



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*



December 2020

## NO MORE CRAWLING!

Some see photos like the following and feel helpless or see hopelessness. They want to look the other way and wonder what kind of life this person could possibly have, given his physical limitations combined with the challenges of his natural surroundings. Some see people living in less-than-humane conditions. Some ask God, "Why?"



Fortunately some people see the same situation and see OPPORTUNITY. They stop and offer assistance. They find there is a real human being in those tattered clothes, with cuts and bruises on his hands and knees. He's someone's son or daughter. Someone's mother or father. Someone just trying to make it to the next day. I wonder what they would think if they came to visit the United States and could see our excess, our waste. Oh, how many meals they could make for their families with our leftovers!

The people at Mobility Worldwide like to look at these situations as opportunities to change lives. Crawling just to get from one place to another is not okay. It does show initiative, upper body strength, and a certain level of independence. But where's the dignity? The humanness? The only crawling we would like to see is someone crawling to get on a Mobility Cart for the first time!



This Cart recipient is 50-year old Gede Sedana, who was crippled by polio as a boy. Reporter Agus Artha informed us that Gede grew up in the small town of Bengah, in the district of Panji, North Bali. Because of his disability, he never went to school. Seeing his initiative, Gede was given the opportunity to receive a very basic education at the age of 22, learning to read, write, and become more independent.

Gede struggles to earn a small income from collecting metal scrap, plastic bottles, and other recyclables to sell to scrap dealers, often crawling on his hands and knees through the streets to find the scrap. Now, with his durable Mobility Cart, he will be able to increase his business and better provide for his family.

*(continued)*

Gede's wife, Ketut, works parttime in a local laundry. His 22-year old son, Putu, finds occasional work as a building laborer. With their other sons, Kadek (13) and Komang (10), all live in their small, simple home.

These last two photos of Gede tell the impact of a Mobility Cart on his life. First is that grateful smile, giving some idea of how thankful he is for this "Gift of Mobility." The second photo tells how the Cart will expand Gede's life and success.

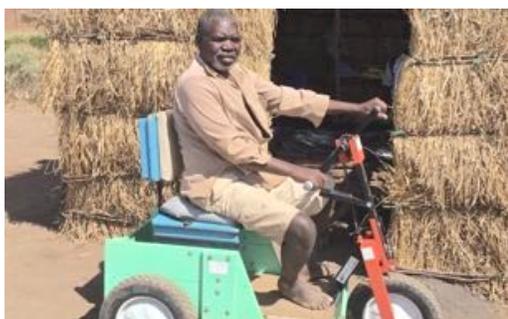
Imagine how long it used to take Cede to crawl that far!



## THE STORIES NEVER GET OLD

### Meet Siwa Mlomo

We recently received additional stories about two Mobility Cart recipients in the country of Malawi. This is a poor, agricultural, landlocked country in southeastern Africa. The population has suffered for years from chronic malnutrition, high rates of infant mortality, diseases, drought, and poverty. Seventy-four percent of the population of 15 million people live below the income poverty line of \$1.90 per day. Those with significant disabilities and limitations live even lower than that.



Richard Stephens, with the Malawi Project, provided us with feedback about the life of Siwa Mlomo and how it was changed when he received a Mo-

bility Cart. This photo shows Siwa in front of his grass hut that he and his family call home. He is married and he and his wife, Mulitani, have four children. One morning in 2008, Siwa arose but fell every time he tried to move about. A trip to the hospital determined that he had suffered a stroke. Since Siwa could no longer walk, Mulitani began selling firewood to try to help feed the family. Then, representatives from Action for Progress, a program of The Malawi Project, heard about Siwa. Since receiving his Cart, Siwa and his wife have started a business selling tea and wood. He is also able to go to the grocery to make purchases, as well as return to participate in church services.

### More from Malawi

This story was also just received from the country of Malawi, sent to us from The Malawi Project, October 2, 2020. When I hear a story like this, I often find myself asking some philosophical questions, such as, "Why was this particular person chosen to receive a Mobility Cart?" And, if you'll look at the map of Africa and see where this tiny, landlocked country is located, you may start asking questions like, "How did they ever get a 100-pound Mobility Cart to a country like Malawi in the first place?" And, "On how many ships, airplanes, trucks, and other means of transportation did this Cart travel to get in the hands of someone living in the village of Malidade, under the Tribal Leader Mpherembe, Mzimba, Malawi?"



John Phiri is that lucky person! He's in his late 50's and epileptic. In spite of his problems, John felt responsible for taking care of his family so he searched for weeks to

find employment. He finally found a job as a household night watchman. John worked at this particular house and for this family for several years. One night, during the rainy, cold season, he decided to light a fire to keep warm. Unfortunately John fell into the fire during one of his seizures and burned his legs severely. Fortunately the family awoke to the fire and pulled John from it. While at the hospital, it was determined that his legs would have to be amputated. In spite of all these hardships, we are told John never lost his faith in God, He continued to tell others about God's goodness in his life. Usually not lost for words, John could not find the words to tell the representatives from Action in Progress how his newly-found transportation would change his life. He was quick to acknowledge that God does things for a reason and we must not question Him. With his Mobility Cart, John has been able to visit his friends at church and to care for his small business.

## STUDENTS LEARN JOB SKILLS

It would be great if all students near graduation from high school, or those who have completed their academic requirements, had the opportunity afforded to students in the Military Coop (Ft. Sam Houston, Lackland, and Randolph). "Community Based Vocational Instruction (CBVI) helps students to succeed in the future. Students identify interests, strengths, preferences, and skills and needs related to career development. We use this information to integrate it with family expectations and desires for the future."



By volunteering at Mobility Worldwide, not only do students learn to use hand tools, but power tools and machinery as well. But skill development in those areas is a secondary gain. Students are exposed to job requirements and responsibilities, employer expectations, workplace etiquette and dynamics. They have an opportunity to develop skills and a foundation for good work habits. Participants develop an understanding of their learning style and identify on-the-job needs.

Under the close supervision of Tom Martin, volunteer and president of Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio, these students receive instruction and demonstration based on his 15 years of employment experience as a general manager engineer and project engineer. Tom knows how to set up machinery,

operate it, and repair it as needed. As the students learn how to make parts that go into the building of a Mobility Cart, they are learning so many other skills that will help them make the transition from classroom to employment.



Kimberly Staveley is the Community Based Vocational Instructor for the Military Coop who provides training, supervision, counseling, and coordination of the students' learning experience. Susan Sebastian, Transition/Vocational Coordinator, provides additional counseling and planning.

Ethan Sandoval (pictured left) stated he has gained experience at a variety of locations this semester such as performing landscaping activities, facility cleaning, moving furniture, decorating for holidays, preparing and distributing lunches for homeless people, working in a school cafeteria, and performing a variety of services with animals at the Humane Society. He has a passion for helping animals and preparing them for adoption. Ethan said what he likes about working in the Mobility Worldwide shop is how the volunteers help each other solve problems and work together to get the job done.

Dravyn A. Horwath (pictured above) has also been under the supervision and teaching of Tom Martin in the Mobility Worldwide workshop. He has also gained valuable experience in his different work assignments around town. Dravyn stated he has especially enjoyed performing landscaping activities at



### 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](mailto:mwsanantonio@gmail.com).

For more information about us, please visit our website: [mwsanantonio.org](http://mwsanantonio.org). You can visit the international office of Mobility Worldwide at [mobilityworldwide.org](http://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](mailto: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](http://mwsanantonio.org).*

Morgan's Wonderland, where he found the employees there especially good to work with. He also likes working in the school cafeteria, where he is hoping to gain some baking experience next semester. His dream job would be that of a cake-decorator, and he is already keeping a journal with cake designs he likes. The best part of working with Mobility Worldwide, Dravyn says, is the thought of helping disabled people whose lives will be improved with the wheelchairs he's helping build.

**PRESIDENT TOM MARTIN:  
ABOUT THE STUDENTS. . .**



"I have always enjoyed helping others learn. I have a feeling of accomplishment when watching others succeed as a result of my contributions. I have always enjoyed contributing to the Mobility Worldwide Project as this directly impacts lives of these who have been dealt the misfortune of no mobility in conjunction with poor surroundings." "Mobility Worldwide offers a positive bit of hope of a better future than that which has already been experienced."

**ALL IN THE FAMILY**

Hearing the passion with which her father speaks about volunteering with Mobility Worldwide and seeing his commitment in all aspects of the operation of the all-volunteer shop, President Tom Martin's daughter, Joslyn Campbell, stepped up when the Board of Directors was in need of a secretary. Joslyn has served in that position for the past year. Not to be outdone, Tom's other daughter, Jeanine Adinaro, also felt the desire to help disabled people living in developing countries through

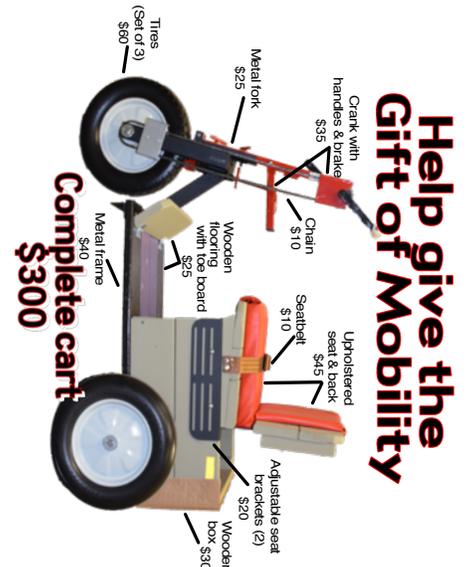
Mobility Worldwide. Because Jeanine lives in Austin, she is not physically in San Antonio to help. However, Jeanine is co-owner and CEO of a Chinese herb business, Herbalogic. She and her business are located in Austin and their products are currently in HEB, Whole Foods, and online. Jeanine is also a state-licensed acupuncturist and believes in traditional remedies for modern health maintenance. While visiting China's Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Jeanine and her business partner decided to bridge the gap between traditional Chinese herbal practice and the health culture of North America.



While visiting family in San Antonio over Thanksgiving, Jeanine raised \$1,100 in donations to Mobility Worldwide by providing acupuncture services to participants in her sister's exercise and dance studio, Jazzy J's. We thanked Jeanine by President Tom Martin presenting her with a Certificate of Appreciation, as her donations will provide for the building of almost four Mobility Carts! Thank you, Jeanine! More information can be found at <https://www.herbalogic.com/>.

**TAX RECEIPTS TO BE SENT OUT**

A Tax Receipt will be sent by January 31, 2021 to everyone who made a donation to Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio during the Year 2020. We hope this will facilitate your taking credit for Tax-Deductible Donations on your Federal Tax Filing by having just one document to file rather than perhaps several sent to you throughout the year.



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