



**Mobility
Worldwide®**

TX – San Antonio

*"It's not right that human beings crawl
on the ground all their lives."
-- Rev. Mel West, Founder, Mobility Worldwide*



September 2020

We're B-A-C-K!

Our previous newsletter was sent out late due to the COVID Virus shutting down offices and preventing people from meeting face to face. Since the January-June 2020 Mobility Worldwide Texas-San Antonio Newsletter did not include information about COVID and how it was affecting us, we wanted to provide you with some of our accomplishments during the past five months.

VOLUNTEERS: COVID pretty much shut everything down in April. We had 52 different volunteers work at the shop in March but then dropped to Zero in April. We have picked up a little since then with an average of 11 volunteers per month. We are just now scheduling outside groups to come work in the shop since we are able to schedule work throughout the week and physically spread out the volunteers for social distancing.

VOLUNTEER WORK HOURS: We logged in 181 volunteer hours during August, demonstrating we are gradually working our way back to our average of 288 hours per month.

CARTS BUILT PER MONTH: We averaged 15 built Mobility Carts per month during 2019 and were able to complete 12 new Carts this August.

CARTS SHIPPED: This is the most amazing statistic we can provide to show how we are getting back to work: For the Year 2019 we shipped 75 Carts, while we have shipped 166 Carts thus far in 2020, with those going to five different recipient areas.

**DONATIONS
ARE
WAY
DOWN!**

AND WE NEED YOUR HELP! As many of you know, our cost in changing the life of a disabled person by providing him or her with a Mobility Cart is \$300. That

includes rent, insurance, and other overhead expenses incurred even when we're not in the shop. We recognize the tendency to hold onto

our resources during times of uncertainty such as we have all lived through for the past six months. But hopefully you will soon be able to join us again in our partnership to bring mobility and hope to the lives of those less fortunate and living with the limitations of disability.



One of the biggest effects COVID has had on us this year is that our largest fundraiser was cancelled because of the Virus. This is the Annual Alamo Ranch Arts & Crafts League Festival held at the Del Webb Hill Country Retreat in October. In past years, Mobility Worldwide Texas-San Antonio has been designated as the "Charity of Choice" by the League and we have been provided several opportunities to earn financial support for our mission. Recently this has netted us around \$4,000 which will be difficult to make up in other ways.

If you would like more detail about our current financial status, please see the numbers below provided by our treasurer, Lori Ganci on how the COVID Virus has had a

MONTH	2020	2019
January	\$5,125.00	\$4,042.50
February	\$3,722.00	\$9,454.88
March	\$1,744.94	\$5,485.00
April	\$700.00	\$7,320.00
May	\$3,487.40	\$4,663.63
June	\$6,800.00	\$1,367.00
July	\$1,627.00	\$4,172.85
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
	<u>\$23,206.34</u>	<u>\$36,505.86</u>

negative effect on our income. We hope you will be able to help us achieve our annual goal of \$ 6 0 , 0 0 0 (\$300 X 200 Carts). Thank you!

"WALKING ON SACRED GROUND"

Isn't it amazing what we learn when things don't go according to our plans and we have to leave the situation in someone else's hands?



It all began in June with an international shipment of Mobility Carts being coordinated by Cary Loesing, Director of Operations for Mobility Worldwide. Above, San Antonio volunteers Richard Baldwin, Tom Martin, and Jodie Sell, boxed and banded 28 of our Carts onto pallets to make the journey to El Paso, TX. Additional Carts from workshops in North Alabama and Columbia, MO joined up with our Carts and were trucked across the Mexico border by a freight forwarder. The paperwork and permits were all filled out and the Carts were then to be handled by a distribution partner, Aztec Ministries of Grace-Aire Medical Foundation, in partnership with Brigadas Medicas Efesions.

About the time the trailer parked at its destination near Huejutla de Reyes, Hidalgo, Mexico, six "policia" showed up and wanted to impound the cargo and take the Mobility Carts to police property. Fortunately the director of the medical brigade arrived and spoke to the gathering of police and crowd. He mentioned the Mayor's name and presented the paperwork. When the director emphasized that these were being given free to disabled people who could not walk and were not being sold, the police chief, the most irate policeman, stated his sister was disabled and could not get around. And then he asked for a Cart for her! Apparently they were walking on Holy Ground.

We have no way of knowing where this first truckload of Mobility Carts distributed in this remote area will lead. With better understanding and especially with the now-cooperation of the police chief, we can only hope that his sister's experience and the other recipients of the "Gift of Mobility" will lead to future distributions.

(The editor of this newsletter wishes to thank Cary Loesing of Mobility Worldwide and Tami Beller Gaddis of Aztec Ministry of Grace-Aire Medical Foundation for the title of this story and for the details contained in it).

UNABLE TO LEAVE HIS ROOM FOR 20 YEARS

You probably always hear a Mobility Cart described as a "hand-cranked, off-road specialty wheelchair." But what if the disabled person does not have good upper-body strength with which to propell his Cart? Take Ketut, for example, shown here in his room where he has spent the past 20 years. Ketut is a 60-year old Balinese man with a medical condition that has led to muscle atrophy and weakness in performing most all activities of daily living.



Fortunately Indonesia's Global Village Bali discovered Ketut recently and was able to provide him with a "Pull Cart." This allows his caretakers to put him in the Cart and pull him with them to visit neighbors or go to the market. When taken out of his room for the first time in 20 years,

Ketut started to laugh and then began to weep with joy! Take special note of Ketut in the top photo compared with the bottom photo. He shaved, bathed, and slicked his hair back for the big occasion.

(The details for this article were provided in "The Scroll Newsletter," Summer 2020 edition, a publication of Mobility Worldwide, Columbia, MO).

THE PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MOBILITY CARTS

Did you know there is a university in Thika, Kenya (Africa)? Well, it seems that the Head of the Department of Economics and Senior Lecturer at Mount Kenya University, Phelista Wangul Njeru, teamed up with Peter Gakio Kirira, Director of the Mount Kenya University Foundation to research a subject. They were also joined by Connie Gheren

and Mary Wang'ang' a Ashley Waudo, both representing Partners for Care of Nairobi, Kenya. Their research and scholarly article was published in the "International Journal of Economics Commerce and Management," and was titled, "Study on the Psycho-Social and Economic Impact of Mobility Carts Distributed by Partners for Care (PFC) Among Physically Challenged Persons in Kiambu County -- Kenya." To read their entire article for greater depth and understanding of the importance of the Mobility Cart, please go to Internet address: <https://mobilityworldwide.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/mobility-cart-2019.pdf>. Or, to take one summarizing sentence from their Abstract, "The study established that the mobility cart beneficiaries had a remarkable improvement in their self-esteem, engagement, had facilitated them engaged in economic activity, interaction with the family and society had improved and some had gained some degree of self-reliance."

As part of their article, the authors supplemented the paper with a video which they developed. Many of the photos they used to emphasize the emotions caused by disability, and those emotions brought about by receiving an answer to their prayers for "mobility" and a way to improve their lives, are presented here and on the following page. These are quotes found in their article that say best what is being thought and felt behind those eyes.

(We wish to thank the authors of this article for this insightful information. And we thank those who shared their feelings about their disability and about the hope for a brighter future).



CONTACT INFORMATION

For volunteer opportunities or to request a presentation to your group, please contact Tom Martin, President of Mobility Worldwide TX - San Antonio, at (210)596-4584, or send him an email to mwsanantonio@gmail.com.

For more information about us, please visit our website: mwsanantonio.org. You can visit the international office of Mobility Worldwide at mobilityworldwide.org.

If you have a change of address, would like to switch to receive the newsletter by email, or if you no longer wish to receive the Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio quarterly newsletter, please send your request to mwsanantonio@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

A Donor Receipt will be sent for all donations. Mobility Worldwide TX - San Antonio is a faith-based, 501(c)(3), tax-deductible, all-volunteer organization.

We are also able to receive your donation on our webpage at mwsanantonio.org.



"The Cart gave dignity, hope, purpose and 'wings to fly!'"



"I am no longer viewed as needy."



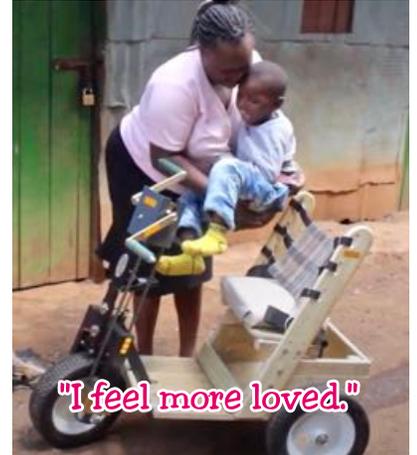
"People buy from my business a lot!"



"I carry my children in my Cart; I look like Super-Dad"



"I am recognized as the head of my family. I can provide now!"



"I feel more loved."



"I am now independent; I can go to school by myself."



"People ask for my opinion now. I am popular."

Help give the Gift of Mobility



Yes! I want to partner with Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio to sponsor the building of Mobility Cart specialty wheelchairs.

\$_____ for _____ Cart(s) at \$300 each

\$_____ for _____ Cart(s) at \$400 each, which includes a personalized metal plate on the Cart

\$_____ toward production of a Cart

Name _____

Business _____

Address _____

State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

My gift is _____ in honor of / _____ in memory of _____

Please send an acknowledgement in my/our name (withhold disclosing the amount of our gift) to:

Name _____

Relationship _____

Address _____

State/ZIP _____

Make checks payable and mail to:
 Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio
 P.O. Box 701172, San Antonio, TX 78270