

From The Heart

♥ Schools Project



Wheelchair
FOUNDATION



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Table of Contents

The Wheelchair Foundation Background Information	2
From the Heart School Program Introduction.....	3
Ability Awareness Lesson Plans	4
From the Heart Program Planning Guide	7
Program Resources	9
Ability Awareness Program Curriculum (AAP)	9
Virtual Program Video Series	9
Announcement for Teachers	9
Flyer for Parents/Community (Optional).....	9
Posters	10
School Presentations	10
Bibliography of Books about the Disability Experience.....	10
Movies about the Disability Experience	10
Logos and Photos	11
Wheelchair Foundation Newsletters	11
Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program (BORP)	11
Kick off Materials	11
Wheelchair Videos	12
Use of 10 Wheelchairs	12
Fundraising.....	15
Fundraising Goals.....	15
Fundraising Ideas	15
How to Donate	16
Weekly Collection for Wheelchair Fundraiser	17
Incentives.....	18
Field Trips.....	18
Schedule and Guidelines.....	18
Wheelchair Distribution Trips	19
Leadership & Philanthropy Award	19
Appendix A – Announcement to Teachers	21
Appendix B - Parent / Community Flyer	23
Appendix C – Wheelchair Grid	25

From the Heart – School Program

The Wheelchair Foundation Background Information

There are estimated to be more than 100 million people with physical disabilities worldwide who are in need of a wheelchair. 30 million of these are children and 90% of them do not go to school.

The Wheelchair Foundation was started in 2000 in Danville, CA by Ken Behring, who was both a real estate developer and former owner of the Seattle Seahawks. The goal of the Foundation is to provide a free, new wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world that needs one but cannot afford one. For over two decades the Wheelchair Foundation has delivered more than 1,100,000 wheelchairs to 156 countries around the world. Each wheelchair costs just \$200 to manufacture and ship to the recipient country.

The Wheelchair Foundation is the sponsor of the From the Heart School Program.

From the Heart School Program Introduction

From the Heart School Program Objectives

1. Raise awareness about the need for mobility in the world.
2. Sensitize students and teachers to the issues and challenges faced by people with all types of intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities.
3. Raise money to provide wheelchairs for those in need.

As part of this program, teachers will have access to the **Ability Awareness Program (AAP)**, developed by San Ramon Valley Unified School District. The AAP is an interactive hands-on curriculum of 20-minute lesson plans designed for all grade levels (K-12) that allows students to learn and understand the challenges and frustrations that they and others encounter. Experiencing these challenges both physically and emotionally highlights the coping mechanisms that one may create to get through an ordinary task. Acknowledging that all people have different areas of expertise and areas of challenge helps to create a safer social environment.

To date From the Heart wheelchair program has raised almost \$500,000 in over 50 schools representing more than 50,000 students. This is enough money to provide more than 2,680 wheelchairs at a cost of \$200 each. Dozens of teachers, students, and parents have joined us on wheelchair distribution trips to Peru, Honduras and Costa Rica, Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, Mexico and Colombia in the past 8 summers.

Our goal is each year is to raise at least \$112,000 so that we can deliver two containers equaling 560 wheelchairs to countries in Latin America. More information about the distribution trip is available at www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH. Or feel free to contact us at: communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org

Ability Awareness Lesson Plans

An Ability Awareness Program was created by parents in the SRVUSD and has been made available for your use at: <http://www.srvusd.k12.ca.us/AbilityAwarenessProgram>

Outlines of these programs are available below.

The goal of this program is to teach students that everyone learns in different ways. The lessons provide students and staff with opportunities to experience what it is like to be challenged when learning in a different way than others. The perception that “everyone gets this but me” or “everyone can do this but me” can be a dangerous falsehood that leads to self-esteem issues or worse as children age. The Ability Awareness Program attempts to mitigate these factors, by showing students early on that it is all right to be challenged by something. To not be able to master everything easily is something everyone, at some point, experiences. By exposing students a curriculum in which they can experience how others may learn or struggle to learn, can create a more empathetic learning environment for everyone.

The program is meant to be fun, engaging and presented in a positive manner. It is not intended to be an educational program to teach students about specific diagnoses. The message is that we are all different in some ways, but we all have the same needs for respect, acceptance, inclusion and friends. The intent of this program is to inspire education of all children that it is OK to be different. We hope to encourage every school to present an Ability Awareness Program.

An Ability Awareness is YOUR PROGRAM – make it as comprehensive as your school site desires. Is there a particular lesson, supportive activity or opportunity that speaks to your school community’s need? Then go for it! Be enlightened, be educated -- be awesome!

Ability Awareness Program - Elementary

[Program Basics](#) Introduction and Program Basics

[Program Planning](#)

[Supportive Activities](#) Click here for school-wide activities that enhance the in-class Ability Awareness Program.

In-Class Activities

[Overview and Introduction](#)

[Grade Level Discussion Questions](#)

Kindergarten Lesson Plans

[Being A Friend to Someone Different \(Arthur\)](#)

[Motor Difficulty - Stringing](#)

[Trust Walk](#)

First Grade Lesson Plans

[Coordination Challenge](#)

[Listening Activity](#)

[Motor Difficulty - Stacking](#)

[Why Do We Use Wheelchairs?](#)

Second Grade Lesson Plans

[Non-Dominant Hand](#)

[Visual Impairment](#)

[Diversity](#)

[How Words Feel](#)

For How Words Feel [Word List](#)

Third Grade Lesson Plans

[Fine Motor Skills](#)

[Reading Difficulties](#)

For Reading Difficulties [worksheet click here](#)

[Visual Processing, Following Directions](#)

For Visual Processing [worksheet click here](#)

[Letter to Support a Cause](#)

Fourth Grade Lesson Plans

[Cutting - Non-Dominant Hand](#)

For Lesson One [worksheet click here](#)

[Nonsense Spelling](#)

[Autism Spectrum](#)

Fifth Grade Lesson Plans

[Reading and Writing Difficulties](#)

[Food Allergies - Friends Helping Friends](#)

For Lesson Two [worksheet click here](#)

[Epilepsy, Tourette Syndrome](#)

For Lesson Three [worksheet click here](#)

Appendices

[Appendix 1](#) - Ability Awareness Coordinator

[Appendix 2](#) - Ability Awareness Kit Inventory and Budget

[Appendix 3](#) - Timeline

[Appendix 4](#) - Sample Letters from Principal

[Appendix 5](#) - Sample Letters from Teachers

[Appendix 6](#) - Assembly Speakers

[Appendix 7](#) - Volunteer Recruitment Flyer

[Appendix 8](#) - List of Famous People With Disabilities

[Appendix 9](#) - Sign Language Song

[Appendix 10](#) - List of Books for Library Reading

[Appendix 11](#) - SHHHHH Handout to Parents and Homework Sheet

[Appendix 12](#) - Hello Lunch Sample

[Appendix 13](#) - Teacher Feedback Survey

[Appendix 14](#) - Student Feedback Survey

[Letter to Principal Tool](#)

[Sample Essay](#)

[Appendix 15](#) - Additional In-Class Activities

[Inclusion Activity](#)

[Book for K & 1 Classes](#) "It's OK To Be Different"

[Teasing Role Play](#)

[Rainbow of Ability](#)

Resources

[\(Dis\)Ability Fact Sheets](#)

The Ability Awareness program simulates characteristics of many differing diagnoses. Follow the above link to access a comprehensive set of diagnosis descriptions, how those characteristics may present in the classroom environment, and tips for teachers.

Ability Awareness Program - Middle School

Five Days of [Lesson Plans](#)

[Slides for Lesson Plan](#)

[Text and Audio Link for Ladle Red Rotten Hut](#)

[Tongue Twister Rhymes](#)

[Typoglycemia text](#)

More Lesson Plans

[Mobility Design](#)

[Word Research](#)

For Word Research: [Word List](#)

[Wheelchair Etiquette](#)

Supplemental Materials

[Student Feedback](#)

[How Does It Feel? Worksheet](#)

[Dyslexia Videos List](#)

Teacher Support (Non Class) Materials

[Exercise Associations](#)

Resources

[\(Dis\)Ability Fact Sheets](#)

The Ability Awareness program simulates characteristics of many differing diagnoses. Follow the above link to access a comprehensive set of diagnosis descriptions, how those characteristics may present in the classroom environment, and tips for teachers.

Ability Awareness Program - High School

The Abilities Awareness materials used by the San Ramon Valley Unified School District are proprietary to the Dyslexia Foundation. If you would like more information about obtaining a kit, please visit: <http://www.dyslexia-ncbida.org/simkit.html>.

Access to the below lessons is restricted to individuals with an srvusd e-mail address. If you are a high school teacher within the San Ramon Valley USD and do not have access, please call Student Services at 925-552-5052.

Resources

[\(Dis\)Ability Fact Sheets](#)

The Ability Awareness program simulates characteristics of many differing diagnoses. Follow the above link to access a comprehensive set of diagnosis descriptions, how those characteristics may present in the classroom environment, and tips for teachers.

Facilitator Packet

Most High Schools use the following lessons in class to present Ability Awareness:

Station 1 - [Special Reading Primer, Primer Instructions Only](#)

Station 3 - [Mirror Activity](#) (requires small mirrors from on-site kit)

Station 5 - [Non-Dominant Hand](#) Activity

Other Available Lesson Plans:

Station 2 - [Auditory Activity](#) (requires CD from on-site kit)

Station 4 - [Lines With Bumps](#) (requires letter flash cards from on-site kit)

From the Heart Program Planning Guide

The **From the Heart** program endeavors to share the message that we are all different in some ways, but we all have the same needs for respect, acceptance, inclusion and friends. Our hope is that the Ability Awareness Program will inspire you to educate all children that it is OK to be different.

Ability Awareness is YOUR PROGRAM – make it as comprehensive as your school site is able. Select what works best for your school and have fun! We are happy to reserve wheelchairs for you so that you can incorporate them into your Abilities Awareness curriculum.

Use the steps below as a guideline to make things as easy for your school. Your event can be a week, a month or whatever is appropriate for your school. We are always available to help and you can contact us at communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org

This guide is also available online at <http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/> under “Program Guide”.

Timing	Task	Notes
Now	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete the online form to reserve wheelchairs for your school, order supplies and reserve your assembly date. https://wheelchairfoundation.org/fth/ or email: communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org	We can only do wheelchairs for 2 schools each week so please get your reservations in as soon as possible so we can meet the dates that work best for your school.
4 Weeks Before	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop your fundraising strategy.Here are some fun ideas: https://wheelchairfoundation.org/programs/from-the-heart-schools-program/materials-and-supplies/examples-of-fundraising-activities/Begin to develop your schools online “Classy” donation portal. Contact your From The Heart representative to set this up.	This is entirely up to you. It is a great way to teach leadership and organizational skills. It is best if the children own the activities and manage it with your guidance. We provide posters, canisters or school buses for collection. For high school and middle school, wheelchair basketball games are a lot of fun!
2 Weeks Before	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We have three different flyers you can use to get the word out! All of these can be accessed and downloaded on our website at: https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/Flyers/We also have a Promo Video (90 seconds) that can be shown on your website and emailed. See it at: www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/.	These flyers are tailored to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Teachers and StaffAthletic TeamsParents and Community Of course, feel free to design your own too!

1 Week Before	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All wheelchair deliveries and pick-ups are done Friday-Friday by the Wheelchair Foundation. Wheelchairs will arrive as reserved by your school. • Use the flyers to put on your website and distribute through Peachjar. • If your school does a Newsletter, do not forget to publicize your activities. • Post one of the flyers on your school website. • Remind teachers of the school assembly schedule. 	
Kick Off Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up MPR for assembly with a projector, screen and microphone. • Run your program and Have Fun! 	
After Your Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let us know when to pick up your collections. More than one pick up can be coordinated. • Put collections in the plastic bag provided with your school's name on it. • Have wheelchairs delivered to the front of the school on your pickup day. • Schedule a date for your free field trip to the Blackhawk Museum. For more information go to: https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/fth/field-trips/ • Consider traveling with us this summer for our distribution trip! We have scholarships available to both teachers and students! For more information go to: www.wheelchairfoundaiton.org/fth/distribution-trips/ 	

Program Resources

Ability Awareness Program Curriculum (AAP)

By participating in the From the Heart – Wheelchair Program, you will have access to the Ability Awareness Program which is a curriculum consisting of 20 minute lesson plans designed for each grade or grade span (K-12). There are several different lesson plans that are designed to be used over a four-week period. In addition, there are a lot of supporting materials. These include an extensive bibliography by grade span of books about the disability experience. Additional Appendices include Supportive Activities, Ability Awareness Supplies Inventory and Fact Sheets describing various disabilities. Some of the lesson plans require a small amount of supplies and it is suggested that the PTA be asked to provide these at an average cost of \$200. The full AAP program and materials can be accessed by going to <http://www.srvusd.k12.ca.us/AbilityAwarenessProgram>.

Virtual Program Video Series

We also offer a 4-video series program that students can watch from home or the classroom. When virtual learning is necessary these videos touch on all the important points including 1) Introduction, 2) The Need, 3) Sensitizing, 4) Fundraising and Incentives. These videos can also be used to augment our in-person curriculum and be accessed on our website at:

<https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/fth/virtual-program/>

Announcement for Teachers

The schools that will have the greatest success with this program are the schools that have the broadest participation. In order to obtain broad participation we strongly recommend that you schedule a presentation to the entire faculty as part of your program kick-off. This announcement is designed to assist you with informing your faculty about both the From The Heart school program and the Ability Awareness Program. An electronic copy that you can print and distribute is on the website at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/Flyers/>. The flyer is designed to be printed in color but can alternatively be printed in gray scale using the print settings. A sample of this flyer can be found in Appendix A.

Flyer for Parents/Community (Optional)

This flyer is provided to inform parents and/or the school community about the Wheelchair Program. You will need to download the flyer to:

1. Insert your school name and/or logo, and
2. Insert the contact names for your school. You are welcome to change or edit the flyer to fit the environment at your school.

You can print the flyer and send it home or include it on your school website (including sites such as Peachjar). The flyer is designed to be printed in color but can be printed in gray scale using the print settings. The flyer is on the website at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/Flyers/>. You can see a sample of this flyer in Appendix B. There is a separate sample flyer for parents about the Ability Awareness Program at the AAP website.

Posters

Several large posters announcing the Wheelchair Program are provided to each school to use during their kick-off. You should indicate on the poster who the students should contact if they want to get involved.

School Presentations

Elementary schools are able to request a presentation for the entire school body. A 25 min. presentation includes

- Mobility needs around the world
- Video that illustrates how the gift of a wheelchair improves the lives of the individual, their family and the community in which they live.
- Ideas to inspire and empower students to work together to go make a difference in the world.

Middle Schools and High Schools can opt for voluntary presentations either for one period or for an entire day.

Presentations are also available for staff, student leadership, Interact/Key/Leadership Clubs or any other service related clubs on campus.

To schedule or discuss a presentation for your school please email communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org

Bibliography of Books about the Disability Experience

This is a list of 125 books, organized by grade level, where the main character has a disability. Many of these books are in your school library. In addition to assigning book reports from this list many schools have the librarian set up a display table of these books during Ability Awareness Month. This bibliography is available at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/bibliography-movies/>.

Movies about the Disability Experience

This is a list of 30 popular movies (Rated G and PG) where the main character has a disability. Many schools have shown a movie from this list during a Family Movie Night as part of their fundraising efforts. The list of movies can be obtained at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/bibliography-movies/>.

Logos and Photos

Several PDF files and logos as well as photos from previous wheelchair distributions are available for your use. These can be used for making your own collection canisters, flyers, posters, banners or other communications. These are available at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/>.

Wheelchair Foundation Newsletters

The Wheelchair Foundation publishes a newsletter twice each year. The newsletter provides information on the allocation of wheelchairs across 155 countries and inspiring stories about the wheelchair distributions. Copies of these newsletters are available for your Student Council or Leadership Students and/or your faculty. They can also be accessed <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/events-media/newsletters/>

From the Heart e-Newsletter

The monthly e-Newsletter update and clarify the Project Coordinator Guidelines as well as inform you of what other schools are doing. You will get useful ideas for planning your Wheelchair Project and see what we are doing in your community. To be included to the distribution list for this e-Newsletter please send an e-mail to communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org

Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program (BORP)

Based in Berkeley, BORP has a nationally ranked competitive wheelchair basketball team consisting of Middle School and High School age players from throughout the East Bay. Arrangements to have the BORP team play a wheelchair basketball game against your High School Basketball team (boys and girls) as part of a fundraising effort is something that is available through BORP.

Kick off Materials

The following materials will be provided at the kick off for the program.

- Banners and Posters
- Access to your customized donation website
- Collection canisters and/or School Bus Banks
- Wheelchair Foundation newsletters
- Plastic money bags

All information and materials mentioned above are accessible by going to <http://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH/>

Wheelchair Videos

The following videos are available on YouTube. If you have the ability, we suggest a different video be shown to the entire student body each week. We recommend that you preview the videos you are going to show.

- I Want to Live – Wheelchair Foundation (4 min)
- Changing Lives Around the World – Wheelchair Foundation (8 min)
- Yes I Can! Rio Paralympics 2016 Promo (5:51 min.)
- Reality, Mobility, Independence – Wheelchair Foundation (5 min)
- Deep Sea Diving ... In a Wheelchair (10 min)
- The Words we Use (2 min)
- Adaptive Skiing (2.0 min.)
- The Flying Wheelchair (3.09 min.)
- Beyond the Barriers – Rock Climbing (2.32 min.)
- Wheelchair Front flip By Aaron "Wheelz" Fotheringham - Nitro Circus (5.39 min)

Use of 10 Wheelchairs

There are many ways that the wheelchairs can be utilized. The intent, is to give students and teachers personal experience of what it is like to be a wheelchair user. Students should be encouraged to take this seriously and while using the wheelchair, stay seated and not use their legs. Any or all of the activities listed below can be used for fundraising by charging a fee to participate and by passing the collection canisters around to other students watching.

Most schools choose to have Wheelchair Wednesdays (or Fridays) throughout their Ability Awareness initiative. This is typically when the lesson plans take place, when wheelchair videos are shown, fundraising activities are discussed/conducted and weekly collections for the wheelchair fundraiser are done.

- Teacher and/or student races in the quad at lunchtime
- Teachers teach from a wheelchair for the day
- Have a free throw contest on the basketball court
- Have your own wheelchair basketball game (3 on 3 is usually best)
- Students sign up to use the wheelchair for a half day or full day (buddies can be assigned at the Elementary level to help get the students to class)
- Students write persuasive letters asking for donations and deliver them to local businesses from their wheelchair
- Students use the wheelchairs to go around the block or out into the community to see what obstacles they face
- Some students arrive early and stay late for student drop off and pickups – holding signs from their wheelchairs remind students and parents about the Wheelchair Wednesdays fundraiser

- Students obtain sponsors (donation per lap) and then see how many laps they can do in a wheelchair
- Set up an obstacle course designed to educate students about some of the obstacles faced every day by wheelchair users. Include closed doorways (where they have to open a heavy door), curb cuts, and tight spaces between desks, slight inclines and crossing grass in the course design. Then have stations 50 feet apart where the wheelchair user is given the following and told to take it to the next station:
 - An open umbrella
 - A cup of water
 - A few loose papers and a pen
 - A basketball
 - A heavy backpack

Wheelchair Rules

The wheelchairs that you will be using are the same wheelchairs that the Foundation delivers around the world. They are quite sturdy and expected to last for many years with normal usage. However, if they are mistreated or abused they will become damaged. We did have one school where two wheelchairs were damaged beyond repair and had to be replaced at a cost of \$200 each.

Please adhere to the following rules in order to ensure that the wheelchairs are maintained and can be used by the school that is scheduled to get them next.

- To fold the wheelchair pull up on the strap that is on the seat (do not force).
- To open the wheelchair press down with your palms on the front of the bars on either side of the seat (do not force and be careful not to get your fingers caught!)
- Treat the wheelchair with care.
- No more than one person at a time should be sitting in the wheelchair
- Wheelchair use by younger students should be supervised.
- Only mature, responsible students should be allowed to use the wheelchairs without direct supervision.
- The wheelchairs are not to go home with students.
- The wheelchairs may be used for off-campus fundraising if there is a responsible adult or high school student responsible for the wheelchair(s).
- If you are having any problems with a wheelchair that is damaged, please report it to communitiyoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org.

Fundraising

Fundraising Goals

Each wheelchair costs \$200 to manufacture and ship to the recipient country. A shipping container holds 280 wheelchairs, therefore we need to raise \$56,000 (280 x \$200) to send one container of wheelchairs. Our goal is to raise an average of \$2.50 per student at each school. Some schools raise less than this amount and other schools will raise more than the \$2.50 per student.

Fundraising Ideas

Each school should review the list and decide which options work best for their environment. Additional fundraising ideas are available from www.fundraising-ideas.org/DIY or similar websites. It often helps to get support from the community by having publicity in local papers. If you need help with a contact at a local paper or have suggestions for future enhancements to this list please contact communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org.

- Using School Bus Banks and Collection Canisters collect money daily or on “Wheelchair Wednesdays”
 - Encourage students to do extra chores at home.
 - Lemonade or hot chocolate stands, babysitting, programs for neighbors, etc.
 - What extra chores would it take to donate the jar of coins that many parents have?
- Have competitions between schools, classrooms, grades, clubs, etc. (use our wheelchair grid)
- Set goals to raise enough for X amount of wheelchairs
- Set up a Bulletin Board or ‘Thermometer’ to track progress and keep students informed.
- Use the “Flyer for Parents/Community” to communicate how to donate by check or online.
 - Many families have someone in their family who uses a wheelchair and want to make tax - deductible contribution.
- Write persuasive letters to parents, friends, relatives and the community. Deliver the letters to local businesses from a wheelchair during Wheelchair Awareness Week.
- Ask local business owners and parents to place a collection canister at their business
- Ask local service clubs (e. g. Rotary) and/or local business owners to provide Matching Funds
- Arrange a “Wheel-A-Thon” and have students obtain sponsors that pay per lap. Other “Thons” could be Bowl, Dance, Jog, Walk, etc. Ramps designed for wheelchair users are available at Danville and Dublin Bowl
- The Guidelines suggest many uses for the wheelchairs during Wheelchair Awareness Week. Charge a fee to participate in these activities and collect donations from the audience

- **For the High Schools**, designate one of the major sporting events as a wheelchair fundraiser. Arrange a Wheelchair Basketball game with the BORP team. Set up a Wheelchair Donation table and collect donations at other sporting events.
- Have a family/student Movie Night during Ability Awareness Month. See our website for a list of 25 movies (PG and PG-13) that feature characters with a disability.
- **Middle and High Schools** have a “From the Heart” dance. Wheelchairs can be arranged for the evening even if it is not your week to have the wheelchairs.
- Using the wheelchairs, collect donations at a local grocery store or Starbucks on the weekend of Wheelchair Awareness Week. Set up a table and use signs, banners and photos. The Wheelchair Foundation can provide supplies such as brochures and pins.
Raise money by serving others. Ask local service clubs (e. g. Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, etc.) or local businesses to sponsor students for each hour they spend doing community service such as cleaning up a park, hiking trail or roadway, or volunteering at a homeless shelter, soup kitchen, etc.
- During the weekend that you have the wheelchairs have a “Wheelchair Car Wash”.
“Wheelchairs washed for free – Cars cost \$XX”
- Select a day that students, teachers and staff can wear their craziest hat to school. Each person pays a fee and gets their hand stamped so that the teachers know they have paid. Winners are selected according to originality, creativity and the hat that was most favored by students and teachers.
- Have a penny war between classes where pennies have a positive value and all other coins and bills have a negative value.
- Have a bake sale or recipe sale that includes some typical cuisine from Latin America.

How to Donate

There are three ways for students, teachers, parents, friends, family and the community to donate to the Wheelchair Program; cash, check or online. The only deadline for turning the money in is December 31st for those schools with fall programs and June 15th for those schools with spring programs.

All donations by check or online are fully tax deductible and the donors will receive a letter of acknowledgement for tax purposes. For donations of \$200 or more donors will also receive a personalized presentation certificate with a photo of a wheelchair recipient.

All donations for the Wheelchair Foundation, should be kept separate and not comingled with other School District funds. It is preferable to have all coins, cash and checks delivered directly to the Wheelchair Foundation. If it is not possible to have checks made payable directly to the Wheelchair Foundation, deposit the funds into the ASB account identifying the fundraiser and charity (Wheelchair Foundation) and then write a single check to the Wheelchair Foundation and provide it to the Wheelchair Foundation volunteers.

1. **Cash Donations** to be collected, during Ability Awareness Month and/or on Wheelchair Wednesdays. Coins and bills to be placed in the large plastic bag and kept in the school safe. Please contact us anytime the bag needs to be picked up and/or replaced. There is no need to roll the coins or even count the money, the Wheelchair Foundation will have it counted by their bank (for free) and report the results back to each school in about one week.
2. **Check Donations** should be made payable to “Wheelchair Foundation” and put in the plastic bag along with the coins and bills.
3. **Two Ways to Donate Online**
 1. Customized donation page. The From The Heart program offers a customized web-based landing page for your community to donate safely online. This page allows for credit card payments, and eWallet options as well as Venmo. Through this page, schools can link to their website and post pictures, goal progress, updates, information, and even social media posts! What’s more is students and/or groups (such as classrooms or athletic teams) can create their own page to send out to specific people and businesses in their sphere of influence. You can even generate your own QR code to bring people directly to your page to find out more information. The best part is you give us your graphics and information you want to include and we will do all the design work!
 2. Directly on the Wheelchair Foundation website:
<https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/give/donation>. **At the bottom of the form, it is important to select “From the Heart – Schools Program” and enter your school name.** The donation page can be reached by going to www.wheelchairfoundation.org under Programs/From the Heart School Program.
4. **Matching Grants through an Employer** to be done by sharing the Wheelchair Foundation’s Federal ID# with your employer. This number is 94-3353881 and is be listed as the Behring Global Educational Foundation, which is the parent of the Wheelchair Foundation. We are listed as 501 c3 non-profit organizations.

Weekly Collection for Wheelchair Fundraiser

Using the collection canisters and school bus banks that are provided, each classroom can collect donations on Wheelchair Wednesdays or each day during your Ability Awareness program. Typically, the Student Council or Leadership students will then empty the canisters and banks into the large plastic coin bag that we provide. The plastic bag can then be placed in the school safe and picked up by Wheelchair Foundation volunteers when full or the fundraiser is over. In addition to coins, you can put bills and checks in the plastic bag. There is no need to roll the coins or even count the money because the Wheelchair Foundation will have it counted by their bank (free) and report the results back to each school.

Incentives

Field Trips

As recognition for your efforts, schools that raise at least \$1.50 per student will be eligible for a field trip to the Blackhawk Museum! We will show a video about the Wheelchair Foundation and discuss the importance of leadership and philanthropy. Students receive a one-hour docent-led tour of the Spirit of the Old West exhibition. Following their guided-tour, students will have the opportunity to self-guide through the following exhibitions with their teacher and chaperones: International Automotive Treasures, Art of Africa, Into China and our newest exhibit World Of Nature! There is no cost to the school for the field trip and the museum will also reimburse for transportation to and from the museum. For more information go to: <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/fth/field-trips/>

Schedule and Guidelines

Several dates will be reserved for these complimentary field trips. The dates will be made available to participating schools for them to choose from. This will be on a first come first served basis. Schools will be required to fill out and submit a tour request form which can be done by clicking on the following link

https://www.blackhawkmuseum.org/visit/school-tour-request/#school_tours

10:00 – 12:00	Guided tour of the Spirit of the Old West exhibition (1 hour), followed by a self-guided tour of the rest of the Museum.
12:00 – 1:00	Sack lunches outside

Please have the students bring sack lunches.

Below are a few important reminders to help you plan your trip. The Museum's detailed Pre-Visit Guidelines will be sent with your tour confirmation email.

Important Reminders:

1. Please assist the docents during the tour by keeping your group together, reminding them to use inside voices and to walk; not run.
2. Leave backpacks and lunches in the bus or car until lunch, which will be outside.
3. Do Not bring food, drinks, gum into the Museum.
4. Ask students and parents not to touch glass cases, walls, cars, art objects, stanchions or ropes.
5. Cell phone usage is not allowed during the guided portion of your visit.
6. Chaperone requirements:
 - a. Grades K-8: A minimum of 1 adult chaperone per 8 students is required.
 1. Grades 9-12: A minimum of 1 adult chaperone per 15 students is required.

Wheelchair Distribution Trips

Teachers, parents, and students will be able to join the wheelchair delivery team on a trip to Latin America (Country(s) TBD) during the summer. Each trip is typically about one week in mid-July and participants will personally help deliver the wheelchairs one at a time to the recipients. Each participant pays their own airfare, hotel, meals and incidentals which usually runs about \$2,500 for Latin America. Responsible and mature students 15 and over can attend with their parents and students 17 and older can attend with or without their parents with the proper documentation.

An important part of the From the Heart – Wheelchair Program is to create a direct connection between the student donor and the wheelchair recipient. To this end, as we get closer to the wheelchair distribution trips we will be asking for the following:

- **Letters to Recipients in Spanish**
High School and Middle School Spanish classes and students in Spanish immersion Elementary Schools will have the opportunity to write letters in Spanish to the wheelchair recipients. The letters will be hand delivered by the wheelchair distribution team and the recipients will be asked to write back to the students. More details can be obtained at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/programs/FTH/Letters-in-Spanish/>
- **Hat Donations**
We will ask for donations of hats (ball caps) that we can distribute to our wheelchair recipients and their family members.

If you are interested in participating in a wheelchair distribution trip, please contact our Community Outreach Director at communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org.

Leadership & Philanthropy Award

The Behring Family offers the Leadership and Philanthropy Award (LPA) established to recognize the teachers and students who have demonstrated a superior commitment to the From the Heart – Wheelchair Program. By providing a monetary award to help offset the cost of participating in a wheelchair distribution, Ken Behring and his family hope to encourage and help develop our future leaders and philanthropists. Information on the LPA can be obtained at [Leadership & Philanthropy Award - Wheelchair Foundation](https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/ftth/leadership-philanthropy-award/hropy-Award-Wheelchair-Foundation)

The Ambassador Program

The Ambassador Program is part of the From the Heart School Program. Each high school and middle school that participates will have one teacher and one/two student ambassador(s).

The Ambassador Program's mission is to educate students about the issues that people with physical disabilities face and to raise funds to supply wheelchairs to people in need. It will give the ambassadors experience in managing a team, setting goals, leadership, and organizing and executing projects.

The Ambassador's Responsibilities

- Organizing and executing an Ability Awareness Program at their school.
- Organizing the use of 10 wheelchairs for a week to promote the awareness of people with disabilities.
- Organizing and executing a fundraising campaign to raise money for wheelchairs.
- Working as a liaison with student leadership, principals and sport teams to get everyone involved as a cohesive team to promote the need for mobility around the world.

Program Benefits

- The Wheelchair Foundation Ambassadors will be given priority for wheelchair delivery trips so they can experience how their efforts have impacted other lives. They will also be given priority status to our Leadership and Philanthropy Award Program.

Application Process

The application process is to submit an application. The applications for each school will be collected and shared with the Teacher Ambassador. The Teacher Ambassador is free to decide on the Student Ambassador with or without assistance from FTH.

Appendix A – Announcement to Teachers

An electronic copy that you can print and distribute is on our website at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/programs/FTH/Flyers/> .



From The Heart School Program

Sponsored by the Wheelchair Foundation



The *From The Heart* school program has brought service and emotional learning resources to more than 50 local schools reaching tens of thousands of students. We have everything you need to run a successful and impactful program.

Our program endeavors to:

1. Raise awareness about the need for mobility around the world.

- It is estimated that there are 100 million people around the world today that need a wheelchair but do not have access to one.
- 30 million of these are children, 90% of whom will not be able to attend school and get an education
- Without a wheelchair these people will likely not be able to go to school, work, or participate in the community. They will also likely require a full time caregiver, usually a family member.



2. Sensitize students and teachers to the hardships and challenges faced by people with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities.



The *From The Heart* program is flexible and robust to fit your leadership team's unique vision. We offer:

- Ability Awareness lesson plans and resources for grades K-12
- Assembly presentations for students
- Promotional materials
- Use of 10 wheelchairs for one week
- For interested teachers and students over 15 years of age we offer a summer distribution trip to Latin America.

3. To raise money to provide wheelchairs for those in need.

- Since 2000 the Wheelchair Foundation has distributed more than 1.1 million wheelchairs to 156 countries around the world.
- For only \$200 per wheelchair (to manufacture and ship) we have the opportunity to change lives, not only for the recipient but also the caregiver and family.

For more information contact us at:
communityoutreach@wheelchairfoundation.org
www.wheelchairfoundation.org/FTH



Appendix B - Parent / Community Flyer

You can print the flyer and send it home or include it on your school website (including sites such as Peachjar) and email newsletters. The flyer is on the website at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/programs/FTH/Flyers>

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Give the gift of Mobility, Freedom, Dignity and Hope!

[Insert school
name or logo]



Changing Lives
TOGETHER



Did you know?

- 100 million people need a wheelchair worldwide, but can't afford one.
- 30 million are children and 90% of them are unable to go to school.
- A new wheelchair donated through the Wheelchair Foundation only costs \$200*

HELP [Insert School Name] REACH OUR GOAL

- Scan the QR Code to donate online or start a fundraiser
- Provide students with opportunities to earn money to donate
- Send in checks payable to the **Wheelchair Foundation**

[Replace this
text with QR
Code from
Classy donation
Page]

Contact _____ or _____ for more information.

*The Wheelchair Foundation is a 501©3 charitable foundation. All donations are tax deductible.

Appendix C – Wheelchair Grid

This grid is a fun tool to use for recording team contributions. It can really help create some fun competitions. An electronic copy that you can print and distribute is on the website at <https://www.wheelchairfoundation.org/fth/wheelchair-grid/>. The flyer is designed to be printed in color but can alternatively be printed in gray scale using the print settings.

One Wheelchair at a Time!!



Each Wheelchair is \$200!!!

\$10	\$60	\$110	\$160
\$20	\$70	\$120	\$170
\$30	\$80	\$130	\$180
\$40	\$90	\$140	\$190
\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200

