

Changing THE WORLD



FALL 2021

A MESSAGE FROM DAVID BEHRING



Dear Friends,

As the 2021 year draws to a close most of us feel a sense of frustration and anxiety with both the length and breadth of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has not faded into the rear-view mirror as expected or hoped and it continues to disrupt lives and businesses in so many different ways. So many people have been tragically taken from us – often without being able to say “I love you” or “Good-bye”. Weddings, vacations, school activities, family get-togethers and special events keep getting pushed further back into the calendar and nobody can predict what will happen in 2022. We pray that it will be much better.

We know this too well because we just made the difficult decision to postpone the 20th Anniversary for the Wheelchair Foundation for the fifth time since the pandemic began. We had planned a wonderful celebration with a great dance band to honor Don Routh, Josh Routh and Bill Wheeler at the Blackhawk Museum. During the last two decades these three men have helped fund and personally deliver tens of thousands of wheelchairs to over 20 countries. Our organization felt that there was still too much risk to the health and well-being of 300 attendees and staff in an enclosed space for an extended period of time in spite of setting up all of the necessary protocols.

It will now become our 22nd Anniversary and we have so much to celebrate. In addition to providing free wheelchairs to over 1,150,000 individuals across the globe, we have enjoyed successful and lasting partnerships with thousands of Rotary clubs, NGOs, religious organizations, governments, foundations, individuals, schools, corporations and other groups. We have always delivered the wheelchairs regardless of the myriad of logistical challenges that can appear out of left field. We also take pride in knowing the indelible impact that our donors, our partners and the Wheelchair Foundation have had on these recipients, their friends and their family members.

With the holidays approaching, we want everyone to cherish their health, their family members, their friends, their communities and make sure to extend a hand to someone less fortunate than you. COVID-19 has changed all of our lives forever and we should never take anything for granted. God bless everyone.

David E. Behring
President

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

The Wheelchair Foundation aims to deliver 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
is published by:

Wheelchair Foundation,
3820 Blackhawk Road,
Danville, CA 94506
USA. Copyright 2021
Wheelchair Foundation.
All rights reserved.

Fall 2021 Issue.

Written and edited by:
Joel Hodge,
Program Director

Contributors: David
Behring, Charli Butterfield,
Jack Drury, Jeff Juri,
Heather Schomaker, Jon
Snyder, John Williams and
Darren Cox.



A Division of Behring Global Educational Foundation
Tax ID # 94-3353881

Contact Us:

Wheelchair Foundation (877) 378-3839

- info@wheelchairfoundation.org
- www.wheelchairfoundation.org
- www.bgefoundation.org
- jhodge@wheelchairfoundation.org

WHEELCHAIRS COMMITTED OR DELIVERED

Afghanistan.....	7,150	Lithuania.....	1,090
Albania.....	550	Macedonia.....	760
Algeria.....	1,480	Madagascar.....	1,270
Angola.....	6,790	Malawi.....	3,530
Antigua and Barbuda.....	280	Malaysia.....	4,040
Argentina.....	11,829	Maldives.....	10
Armenia.....	3,244	Mali.....	1,060
Australia.....	292	Malta.....	240
Azerbaijan.....	280	Marshall Islands.....	140
Bahamas.....	3,675	Mauritania.....	100
Bangladesh.....	350	Mexico.....	177,218
Barbados.....	1,750	Micronesia.....	1,265
Belarus.....	990	Moldova.....	1,720
Belgium.....	280	Mongolia.....	1,320
Belize.....	3,355	Montenegro.....	120
Benin.....	280	Morocco.....	5,470
Bolivia.....	6,364	Mozambique.....	1,660
Bosnia-Herzegovina.....	2,040	Myanmar (Burma).....	1,100
Botswana.....	1,958	Namibia.....	466
Brazil.....	2,305	Nepal.....	3,810
Bulgaria.....	530	Nicaragua.....	9,439
Burundi.....	520	Niger.....	240
Cambodia.....	3,840	Nigeria.....	1,420
Canada.....	560	Northern Mariana Islands.....	410
Cape Verde.....	780	Oman.....	280
Central African Republic.....	240	Pakistan.....	3,525
Chile.....	11,668	Palestinian Territories.....	1,906
China.....	472,962	Panama.....	17,180
Colombia.....	13,612	Papua New Guinea.....	2,420
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the.....	205	Paraguay.....	2,614
Costa Rica.....	9,883	Peru.....	15,077
Croatia.....	1,300	Philippines.....	11,345
Cuba.....	1,800	Poland.....	2,700
Cyprus.....	280	Portugal.....	990
Czech Republic.....	597	Puerto Rico.....	490
Dominica.....	280	Romania.....	3,851
Dominican Republic.....	9,543	Russia.....	2,230
East Timor.....	110	Rwanda.....	2,440
Ecuador.....	10,669	Saint Lucia.....	1,070
Egypt.....	1,168	Saint Petersburg.....	120
El Salvador.....	11,315	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.....	935
Eritrea.....	250	Samoa.....	1,360
Estonia.....	500	Saudi Arabia.....	20
Ethiopia.....	3,468	Senegal.....	630
Fiji.....	2,520	Serbia.....	2,370
France.....	560	Seychelles.....	30
French Polynesia.....	280	Sierra Leone.....	2,610
Georgia.....	1,030	Slovenia.....	110
Ghana.....	2,850	Solomon Islands.....	110
Greece.....	520	Somalia.....	88
Grenada.....	280	South Africa.....	23,800
Guam.....	250	Spain.....	500
Guatemala.....	10,908	Sri Lanka.....	3,170
Guyana.....	250	Sudan.....	280
Haiti.....	5,660	Suriname.....	520
Honduras.....	8,594	Swaziland.....	1,970
Hungary.....	120	Syria.....	641
India.....	2,716	Tajikistan.....	480
Indonesia.....	3,340	Tanzania.....	4,778
Iran.....	3,880	Thailand.....	8,640
Iraq.....	4,300	Tonga.....	500
Israel.....	8,110	Trinidad & Tobago.....	6,235
Italy.....	580	Turkey.....	5,550
Jamaica.....	4,990	Turkmenistan.....	520
Japan.....	1,750	Uganda.....	11,464
Jordan.....	5,022	Ukraine.....	5,900
Kazakhstan.....	1,510	United States.....	41,295
Kenya.....	3,170	Uruguay.....	1,862
Kiribati.....	375	Uzbekistan.....	1,240
Korea, North.....	1,352	Vanuatu.....	250
Korea, South.....	5,700	Venezuela.....	3,980
Kosovo.....	1,300	Vietnam.....	14,936
Kyrgyzstan.....	1,500	Virgin Islands (UK).....	284
Laos.....	1020	Virgin Islands (US).....	280
Latvia.....	740	Western Sahara.....	153
Lebanon.....	2,430	Zambia.....	2,646
Lesotho.....	1,060	Zimbabwe.....	3,340
Liberia.....	780		

TOTAL COUNTRIES AND REGIONS.....150+
TOTAL WHEELCHAIRS.....1,143,304

WHEELCHAIR PROJECT FOR UGANDA



In 2017 we supported Amuriat John from Ngora District, Uganda, with a wheelchair, since he could not walk. Today, we are very proud to share the life transition of Amuriat – who has moved from a wheelchair to using crutches after undergoing operations in 2018.

Amuriat can now play with his counterparts and will be attending school in January 2022. Thank you Josh Routh, Wheelchair Foundation and Don Routh for your continuous support. We cherish you on behalf of wheelchair beneficiaries and thank you for your partnership. Wheelchair Project for Uganda – OJ Disability Care Foundation, Uganda.

WHIRLWIND WHEELCHAIRS VISITS WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION AND BLACKHAWK MUSEUM



Chief Mechanical Engineer - Ralf Hotchkiss and Chairperson of the Board - Bruce Curtis, both of *Whirlwind Wheelchairs*, stopped in to talk about wheelchair design, manufacturing and international shipping of humanitarian aid, among other things. Whirlwind has been on the forefront of indigenous manufacture and all-terrain wheelchair design for decades, and has been a friend of Wheelchair Foundation since our beginning. It was a great pleasure to share Blackhawk Museum's beautiful galleries with both gentlemen.

From the Heart - Schools Program partners with Rotary Club La Puntilla to help the disabled of Guayaquil and Cuenca, Ecuador.

Contributed by Heather Schomaker



ABOVE: >>> Our traveling student fundraisers, seeing their project to fruition. Left to Right - Sarah Schomaker, Kevin Fryer, Josh Routh, Savannah Fried, Camille Cline, Brandon Fryer, Cody Chrisman, Alexa Selimos and Abby Fried, all gathered around Irmel, a new wheelchair recipient living in Cuenca, Ecuador. Even in the face of the global pandemic, these young men and women stayed true to their dream and were determined to help others. This group represents fellow classmates from San Ramon Valley and Amador High Schools, Cal Poly and San Diego State University in California, as well as Kansas State University and Southern Wayne High School in Dudley, North Carolina. >>>

In January of this year, Don Routh and *From the Heart* funded a container of 280 wheelchairs for Ecuador. Although they had worked for months to gather funds and create a plan to travel with students and teachers to distribute these wheelchairs, the act of actually ordering the container solidified that this trip was going to happen. It took until early May to manufacture the wheelchairs, and then another month's vessel voyage to arrive at port in Ecuador. District 4400 - Rotary Club La Puntilla of Guayaquil, longtime partner of Wheelchair Foundation, agreed to act as our distribution partner, and vetted recipients and organizations that would be receiving wheelchairs when our student group arrived.

In the Spring, as school started and we were looking for way to engage students in the midst of the pandemic, we began working with local Spanish teachers in schools in our *From the Heart* network to have students write letters in Spanish to wheelchair recipients. Students are encouraged to include some personal information - such as hobbies, sports they like and well wishes. In return, we also encourage each recipient to write these students a letter back, and we offer a station at each distribution event with pens and paper and a translator. These replies are delivered back to the students the following school year. This practice has been very touching and rewarding and promotes global friendship - giving a face and name to the giver and the beneficiary.



CLOCKWISE ABOVE: >>> Our travelers on the day of their arrival in Guayaquil. >>> Thumbs up! A gesture of universal thanks, from an elderly recipient in need of mobility. >>> A portrait of Saint Teresa de Jesus Jornet - Founder of the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Abandoned Elderly in 1872, watches over our wheelchairs. Canonized January 27, 1974 by Saint Paul VI, who also proclaimed her the patron saint of old age in Spain in 1977. There are more than 2,200 Little Sisters of the Abandoned Elderly caring for more than 20,000 poor elderly residents in 204 insitutions throughout 22 countries in Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia. >>>



On July 10, 2021, 15 of us flew from San Francisco, California, to Guayaquil, Ecuador. We had an overnight layover in Miami, giving us an opportunity to get acquainted and learn more about what was to come over the following week.

Upon our arrival at Aeropuerto Internacional Jose Joaquin De Olmedo in Guayaquil, we were greeted by members of the Rotary Club La Puntilla. We checked in to the Hotel Wyndham Guayaquil, and walked down to the riverfront where we had a wonderful dinner on the Rio Guayas river. It was a nice way to ease our way into the culture of Guayaquil and Don and Josh Routh knew just where to find the best ice cream.

This year, due to COVID-19, we were not able to do a lot of home visits and stuck to more populated areas where locals were vaccinated. Out of respect we traveled as vaccinated individuals as a protection to the people of Ecuador. Our host Rotarians had been vaccinated, but we didn't know the status of our recipient friends.

The morning of our first full day in country, the Rotary Club of La Puntilla hosted a wheelchair distribution event. Throughout the morning we assisted 150 recipients, family members and caretakers with new wheelchairs. Everyone found a way to become involved, greeting and introducing ourselves and helping recipients and their families. We had lunch out with our Rotarian hosts and later we attended the Rotary Club of La Puntilla's club meeting and were guests of club President, Francis Dykmans, at dinner that night.

The following day, Tuesday, we traveled to Sanborondon, a neighborhood in the southwestern section of Guayaquil, where we met with Jose Yunes, the Mayor of Sanborondon, and presented brand new wheelchairs to two dozen more recipients. We visited a care facility for the elderly that was receiving wheelchairs for residents to use. Josh happened by the room of an elderly woman who he soon discovered was 103-years-old, and asked if it would be okay to stop and speak with her and introduce himself. Given the opportunity, Josh would greet each recipient personally, in any of the coastal towns and mountain villages where these wheelchairs were bound. Part of the beauty of this journey with students is fostering their curiosity about life in a foreign country, and interacting with the people and environment in a manner that is out of the ordinary, but highly personal.





Wednesday morning, we got up early and our students got to interact with local students volunteering at our next distribution event. We shared letters from the high school students who had raised the funds for the wheelchairs being presented, with the recipients receiving the wheelchairs. The reactions were heartfelt and generous, and nearly all asked to write back and share their thanks, some going as far as extending offers to house their newly-found friends, should they ever want to come meet in person. These letters of response will be returned to the kids who authored them, with hope to bring the giver and receiver close together and foster longer term correspondence.



"My name is Delia Ortencio from Ecuador – Guayaquil. I am 89-years-old and with a lot to live! I am really happy to hear about you and your will to help others! You are more than welcome to come and meet me. This is the email of my nephew – feel free to text me any time so we can know each other and be friends. Always stay happy and don't give up on your dreams. God sent you and again, I am really happy to be part of the experience. Never stop moving, and love to your friends and family."

Soon we were on the move again, departing by bus for the mountain city of Cuenca. We stopped along the way for lunch at 12,000 feet of elevation, with spectacular views that only Ecuador can offer. Upon our arrival, we distributed more wheelchairs and helped load wheelchairs that would travel onward and meet with their recipients in more rural locations. Again, we were honored guests at the Rotary Club of Cuenca, and they welcomed us with open arms and fed us until we could eat no more.

The people of Ecuador still depend a great deal on agriculture, sugar cane, bananas, rice, maize, plantains, cocoa and more for their livelihood. Traveling by bus, outside of the more populated areas gives a glimpse of a less modern Ecuador, and the chance to experience a more rural pace and lifestyle. The markets, where vendors are so proud to show off their colorful fruits and vegetables, the random goat herd or pig going about their business without a care on a downtown city street, all add to the wonder we experienced.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: >>> Sarah Schomaker bonds with a fellow young volunteer. >>> A grandmother and her grandson caretaker await receipt of a wheelchair for her to use at home and to be more socially active. >>> Josh Routh stops to greet a 103-year-old resident at an elder care facility in Guayaquil. >>> 89-year-old Delia Ortencio reads a letter penned by a student-donor and gets some assistance dictating her reply. Her letter of reply (text above) will be returned to her new *pen pal* during the next school year. >>>



ABOVE: >>> Cody Chrisman, Craig Fryer and Wheelchair Foundation's own Heather Schomaker, Director of Community Outreach, and a driving force behind the *From the Heart* Schools Program, with an Oakland A's fan in need of a wheelchair following the loss of a limb. >>> ABOVE RIGHT >>> It is much easier to deliver goat's milk when the dairy comes to you! A common sight along the way in Ecuador. >>> Amazing scenic vistas and incredible view on the way up to Cuenca, at an elevation of 12,000 feet above sea level. >>> If you ask about the "Rotary" in Cuenca, most assume you are seeking the Plaza Rotary Market. Here you can find a myriad of handicrafts and household items, as well as Don and Josh Routh taking it all in. >>> Donors and recipients acknowledge the gift, and receipt, of a wheelchair with a universal fist-bump of respect. >>> Wheelchairs bound for more rural destinations are loaded in a pickup before heading to new homes with awaiting recipients and caretakers. >>>



ECUADOR FAST FACTS

- POPULATION: 17,093,159 (JULY 2021 EST.)
- NUMBER OF MOBILE PHONES: 15,853,100
- MEDIAN AGE: 28.8 YEARS
- AVERAGE HOURLY WAGE: \$5.47
- POPULATION LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE: 25% (2019 EST.)
- WHEELCHAIRS DONATED BY WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION: 10,949
- ESTIMATED NEED: 523,795
- PERCENTAGE OF DISABLED POPULATION REACHED: 4.8%

Our final opportunity to present wheelchairs to recipients came on Friday, in downtown Guayaquil, in a beautiful courtyard with a glass ceiling. Our students seemed to have gained a rhythm, and naturally seemed to fall into roles assisting recipients and families, helping adjust wheelchairs, and conversing. Don and Josh were in their element, as they took the stage and guided the crowd through proper use and adjustment of our red wheelchairs. The microphone was passed to a recipient who shared her experience as a disabled person without mobility in Guayaquil and expressed her thanks.

We are gratefully indebted to our Rotarian partners - especially Past President Octavio Jarrin, who now serves on the club's Donation Committee. Octavio acted as our liaison and host during our week-long stay. Mr. Jarrin both organized the distribution events logistics as well as our home visits. Thank you for making this a successful trip, and for helping more students give from the heart!

season highlights

CHANGING THE WORLD



COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: >>> Above the city of Cuenca, Ecuador our *From the Heart* student group give us a thumbs-up! We salute these students and their philanthropy. >>> Arriving at a wheelchair distribution in Zimbabwe by bicycle. As a lot of Africa is flat, bicycles are well suited for long distance travel over rough terrain. >>> Footrests adjusted, and ready to go-get-'em in a brand new red wheelchair in Guayaquil, Ecuador in July. >>> Tiffany Camacho and Darren Cox looking good and running the show at the 18th annual *Drive Fore Mobility* golf tournament. They are likely the first people you see when you show up, and the last people you'll see when you are leaving. Thank you both for all of your hard work and dedication for nearly two decades. >>> Arriving at a wheelchair distribution in Zimbabwe by wheelbarrow, sometimes the only means available, when a loved one needs to be moved more than a short distance. Evidence of the need for wheelchairs in the rural areas which are so seldom reached. Thank you to Patrick Mavros for seeing that all who are in need throughout Zimbabwe receive assistance. >>>





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: >>> R. John Chase with Behring Global Educational Foundation President - Steve Beinke, Tim Beinke and longtime Wheelchair Foundation supporter Jim Kellogg at the 18th annual *Drive Fore Mobility* golf tournament this August. >>> CCT Community Liasion Officer, Walter, with a group of new wheelchair recipients in the Babati Rural District in north-central Tanzania. Thanks to Walter's willingness to visit the most remote spots, we are able to deliver mobility to people and places that would be otherwise unreachable. >>> A wheelchair helps a whole family, not only the recipient, but also the caretakers. It is much easier for child caretakers to assist their disabled adult parents with a wheelchair - and that gets a thumbs-up! >>> Happy to help, and easy to roll. Life with a new wheelchair can offer relief in many ways. >>> Prior to the arrival of Don and Josh Routh and the traveling stundents of *From the Heart* Schools Program, the Rotary Club La Puntilla received and cleared our shipment of 280 wheelchairs. To announce the arrival of the cargo, they kindly provided us with this photograph from their club meeting, and to assure us that the wheelchairs were awaiting and being well cared for. Thank you Rotarians for your efforts and worldwide support of giving the gift of mobility! >>>



THE 18TH ANNUAL DRIVE FOR MOBILITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



ABOVE: >>> This year's winning foursome Sam Shaikh, Nate Cook, Blake Ollar and Jeff Abart claim the cup! These gentlemen shot a combined 53 and won a shoot-out to claim their prize. >>> BELOW : >>> Hazy Bar-B-Que from Danville, CA, was providing mouth-watering barbeque and were welcomed newcomers to our tournament. Thank you! >>> Chair the Hope - Founder, Nathan Ogden with Tournament Co-Chair Vladimir Nunes. Thank you Nathan for your continued support! >>> The Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley, longtime supporters of Wheelchair Foundation, raised funds for nearly 100 wheelchairs on site! The group was buoyed by incredible preparedness of Veteran Navy Diver - John Reese - GO NAVY! Welcome home and thank you all for your service. We are proud to have you among us this year. >>>

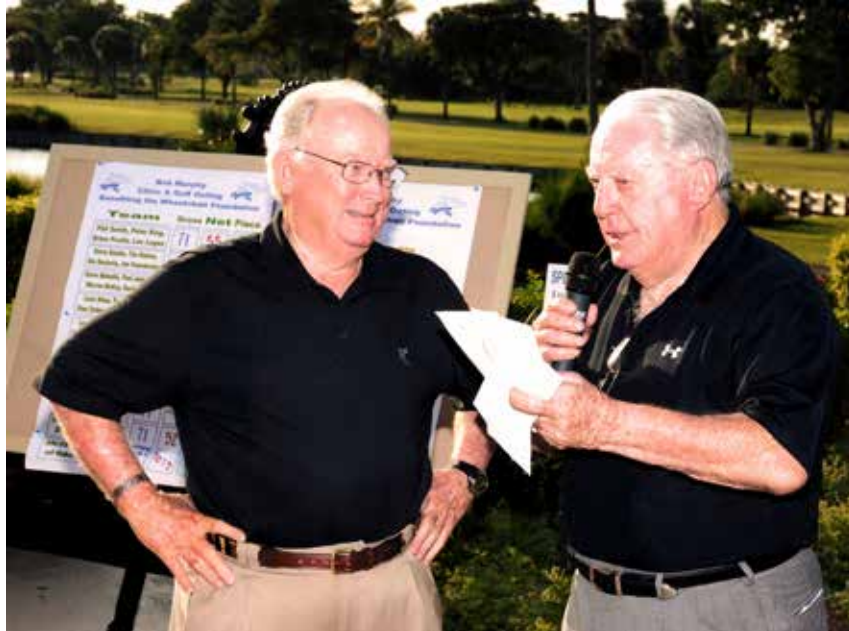
The 2021 Wheelchair Foundation Drive Fore Mobility was our most successful golf tournament in ten years netting more than \$110,000. We certainly chose a beautiful August Monday for this year's outing.

Gracious thanks to our title sponsor Farmers Insurance, and everyone else who contributed. Thanks to our tournament co-chairs Bob Herzog and Valdimir 'Val' Nunes and volunteers, Annette Anderson, Bill Arendt, David Behring, Jeff Behring, Matt Beinke, Stephen Beinke, Charli Butterfield, Earl Callison, Tiffany Camacho, Russell Chapman, Darren Cox, Edward Duarte, Kelly Herzog, Lisa Lohmann, Mike McColgan, MJ McColgan, Kris Nunn, and Chris Pontious.

Thanks to Blackhawk Country Club, Beyond Golf and all of the hard working folks who came out to provide the incredible selection of food and beverages we had to offer along the course. We appreciate your continued support of our efforts to provide mobility to people in need worldwide.



WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION LOSES A LONGTIME CHAMPION OF THE CAUSE. JACK DRURY 1931 - 2021



ABOVE: >>> Jack Drury (right) with Bob Murphy at one of his many Florida golf tournament fundraisers for Wheelchair Foundation. Jack's tournaments and events were always exciting because you never knew which of Jack's famous friends might show up. Jack oversaw our Florida and Southeastern United States distribution work, while constantly encouraging others to get involved. Thank you, Jack, for everything. We will miss you dearly. >>>

Jack Drury, 90, of Fort Lauderdale, went home to be with Jesus and his wife Marie on 9/11/21. Jack, also known as Smilin' Jack, Dear, The Legend, The Chairman, Dad, and Papa Jack, is survived by his two sons, John (Debbie) Drury and Chris (Mary Lynn) Drury; two daughters, Sue Drury Kane and Linda (Mike) Drury Smicklas; nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Jack's life's journey began in New Jersey where he discovered his first passion, which was the game of basketball. He worked hard and excelled to the point of earning an athletic scholarship to Seton Hall College. This game also introduced him to the true love of his life, Marie McDonough, whom he married on December 27, 1952. After serving his country in the United States Army, Jack and Marie moved to Fort Lauderdale in 1960. He embarked on his public relations and advertising career building Jack Drury and Associates from the ground up.

During his illustrious career, he worked with and became dear friends with a number of Hollywood and "business" celebrities, many of which he brought to Ft. Lauderdale.

He loved Fort Lauderdale and as many have said "he helped to put the city on the map." The last 20 years of his life were spent raising funds for the Wheelchair Foundation, which he did right up to the very end.

In the event you wish to honor Jack's legacy, a contribution may be made to:

**Wheelchair Foundation
2131 Hollywood Blvd. Suite 505
Hollywood Florida 33020. (Attn. Steve Beinke).**

The Wheelchair Foundation will match all donations to Jack's legacy and deliver wheelchairs to those in need.

NATHAN OGDEN AND CHAIR THE HOPE WHEELCHAIRS FOR GHANA

Contributed by Nathan Ogden



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: >>> With more than 32 million residents, Ghana has no lack of poverty and need. *Chair the Hope* leads by example, and does so fearlessly. >>> Wheelchairs staged for distribution. >>> Arriving on a single skate and pushing himself by hand, a recipient gets a squirt of hand sanitizer before heading to his new red wheelchair. Hanging out with friends in wheelchairs is a lot more dignifying than hanging out on the ground with them. New recipients await a ride. >>> Our work includes loading and unloading trucks; it's part of the joy of helping others. >>> Kwesi, who crawled to find us when he learned of the opportunity to receive a much needed wheelchair. His actions are why we keep pushing forward! >>>

Last July we traveled to Ghana in Africa with 24 volunteers to distribute 280 wheelchairs. Traveling during COVID made things inconvenient, but we knew that being stuck on a dirt floor unable to move due to paralysis is more inconvenient than anything we would go through. Most of our trip was spent out in the country visiting small towns and villages where it felt like you had gone back in time with adobe huts, red dirt roads, and one well for the whole community.

The people of Ghana were so kind and appreciative you couldn't help but love them. A humble man named Kwesi crawled long distances across the rocks and dirt to find us for a wheelchair that will dramatically change his life and those around him.

Chair The Hope is grateful to partner with the Wheelchair Foundation in changing lives globally with mobility needs. Let's all keep PUSHING forward!



GHANA FAST FACTS

- POPULATION: 32,372,889 (JULY 2021 EST.)
- MOBILE PHONES: 40,857,077
- MEDIAN AGE: 21
- AVERAGE INCOME: \$21 PER DAY
- POPULATION LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE: 23.4%
- WHEELCHAIRS DONATED BY WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION: 2,850
- ESTIMATED NEED: 971,186
- PERCENTAGE OF DISABLED POPULATION REACHED: 0.003%

CONTINUING IN THE SPIRIT OF KENNETH E. BEHRING

HEDCO AND CCT PROVIDING WHEELCHAIRS IN BABATI RURAL DISTRICT, TANZANIA

We were recently in Tanzania for two weeks to assist in a study conducted in collaboration with the Hilti Foundation (the Principality of Liechtenstein – Housing, Development, Disaster Relief) and Hand in Hand International (London, UK – Jobs and Job development for women) to explore potential livelihood opportunities for improving the quality of life of the residents of the ten surrounding communities in the Tarangire-Manyara region.

During one of our assessment walks, we visited the home of a villager who had an eight-year-old paralyzed child named Elihuruma. She has been paralyzed since birth and has not been able to go to school because of her disability. With the donation of the wheelchair, Elihuruma will now enroll in school next year, which will be a great relief to the parents who received the wheelchair from our Community Liaison Officer, Walter.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: How can you tell if she really likes the wheelchair you brought for her? Sometimes the smile gives it away! >>> Young volunteers help with unboxing wheelchairs before they are presented to their new owners. >>> Walter, who gets around most-remote rural Tanzania, gets a hand shake and a thumbs up. >>> Sisters in traditional dress arrive to receive a new wheelchair. The bright and vibrant fabrics and scarves cast a colorful contrast to the rural backdrop. >>> Elihuruma, eight-years-old, gets her first wheelchair and will be attending school! There are not many opportunities if you are immobile and dependent upon others to get around. Wheelchairs expand access to the world, and offer independence. >>>



Babati Rural District is located in the Tarangire-Manyara Region of north-central Tanzania and covers an area of 2,343 square miles with a population of 313,000. Ninety four percent of residents live in rural areas and are dependent upon livestock and agriculture for their livelihood. Fewer than half of the District's villages have health facilities, and those without are served by mobile and outreach services.

Thank you again to HEDCO for making such a huge difference in the lives of Elihuruma and all the other people the Wheelchair Foundation is helping in the Tarangire-Manyara region.

NEVADA WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION

EXCITING NEWS HAPPENING WITH THE NEVADA WHEELCHAIR FOUNDATION!



Richard Harris Law Firm is partnering with Nevada Wheelchair Foundation now and into the future! Rick Harris Law will be promoting wheelchair availability for all Nevadans making sure anyone that needs a wheelchair can get one just by asking!

Now, as Covid-19 restrictions ease, community activities are happening again. Senior centers are opening up and allowing visitors back in and residents back out, with caution, after more than a year being isolated and closed to the outside world. However, Covid-19 is still affecting a large number of Nevada citizens, and we only see the number of recipients and the number of requests for wheelchairs grow, every month.

We put a great deal of our effort into getting the word out about Nevada Wheelchair Foundation and, after some time now, small towns are beginning to ask for wheelchairs. This has meant trips to destinations like Pahrump, Laughlin and numerous small towns in between Las Vegas and Reno.

We pride ourselves making sure a wide variety of people and organizations receive our new wheelchairs. If a senior center, clinic, school or other nonprofit needs wheelchairs we will gladly help them. Our goal is to provide mobility to every Nevada resident who can benefit from one of our wheelchairs.

This Fall we will be receiving wheelchairs in larger sizes. This will give us the chance to provide mobility to more Nevada residents.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT >>> Wheelchair John and his crew, ready to help! >>> Volunteers help recycle cardboard following unloading wheelchairs. >>> Getting ready to give wheelchairs away and provide recipients and their families with a bit of entertainment too! >>> Folks pick up wheelchairs for loved ones unable to make it to us. >>> People in need of wheelchairs bring their families along to help get acquainted with how they work, and to help out. >>>



The Nevada Wheelchair Foundation thanks the Las Vegas Rotary club, Las Breakfasters Lions club, North Las Vegas Lions, Warehouse Las Vegas, Reno Lion clubs teaming up with storage and our president Don Williams purchasing the majority of the wheelchairs.

Do you live in Nevada and need a wheelchair?

**Nevada Wheelchair Foundation
Program Director: John Williams
916 West Owens Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106**

**Phone Number 702-900-3362
E-mail: john@nevadawheelchairfoundation.org
www.wheelchairfoundation.org/program/nevada**



BECOME A CHAMPION OF MOBILITY TODAY!

By becoming a member of Wheelchair Foundation's "*Champions of Mobility*" you are joining an *elite* group of passionate supporters that have teamed up with Wheelchair Foundation to support the mission of delivering a wheelchair to every child, teen and adult who needs one, but cannot afford one. Together, we create awareness of the needs of people with disabilities and promote the joy of giving!

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT



\$13 MONTHLY
(.41¢/day)

Will provide **1 wheelchair** a year to an individual that lacks the basic human right of mobility.



\$25 MONTHLY
(.82¢/day)

Your donation provides **2 wheelchairs** a year to people who need one.



\$75 MONTHLY
(\$2.47/day)

Your donation provides **6 wheelchairs** a year to people around the world.



\$150 MONTHLY
(\$4.93/day)

Your monthly contribution provides **12 wheelchairs** a year to people around the world.

More than 100 million people around the world could benefit from the use of a wheelchair, but have no access or means to acquire one. The impact of your gift is up to you. Any amount helps one of the millions of good people in need of mobility.

TO JOIN OUR CHAMPIONS OF MOBILITY
VISIT WWW.WHEELCHAIRFOUNDATION.ORG





Wheelchair

FOUNDATION

3820 Blackhawk Road
Danville, CA 94506-4617 USA

A Division of
Behring Global Educational Foundation
Tax ID # 94-3353881

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 260
DANVILLE, CA

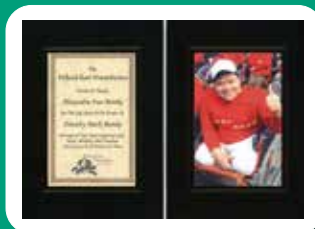


GREAT GIFTS FOR YOU! OUR THANKS FOR YOUR GIFT OF MOBILITY!

With your donation of **\$100 or more** you will receive our incredible candy apple red triple function pen with flashlight and stylus!



Donate **\$150 or more** and receive a personalized certificate with a photo of a wheelchair recipient, sent in a beautiful presentation folder! We will also include the pen and our three-ply washable cotton facemask!



Donate **\$500 or more** and you can show your support for Wheelchair Foundation and introduce new individuals to our mission when we outfit you with our **24-Can Highland Backpack Cooler**. Plus you receive a personalized certificate folder, our holiday pen and a three-ply washable cotton Wheelchair Foundation face mask!



DONATING IS EASY, SAFE AND SECURE AT WWW.WHEELCHAIRFOUNDATION.ORG
DONATE BY PHONE: 877-378-3839 BY FAX: 925-736-0309