

Changing THE WORLD



WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF DELIVERING HOPE, MOBILITY & FREEDOM

800,000 WHEELCHAIRS
DONATED TO PEOPLE
IN NEED IN MORE
THAN 150 COUNTRIES



A MESSAGE FROM KEN BEHRING



As you will see in the following pages, we have been doing whatever we can to help the people of Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake of January 12th of this year. In addition to sending wheelchairs to the Dominican Republic to help with all of the wounded they are treating, we flew in medical supplies,

doctors and nurses, and our own staff and family to Haiti to take our turn in helping treat the wounded and bring aid to those suffering so much.

“Whenever we can, we try to do things to help other people.” -Ken

I have to applaud the efforts of my son Jeff, who spent all of his energy putting together our recent relief effort to Haiti. And he has, again, succeeded in showing us all that conviction and compassion can accomplish marvelous things, even in the face of devastating tragedy. Of course, none of this is possible without the support of our donors worldwide. Thank you to those who have given so graciously to allow us to reach out and help others.

The year 2010 marks our tenth anniversary of distributing wheelchairs globally. I invite everyone to join us in celebrating an amazing decade of providing Hope, Mobility and Freedom all over the world on Saturday, June 12th at the Blackhawk Museum in Danville, California, for the festivities.

Kenneth E. Behring
Founder and Chairman

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 people with physical disabilities, to promote the joy of giving, create global friendship, and to deliver a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult in the world who needs one, but cannot afford one. For these people, the Wheelchair Foundation delivers Hope, Mobility and Freedom.

Our Goal

Over the next five years, the Wheelchair Foundation aims to deliver one 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

Since its establishment on June 13, 2000, the Wheelchair Foundation has witnessed hundreds of thousands of examples of how mobility creates independence and new possibilities for recipients and their 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 so the spouse can work. 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 and hope for the future.

Changing the World

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Wheelchair
FOUNDATION

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WHEELCHAIRS COMMITTED OR DELIVERED

Afghanistan.....	7,150	Lebanon.....	2,430
Albania.....	550	Lesotho.....	1,060
Algeria.....	640	Liberia.....	780
Angola.....	5,090	Lithuania.....	1,090
Antigua and Barbuda.....	280	Macedonia.....	760
Argentina.....	8,141	Madagascar.....	1,030
Armenia.....	2,964	Malawi.....	3,530
Australia.....	292	Malaysia.....	4,040
Azerbaijan.....	280	Mali.....	800
Bahamas.....	1,890	Malta.....	240
Bangladesh.....	240	Marshall Islands.....	140
Barbados.....	560	Mexico.....	123,049
Belarus.....	990	Micronesia.....	1,390
Belgium.....	280	Moldova.....	1,720
Belize.....	2,725	Mongolia.....	1,320
Benin.....	280	Montenegro.....	120
Bolivia.....	5,294	Morocco.....	4,640
Bosnia-Herzegovina.....	2,040	Mozambique.....	1,660
Botswana.....	1,688	Myanmar (Burma).....	500
Brazil.....	2,585	Namibia.....	466
Bulgaria.....	530	Nepal.....	3,275
Burundi.....	520	Nicaragua.....	6,595
Cambodia.....	3,410	Niger.....	240
Canada.....	560	Nigeria.....	1,420
Cape Verde.....	780	N. Mariana Islands.....	410
Central African Rep.....	240	Oman.....	280
Chile.....	9,348	Pakistan.....	3,175
China.....	264,814	Palestinians/Israel.....	1,906
Colombia.....	9,875	Panama.....	7,561
Congo, The Democratic		Papua New Guinea.....	2,080
Republic of the.....	205	Paraguay.....	2,344
Costa Rica.....	6,925	Peru.....	10,201
Croatia.....	1,300	Philippines.....	9,140
Cuba.....	1,800	Poland.....	2,700
Cyprus.....	280	Portugal.....	990
Czech Republic.....	597	Puerto Rico.....	490
Dominica.....	280	Romania.....	3,462
Dominican Republic.....	9,408	Russia.....	2,110
East Timor.....	110	Rwanda.....	2,200
Ecuador.....	8,359	Saint Lucia.....	560
Egypt.....	1,168	Saint Petersburg.....	120
El Salvador.....	7,495	Saint Vincent and the	
Eritrea.....	250	Grenadines.....	560
Estonia.....	500	Samoa.....	1,360
Ethiopia.....	3,468	Senegal.....	520
Fiji.....	1,620	Serbia.....	2,370
France.....	560	Solomon Islands.....	110
French Polynesia.....	280	Sierra Leone.....	2,340
Georgia.....	1,030	Somalia.....	88
Ghana.....	2,350	South Africa.....	21,860
Greece.....	520	Spain.....	500
Grenada.....	280	Sri Lanka.....	3,170
Guam.....	250	Sudan.....	280
Guatemala.....	8,243	Suriname.....	240
Guyana.....	250	Swaziland.....	1,970
Haiti.....	1,820	Syria.....	641
Honduras.....	6,384	Taiwan.....	756
Hong Kong.....	970	Tajikistan.....	480
Hungary.....	120	Tanzania.....	3,268
India.....	2,716	Thailand.....	8,040
Indonesia.....	3,340	Tibet.....	331
Iran.....	3,880	Tonga.....	500
Iraq.....	4,300	Trinidad & Tobago.....	3,844
Israel.....	7,830	Turkey.....	4,990
Italy.....	580	Turkmenistan.....	520
Jamaica.....	3,200	Uganda.....	9,664
Japan.....	1,750	Ukraine.....	5,350
Jordan.....	5,022	United States.....	31,834
Kazakhstan.....	1,510	Uruguay.....	1,632
Kenya.....	2,930	Uzbekistan.....	1,240
Kiribati.....	250	Vanuatu.....	250
Korea, North.....	552	Venezuela.....	1,970
Korea, South.....	5,490	Vietnam.....	14,156
Kosovo.....	1,300	Virgin Islands (UK).....	284
Kyrgyzstan.....	1,240	Virgin Islands (US).....	280
Laos.....	780	Western Sahara.....	153
Latvia.....	740	Zambia.....	2,170
		Zimbabwe.....	2,320

TOTAL COUNTRIES AND REGIONS 155

TOTAL WHEELCHAIRS 791,803

For current totals visit wheelchairfoundation.org

GB&I WHEELCHAIRS REACH GHANA

A container of 110 wheelchairs funded by the kind supporters of Wheelchair Foundation Great Britain and Ireland has reached the coast of Ghana. These wheelchairs will now begin their overland trip to the Volta Region of Ghana where they will be distributed by our partners Outlook-Ghana GH. This shipment will have been on the move for nearly six months before it reaches its final destination, and demonstrates the lengths necessary to reach those in need of mobility.



ROTARY DISTRICT 9250 IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SURPASSES THE 10,000 WHEELCHAIR MARK!



Rotary International District 9250, comprised of clubs in four countries; Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Swaziland, recently received 720 more wheelchairs. The Rotary Club of Foster City, District 5150, in California, U.S.A., sponsored two matching grants for these three containers of wheelchairs. "Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Rotarians Dr. Jon and Linda Grant for their continued support (since 1996) of the many projects in D9250. We have now received over 10,800 wheelchairs all due to their involvement and commitment," says Rotarian Cliff Peake.

ARIZONA TEEN VIRTUOSO SINGS FOR WHEELCHAIRS FOR HAITI.

On February 11, Christie Huff, a 15-year-old Stapley Junior High student from Mesa, AZ, held a benefit for Wheelchair Foundation at *Pastis* restaurant in Mesa. Christie organized and advertised the benefit herself, arranging with the owners of the restaurant to donate 10% of their profits that night for wheelchairs for Haiti. Christie, an aspiring singer, and her sister Amanda provided entertainment that night and raised \$360!

WE ARE CLOSE TO OUR GOAL OF GIVING AWAY ONE MILLION WHEELCHAIRS FOR FREE!



When I started Wheelchair Foundation ten years ago, I announced our goal to distribute one million free wheelchairs to women, men, and children around the world who need a wheelchair, but cannot get one on their own. Since that time we have donated almost 800,000 wheelchairs to people in need in 153 countries.

To make sure that we reach our goal we are running a special deal on containers of 280 wheelchairs; for \$25,000 anyone can send a container of wheelchairs to their choice of one of 25 designated countries!

It typically costs Wheelchair Foundation \$42,000 to deliver a full container of wheelchairs, so until we reach our goal of giving away one million wheelchairs, I will personally fund the difference through donations to Global Health and Education Foundation. This is my commitment to help others, and I know that all of our supporters will want to take advantage of this deal while it lasts!

-Kenneth E. Behring, Founder and CEO

...AND HAVE I GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!

\$25,000 sends 280 brand new wheelchairs to any of these 25 countries!

Argentina	El Salvador	Peru
Bahamas	Guatemala	Philippines
Cambodia	Honduras	Serbia
Chile	Indonesia	South Africa
Colombia	Jamaica	Sri Lanka
Costa Rica	Jordan	Thailand
Dominican Republic	Mexico	Ukraine
Ecuador	Morocco	United States
	Panama	Vietnam



This offer applies to donations of \$25,000 or more, and is good for all sizes of our Standard (280 per container) and All-Terrain (260 per container) wheelchairs delivered to door. For further information please visit our website www.wheelchairfoundation.org or call Wheelchair Foundation Operations at 925-648-3844 for details.

*Please Join Us to Celebrate
Ten Years of
Delivering Hope, Mobility and Freedom!*

*An evening of recognition for our founder, our donors, and
everyone who continues to make our mission possible.*



Wheelchair

FOUNDATION

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

JUNE 12TH, 2010

Blackhawk Museum, Danville, California

5:00 p.m. - Midnight

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres

Dinner by Scott's Seafood

Music by "Desperado" the premier Eagles cover band

For Details and Reservations please visit www.wheelchairfoundation.org

Or call 1-877-378-3839

IMMEDIATE HELP FOR HAITI

DISASTER RESPONSE BY WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION
AND GLOBAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Above: <<< Scenes of devastation from the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince like this one prompted our response. <<< Below right: Boxes of surgical supplies being off-loaded at the Port-au-Prince airport during the *Plane-to-Haiti*'s return flight to pick up our ground crew of volunteer surgeons and nurses.

At 4:53 p.m. on January 12th of this year, the largest earthquake to strike Haiti since 1770 occurred. Accounts from the capital city, which was only ten miles from the epicenter, were horrifying. Port-au-Prince lay in ruins. As the news coming out of Haiti got worse, our concern for the people of Haiti grew.

Within hours of the earthquake, Jeff Behring, Director of Special Events and Founder of Wine for Wheels, began the task of gathering medical supplies, locating surgeons and trauma nurses and working out logistics for transporting aid to Haiti's devastated capital. Ken Behring, Jeff's father, agreed to make his aircraft available for an aid mission, and his flight crew went about securing a landing slot time at the crippled Haitian International Airport.

"In a situation like this, one in which the devastation is so extreme, everyone needs to do what they can to help," Jeff said. And as word of our mission spread, others stepped up and volunteered their help loading the airplane, donating goods, donating their time and by donating funds.

Dan Catullo, who knows Jeff through *Wine for Wheels*, called and offered to get the artists of DC3 Music Group in Los Angeles, California, involved with the mission. Soon the word about *Plane-to-Haiti* appeared on Twitter, Facebook and was also supported through musicians' websites. Fans were asked to make text donations and support the cause in any way they could, and they did.

Chuck Haupt, Executive Director of MedShare, immediately delivered 12,000 pounds of surgical supplies and medical equipment to be loaded on the airplane in California.

He also arranged for 7,000 pounds of supplies to be made available in Florida for the turn-around flight to Haiti to pick up our ground crew at the end of the trip. John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, California, helped coordinate orthopedic surgeons and nurses for the flight, and they provided boxes of valuable medicines, vaccines, and antibiotics.





“As much as we wanted to participate in treating the seriously wounded, we found ourselves dealing with every type of sickness and injury we could imagine. The lack of almost any healthcare or sanitation in Haiti before the earthquake meant that simple infections were life threatening, and diseases associated with extreme poverty were very prevalent. Our goal was to do as much to help these people as quickly as we could,” Jeff said. “Our surgeons and nurses were welcomed into the University of Miami’s hospital tent at the airport where they worked non-stop for nearly four days straight. Those of us at the village clinics worked every day from dawn until the dusk curfew, when we had to be back to the secured airport campsite.”

It would be a total of seven days before *Plane-to-Haiti* touched down at the Port-au-Prince airport, close to midnight on Wednesday, January 20th. Shortly after dawn on the following day, our ground team of volunteers, doctors and nurses got their first glimpse of how bad things actually were in the city. “I’d never seen such destruction. The damage was overwhelming. There were bodies in the streets, and there were injured people everywhere,” observed volunteer and Wheelchair Foundation Board Member, Chris Rudd.



On Saturday, the plane returned to gather the ground crew and transport them home, and drop off another team of 20 surgeons, doctors and nurses and more medical supplies. When Jeff Behring got back to Wheelchair Foundation headquarters in California he said, “It felt like we got a lot of good work done while we were there, but Haiti will need an incredible amount of help in the future. And that is why we need to make all possible efforts to not forget about the Haitian people in the near future. As soon as we can, we will go back and help as much as we can.”



The situation on the ground in the capital city was chaotic. Our ground team quickly set up a series of triage tents at their airport campsite, alongside the other international aid organizations which had come to help the Haitian people. Other team members traveled to outlying villages to set up temporary clinics, only to discover that they were the very first aid workers to arrive in these areas. As word spread about our presence, people began to line up to see the doctors and nurses. Scott Stapp, lead singer of the band Creed, who was already in Haiti when our ground team arrived, provided a school bus to transport those too seriously injured for local treatment, to the triage tents at the airport, and then back home again after treatment.



Clockwise from Top: <<< One of our volunteer nurses examines a newborn, born shortly after the quake. <<< A thatch roof hut serves as medical clinic in an outlying village. <<< Our ground team of volunteers, whom we are very proud of for doing their part to help Haiti. <<< Haitians look on as medicine and care are delivered along a roadside, near a makeshift tent city.

season highlights



Clockwise from upper left: >>> The Wheelchair Foundation delivered thousands of wheelchairs from the Plane-to-Haiti as part of Wheelchair Foundation's response to the Haitian earthquake response efforts. >>> Both Bill and I both enjoyed the opportunity to deliver wheelchairs to the people of Haiti. Wheelchair Foundation supporter, Glen Perry, his wife, and I were in Old Belize, when U.S. and Local Rotarians and volunteers were in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, days after the tragedy occurred. and our partners delivered more than 20,000 lbs. of medical supplies. teams of surgeons and medical personnel shortly after the earthquake. Executive Director, Mr. Chuck Haupt, stands beside the plane for the Plane-to-Haiti relief effort. >>> A perfect Rotary partnership in Mexico, results in the distribution of wheelchairs and medical supplies to send wheelchairs to both Mexico and Haiti, while helping the people of Mexico. >>> Wine for Wheels supporter Mark DeWitt chats with a new wheelchair user. Nethery gets a handshake and a smile from a new wheelchair user. happiness that comes with a new wheelchair! Not only the user, but other family members are also freed from the burden of carrying the user.



Foundation's Charli Butterfield and members of the U.S. Military unload
 Chair Foundation and Global Health and Education Foundation's ongoing
 and Beverly are both members of Rotary Clubs from District 5870, and
 to people in need on St. Patrick's Day, in Mexico! >>> Long time
 Tammy and their sons, Collin and Brandon in Belize. Glen was integral
 and fundraising for the cause .>>> Young and old come together in the
 teens from Wine for Wheels conduct home delivery of wheelchairs for
 size City. >>> One of our nurse volunteers with an earthquake survivor
 d. Wheelchair Foundation with Global Health and Education Foundation
 medicines, surgical supplies and emergency equipment, along with two
 er the quake as part of our Plane-to-Haiti relief effort. >>> MedShare's
 thousands of pounds of medical aid his organization donated for the
 nership between District 5870 Rotarians and the Rotary Club of Cancun,
 ew friendships. >>> Gail Buckley of District 5870 raised enough funds
 er husband, Tim Buckley, presides as 2009-2010 District 5870 Governor.
 th a wheelchair recipient and her family during a photo op. >>> Hailey
 wheelchair recipient in Bolivia. >>> Rotarians and recipients share in the
 nly is a young boy given mobility and new opportunity, but his mother
 den of having to carry him everywhere they go together. Amazing!



BOLIVIA

Vibrant colors, culture, and a need for wheelchairs

By Eva Carleton



Bolivia stands out in many ways: it is one of the poorest and least developed countries in Latin America, and it is also one of the most welcoming, vibrant, and abundant with natural beauty. With a population of about ten million, more than 50% of Bolivia's people are considered indigenous, and many speak only indigenous languages. Bolivia is culturally and economically divided into two key parts: the northern part of the country with La Paz at the center, and the southern part of the country with Santa Cruz as the center. Contrary to the north/south divide often seen, in this case the southern area (with gas, oil, mining, and agriculture) is the wealthier part of the country.

While Wheelchair Foundation has delivered wheelchairs to the La Paz area in the past, this time our trip took us to the Santa Cruz region where we have established excellent Rotary partnerships. Six adventurous Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Pleasanton, California, and their family members, traveled to Santa Cruz in December 2009. They went to get the most exciting part of this project off the ground: handing out those beautiful red wheelchairs and feeling the love and gratitude these donations of mobility bring.



Clockwise from top left: <<< John Nethery and his daughter Hailey on their first wheelchair distribution trip. <<< Larry Annis has an amazing ability to connect and laugh with anyone he meets! <<< Volunteers carry those unable to walk. <<< The Rotary Club of Pleasanton, California, and the Rotary Club of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, join forces to give mobility and hope!



In the town of Saavedra we meet Barbara, who is 9-years-old. Her mother tells us that "Barbara was fine until she was three years old when she suddenly stopped walking and talking. She had a wheelchair that was much too big for her, and it is wonderful to finally get one that fits her!" Barbara is a happy girl, smiling all the time and loving her new red wheelchair.



Thirty-one-year-old Antonio is looking forward to having an opportunity to work, now that he finally has a wheelchair that belongs to him. He has had polio since age three. Antonio has only had occasional access to used or loaned wheelchairs throughout his life. He is very excited and considers this "his first real wheelchair." He lives in a rural area outside the town of Montero.



In the town of Vallegrande we met Juan, a smiling, bright 10-year-old 5th grader receiving his very first wheelchair. Juan came to the distribution with his grandmother, who is caring for Juan and his twin brother, Jaime, while their mother is away working in Spain. The grandmother says, "It has been hard for me, and I cannot express in words what this wheelchair means to me as Juan's caretaker!"

The colors and patterns of these pages represent the new Bolivian national flag. The left half representing the historically traditional flag of Bolivia, and the right half representing the flag of the indigenous people of Bolivia.

ROTARIANS HELPING MONTERREY, MEXICO



Clockwise from Above: <<< Rotarians from five districts and the wheelchairs they are about to distribute in Monterrey, Mexico. <<< Monterrey and U.S. Rotarians pose with a new found friend. <<< District 5810's Wheelchair Project Coordinator, Rotarian Tom Harmon, listens to a recipient's story of life without his legs and without a wheelchair. <<< Smiles and hugs, as donors and recipients get acquainted.

Rotarians from 11 Rotary clubs in three states traveled to Monterrey, Mexico, for the fourth time to distribute wheelchairs to people in need and create new friendships. On Saturday, January 15th, U.S. Rotarians from Districts 5160, 5170, 5810, and 7170 joined forces with Rotarians from District 4130 at the Monterrey Gymnasium to unpack, assemble and distribute wheelchairs to the fine people of the Monterrey region.

Rotarian Helen Coleman of the Danville/Sycamore Valley Rotary Club, California, recounts her experience with one recipient:

"One older gentleman without any legs told me his story. Three years ago he lost his legs due to diabetes. He had a wheelchair which looked to be about 20 years old and it was falling apart. I visited with him again, after he got his new chair; he was grinning from ear to ear and gave me a big hug. That's what it's all about-- the human contact."



MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2010
The California State Pipe Trades
Presents



Putting Contest ~ Food ~ Cigar Bar ~
Concessions ~ Longest Drive ~
The Golf Angels!
...And Much More!
visit www.wheelchairfoundation.org
for more details!

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Home of the LPGA CVS Pharmacy Challenge



**9th
Annual**

**DRIVE FORE
MOBILITY**

TO BENEFIT THE WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION

MAZATLAN, MEXICO'S NINTH ANNUAL ROTARY WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION



Above: <<< Rotarians from the United States and Canada all participate in the ninth annual Rotary wheelchair distribution in Mazatlan, Mexico. Everyone pitches in, assembling wheelchairs, interviewing and assisting recipients, and sharing in new friendship, a testament to Rotary's dedication to helping our fellow man.

It began with one container of wheelchairs. In 2001, 240 wheelchairs were shipped to Mazatlan, Mexico, among the first containers Wheelchair Foundation delivered. The Rotary Club of Foster City, California, had no prior relationship with Rotarians in Mazatlan. We asked Rotary President Frank Devlyn to help us find a partner Club. Frank introduced us to the best partner we could have asked for, Jose de Jesus Sanchez Reynosa, known as "Pepesan." Pepesan has helped us coordinate more than \$1,500,000 worth of aid to Mazatlan since then!

RC Foster City has worked with Rotary Clubs from the US and Canada to deliver 14 containers of wheelchairs. The wheelchair distributions over nine years have allowed us to travel to Mexico with numerous Rotarians, friends, and high school students. In 2001, six people traveled to give out wheelchairs. In 2009, 78 people made the trip.

In November, 2009, RC Foster City, under President Linda Grant and District Governor Riki Intner, joined members of five California clubs, one Arizona club, and three clubs from Mazatlan, for our ninth annual distribution. Significantly, 16 young California Rotary Interactors attended, representing San Mateo, Half Moon Bay, and San Francisco Jewish Community High Schools.

Visiting German Evers Stadium was the highlight of the trip. Rotarians unpacked and assembled wheelchairs and fitted them to recipients. Better still were personal visits by small groups of Rotarians to shut-ins' homes. Heartbreak and joy mingled with tears.

We arrived home with a sense of accomplishment and grateful for all the planning by President Linda Grant, her husband, Jon Grant, and the strong support of former Mazatlan President Jose de Jesus Sanchez Reynoso, "Pepesan."

FEATURING JEWELRY, ART AND FINERY FROM THE ESTATES OF BLACKHAWK AND BEYOND!
ALL ITEMS ON DISPLAY AND FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC AT THE BLACKHAWK MUSEUM.



Private viewing and wine reception
September 10th, 2010
6pm - 8pm

Open to the public
September 11th and 12th, 2010
10am - 4pm
admission is free

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS

for further information and details please
visit www.blackhawkbargainbasement.org
or call 925-736-2277 ext. 651
volunteer opportunities available!

All proceeds benefit the Wheelchair Foundation and the Blackhawk Museum Children's Education and Transportation Fund.

ROTARY AND WINE FOR WHEELS IN BELIZE

By Mark Thompson

Kurt was fussing over the last details on one of his paintings when the deafening tropical downpour stopped suddenly. The 28-year-old artist created bright paintings of the sea nearby. He sensed movement behind him. As he turned to look, a sharp pain stung his neck and back and he blacked out. When he awoke in the infirmary, he was paralyzed. An attacker's knife had barely nicked his spine, but he would never again feel the right side of his body, nor would he walk again.



Above: <<< Mark Thompson, his wife Bonita and their daughter, Vanessa, take a picture with a new wheelchair recipient in Old Belize. <<< Below (left to right) Napa, California winemaker Marco Digiulio with artist, Kurt, and Gordon Holmes, founder of Lookout Ridge Winery.

But Kurt had other plans. He would thrash around with his hand over and over again until he could grab the window sill next to his bed. After a few weeks, he could raise his slender frame up high enough to see the ocean. Ten months of struggle put him back on his feet, although he would need crutches and patience to take even a few steps.

My wife, Bonita, and my ten-year-old daughter, Vanessa, joined 48 California donors on this trip. We pulled wheelchairs from boxes, pumped tires, attached footrests and lifted people out of broken wheelchairs into new ones. Some had never even experienced a wheelchair.

When we first met Kurt, it had been two years since he'd been injured. He was proud to be an artist again. In a ceremony in the village's tiny 'Central Park,' on a bright, white, sandy beach, we presented him with a new wheelchair - one of 280 recipients of this distribution. Before the event, Kurt spread out a collection of aqua-colored paintings done painstakingly with his twisted hand. He told the crowd, "I taught myself to paint with my left hand. I can't feel the brush, but my eyes tell my fingers what to do."

Kurt said that his art was an obsession, but it still was not enough to get him out of bed every day. What moved him was the need to make a living and help people who are

"less fortunate," a concept that's hard to imagine as you see him barely manage to stand on crutches. When he's not painting, he collects clothes for pennies that he sells for a few dollars. This week's profits helped buy medical care for a friend crippled in a drive-by shooting. Kurt is rushing to keep his pal's immobile limbs alive with physical therapy. He's also raising funds for surgery necessary to remove a bullet still lodged in his friend's back before it becomes infected and deadly.

That's what drives Kurt to go to great effort to get up each morning. "This very moment there is someone out there who needs you," he said. "God gave me a second chance. He gave me a reason for living. Life is about feeling passion and feeling needed. I could stay in bed, but where would my friends be?"



WINE AND DINE FOR MOBILITY

Gathering together to Celebrate 10 years of Hope, Mobility and Freedom



On the weekend, June 11-13, 2010, in celebration of Wheelchair Foundation's tenth anniversary, friends, family and colleagues are encouraged to gather together in a worldwide shared mission called "Dinners for Mobility." The Wheelchair Foundation is asking you to host a dinner party for your friends and family or an event through your business, school or religious organization to help provide funding for the Wheelchair Foundation mission. Wheelchair Foundation materials will be provided and contributions can be made through the new www.wineforwheels.org website. All hosts will have the opportunity to join together with other Wine for Wheels hosts to participate in December for this year's wheelchair distribution in Guatemala. While hosts are encouraged to prepare a meal native to Guatemala, they may choose a country of the world affected by immobility.

Many different types of dinners can be held, ranging from large galas to intimate gatherings. Suggestions for meals include potluck or country-themed dinners, or wine and food pairings where guests bring their favorite beverage to share with the meal. The event is designed not only to raise money for the cause, but to raise awareness among the general public about the worldwide problem of immobility and the need for wheelchairs.



Wine for Wheels supports wheelchair distribution worldwide and believes in personal involvement. The distribution described on the facing page was funded by *Wine for Wheels* hosted gatherings, and the wheelchairs were personally distributed by 46 *Wine for Wheels* participants. In December, 2010, *Wine for Wheels* hosts will be headed to Guatemala, and you can come along too! For additional information please visit www.wineforwheels.org.



The "Dinners for Mobility" theme has been created so that people everywhere can support this campaign by doing something as simple as having dinner with their family, friends and colleagues. This concept allows people from literally all walks of life throughout the world to support the mobility relief campaign in their own personal way.



During the weekend of the "Dinners for Mobility" event, the Wheelchair Foundation, via its website, will present Kenneth E. Behring, founder of the Wheelchair Foundation, with a personal expression of gratitude for all participants sharing in this extraordinary event.

The "Dinners for Mobility" event anticipates having hundreds of registered dinners with thousands of attendees. Sponsorship opportunities, party-host support materials and other event information can be found at www.wineforwheels.org on the "Dinners for Mobility" events page, or at www.wheelchairfoundation.org.



Wheelchair FOUNDATION

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WINE FOR WHEELS HAS A BEAUTIFUL NEW WEBSITE!

WWW.WINEFORWHEELS.ORG

For eight years now, our volunteer group, Wine for Wheels, consisting of thousands of friends and colleagues, has met at different venues, some private, some public, and some in far off lands...collecting donations to buy wheelchairs for those in need. Wine for Wheels provides a fun and interesting way for individuals and groups to initiate fundraising campaigns at all levels and to offer their friends a way to engage with the world.

Schools, church groups, and other organizations can also come together to raise funds and awareness through privately held social events, giving people all around the world a way to become directly involved in helping provide hope, mobility and freedom to the physically disadvantaged through the provision of a wheelchair.

Come join us...won't you? Be our friend on Facebook www.facebook.com/wineforwheels

