coordinated the importation, transportation and distribution of almost 15,000 wheelchairs with the United Rotary Fund of Mexico, was honored and thanked by Frank Devlyn and everyone in attendance for his incredible dedication to helping the physically disabled of Mexico.

The Wheelchair Foundation is planning to coordinate several trips per year for Rotarians to attend in Mexico, and experience the joy of changing people's lives with the gift of a wheelchair. The next "Celebration" is tentatively scheduled for January 2004 in Monterrey, Mexico, with past Rotary International Presidents Carlos Consecro, Frank Devlyn, Cliff Dochterman and Rick King in attendance. For information on the "Mexican Celebrations," please contact Rotarian volunteer Jon Grant at JonBGrant@aol.com or by telephone (650) 574-0520 (California).

wheelchair foundation chapter updates



ROTARIANS MARY HOOD, TONY MYLAN, HARRY MELKONIAN, LYALL HOOD, DONALD SULLENS AND GRAHAM ALLEN ARE WELCOMED IN WEWAK, PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION SOUTHEAST (WFSE)

Jack Drury, President

Recently the Rotary Club of Ft. Lauderdale received a grant to purchase 240 wheelchairs to deliver to elderly citizens in South Florida who were unable to afford a wheelchair. A fellow Rotarian donated \$1 million to improve the lifestyle of elderly South Florida residents over the next five years. The Rotary Elderly Program was formed with the grant, and Betrice Woomer, age 103, was one of the first recipients of a wheelchair provided by the Wheelchair Foundation. jdrury@wheelchairfoundation.org

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION MIDWEST (WFMW)

Steve Largent, Executive Director

Former Oklahoma Congressman Steve Largent has joined the Wheelchair Foundation team in our efforts to create awareness of the needs and abilities of the physically disabled, and to expand the global reach of our wheelchair deliveries. Steve has been very active working with corporations, faith-based organizations, U.S. government agencies and the U.S. Paralympics. slargent@wheelchairfoundation.org

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION NEVADA (WFN)

Don Williams, President

The focus of the Wheelchair Foundation Nevada over the past few years has been to help the physically disabled residents of Nevada without mobility or the funds to buy a wheelchair. This effort has been helped enormously by the generous gift made to the Wheelchair Foundation by Ralph

and Betty Engelstad to help the State of Nevada. The Engelstads had previously contributed to the delivery of 2,000 wheelchairs to their home state of North Dakota. dwilliams@wheelchairfoundation.org

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION CANADA/LA FONDATION DE CHAISE ROULANTE CANADA (WFC)

Christiana Flessner, Executive Director

Wheelchair Foundation Canada has been established in White Rock, British Columbia, in 2003. Christiana is a member of the Rotary Club of Semiahmoo, and has been actively involved in presenting the work of WFC to Rotary

Clubs and corporate audiences since November of 2002. The Rick Hansen Man in Motion Foundation is a major force in helping people with spinal cord injuries in North America, and looks forward to working with



SISTER CITIES VP RANDY AVON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TIM HONEY, ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU, JANE WOOD AND WFSE PRESIDENT JACK DRURY RAISE FUNDS TO SEND WHEELCHAIRS TO PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA.

Burlington, Ontario, is a member of the board of directors of WFC and is our representative in Eastern Canada. cflessner@wheelchairfoundation.org; wwilliams@wheelchairfoundation.org

WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA (WFA)

Harry Melkonian, Executive Director

Wheelchair Foundation Australia was established as the international service project of the Rotary Club of Gosford West, New South Wales. WFA directors Harry Melkonian, Graham Allen, Lyall Hood and Tony Mylan established WFA to create awareness of the needs and abilities of disabled citizens in the Australia and Western Pacific region. They traveled to Papua New Guinea in February of 2003 to distribute 240 wheelchairs with David Conn of the Rotary Club of Boroko, and created a video that can be seen on the Wheelchair Foundation Web site. Please follow the navigation button marked "WF Australia." hmelkonian@wheelchairfoundation.org

Please visit the "Contact Us" page of our Web site for additional contact information.



frequently asked questions

Q: How many people need wheelchairs but cannot afford one?

A: It is estimated that at least 100 million children and adults worldwide need a wheelchair but cannot afford one. Some international organizations believe that the number could be as high as 6 percent of the population of developing countries. The number in Angola is 20 percent of the population of 12 million people. Other “landmine” countries such as Afghanistan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bosnia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone and Mozambique have extremely high disability rates.

Q: Where are the wheelchairs manufactured?

A: We purchase wheelchairs from several manufacturers in China that build a quality product designed to be easily maintainable in developing countries.

Q: How much does a wheelchair cost?

A: We can purchase and deliver a wheelchair to our distribution partners worldwide for \$150. This wheelchair would normally cost \$375 in the U.S., but the large quantities that we purchase allow us to deliver one for only \$150, by a 280-wheelchair sea container. This same type of wheelchair sells for up to \$1,700 USD in some developing countries.

Q: How much do I have to donate to deliver a wheelchair to a disabled person?

A: \$75. The Wheelchair Foundation has been gifted a specific amount of funds to combine with each new \$75 donation to deliver a wheelchair. A donation of \$21,000 will deliver a 280-wheelchair container.

Q: How do you decide who gets a wheelchair?

A: We distribute wheelchairs worldwide through a network of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), First Lady's organizations, and local health agencies that have ongoing humanitarian relief missions in the countries of wheelchair destination. These distribution partners handle all aspects of the importation and distribution of the wheelchairs to children that can now go to school, adults that can go to work and seniors that can once again become an active part of family life and society.

Q: Can I designate to which country I want my donation to go?

A: We collect donations and then send 280-wheelchair containers to our distribution partners in countries that have been identified as in great need. For a donation of \$21,000, you can pick the country from our list of approved destinations where we enjoy established and

successful distribution relationships. There are currently 61 countries on the list.

Q: How do I know that my money has purchased and delivered a wheelchair?

A: For every \$75 tax-deductible donation, you will receive a beautiful presentation folder containing a 5x7 inch, color photo of a wheelchair recipient, along with a certificate telling you the person's name, age, country and the wheelchair number.

Q: Are all of the wheelchairs going to countries other than the United States?

A: No. The Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, Catholic Charities, and other relief organizations are working with us here in the U.S. to distribute wheelchairs to people that need one but cannot afford one.

Q: Are these wheelchairs designed for rough, third world conditions?

A: Yes. The wheelchairs that we distribute are specifically designed for the rough conditions of developing countries. Extra heavy wheels, tires, and front casters, sealed bearings and nylon seating make these wheelchairs the best possible for most conditions.

Q: What is the goal of the Wheelchair Foundation?

A: Our goal is to create awareness of the needs and abilities of the physically disabled, promote the joy of giving to the less fortunate, create global friendships, and to distribute one million wheelchairs in the next 5 years. Through our worldwide efforts, we are also creating the awareness that wheelchairs are no longer an unaffordable relief item for delivery to needy countries.

Q: How can I help?

A: 1. Your tax-deductible donation will make the difference between people wanting to live or die. 2. Get the word out! Tell people that you are now a part of the most ambitious relief mission of its kind in the history of our civilization! 3. Help us create awareness! Host a dinner or cocktail party in your home to tell people about how you are helping others. Local businesses, organizations and schools can all help. We will supply everything you need to help us change the world. 4. Corporate Sponsorship. Help us identify corporations that have interests in countries that need our help. We can target their sponsorship to specific countries and needs, and will put a sticker on the wheelchair identifying the sponsor of an entire 280-wheelchair container. They will be the hero, and many people will be given a new lease on life.

leaving a legacy

Help support the work of the Wheelchair Foundation for years to come through a planned gift, including gifts through your will, charitable gift annuities, gifts of life insurance and charitable trusts.



Bequests

Include the Wheelchair Foundation as a beneficiary in your will. You can do so in three ways:

- Specific bequest
- Residual bequest
- Contingent bequest

Life Income Gift

Transfer assets to the Wheelchair Foundation now, and in return you and/or a survivor can receive income for life.

Gift of Life Insurance

Donate your life insurance policy. Claim a charitable deduction for approximately the policy's cash surrender value, and the proceeds are completely removed from your estate.

Gift of Retirement Plans

Transfer your IRA assets to a Charitable Remainder Trust, which will provide life income to the beneficiary and then an eventual gift to the Wheelchair Foundation.

Charitable Lead Trusts

Use a Charitable Lead Trust to benefit the Wheelchair Foundation and pass principal to family members with little or no tax penalties.

We appreciate your interest in making a planned gift to help us with our mission to provide wheelchairs to people in developing countries. For more information about planned giving or to answer any questions, please call Fred Gerhard at the Wheelchair Foundation at (925) 736-8234 or (925) 381-6612.

Wheelchair Foundation Tax ID# 94-3353881.

Please visit our Web site for more detailed information about planned giving.

toll-free (877) 378-3839

Honor someone special with a gift to the Wheelchair Foundation!

The **Wheelchair Foundation** will deliver a future to a child, teen or adult who has been disabled by war, disease, natural disaster or advanced age. The wheelchair that will allow a future including school, worship and interaction with family can be donated in the name of a special person in your life.

\$150 buys and delivers a wheelchair to a person in desperate need of Hope, Mobility and Freedom. The Wheelchair Foundation has been gifted a specific amount of funds to combine with each new \$75 donation to deliver one wheelchair.

For each new \$75 donation, you will receive a beautiful presentation folder with the picture of a wheelchair recipient and a certificate with their name, age, country and wheelchair number, until these combinable gifted funds have been exhausted.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

(\$75 delivers a wheelchair for a limited time)

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$150 ☐ Other \$

☐ \$21,000 delivers a 280-wheelchair container to a destination of your choice*

Donor's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

☐ In Honor Of ☐ In Memory Of _____

Presentation Folder sent to _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

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