

## LIVES CHANGED!

We are pleased to be working with our new Distribution Partners at DIF Acuña, Coahuila, Mexico. DIF (Department of Integral Families) is similar to our Social Service Departments. Since January 1, 2022,



we have been working with and getting to know Yahaira Romero De Hoyos, President of DIF Acuña; Natalia De La Fuente, Personal Assistant to the President; and Amalia Guadalupe Hernandez, Director of DIF. Our new Partners are doing a great job keeping us informed

about their need for additional "Carritos" (Spanish for Mobility Carts) and about how they are distributing the Carts we sent them.

This most-recent photo we received is of Carlos G (above) receiving his Carrito. We were informed that he fell when he was one-year old and went through several surgeries in his youth. Carlos grew up with disabilities and we are hopeful his new transportation will help him increase his mobility and perhaps even help him gain employment. That's one of OUR Carts, built by the San Antonio volunteers and financially supported by local donors! Carlos and we thank you! And when we take the next shipment of Carritos to our friends in Acuña, we will show them how to adjust

the seat so it gives the rider better back support and makes "peddling" the Cart more efficient.

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And on the other side of the world in the country of Kenya, Africa, is another person who received a Mobility Cart. This story comes to us from the Mobility Worldwide Affiliate Workshop in North Alabama. We learned that the director of a physical therapy program took several students to Kenya on a Cart distribution. Since the students were not familiar with the Carts, they were invited to come to the North Alabama Mobility Worldwide workshop to help build and pack some Carts. Because of that experience, current physical therapy students are required to volunteer in the workshop at least once before they graduate.



The lady pictured here is a Kenyan resident receiving her new Cart. Because of the loss of her legs, she has had to crawl long distances, even to receive her new Cart. You might notice that while she does not have legs, she has a pair of flip-flops on the floorboard of her Cart. This is a sight often seen with amputees in

developing countries, to protect the hands while crawling, not the feet. When asked if she would allow her picture to be taken with her new Cart, she declined until she could go home and put on her best clothes for the picture — no longer the girl crawling in the mud and dirt, but a young lady with promise and hope for the future. And don't miss the flower in her hair!

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## REMEMBERING ROLAND DOWE

(February 27, 1937 - March 1, 2022)

Roland Dowe was one of our special volunteers early in the development of a workshop in San Antonio in which to produce specialty wheelchairs. Each one of our volunteers is unique, bringing with them different talents and skills, and different motivations for wanting to help this particular population receive the "Gift of Mobility." Having owned and operated his own flooring installation business, Roland was quick to recognize his own skills that transferred nicely to the building of wood and steel, hand-cranked, all-terrain Mobility Carts for disabled people to use on unpaved pathways.

Roland's unique gift to Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio was the recognition that one central person needed to step up as "shop foreman" to ensure that volunteers working one or two days a week were in sync with volunteers working other days.



Therefore, Roland became almost a daily figure in the shop, teaching, supervising, and communicating with everyone so we were all working toward the same

goals. We also want to point out that Roland was named to the Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio workshop "Hall of Fame" in 2011, the first volunteer ever to be honored with this designation.

We send our sincere thanks to Doris, Roland's wife, for loaning Roland to us for so many hours each week. And we also want to express our sympathy to the family for everyone's loss, including our own.

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## HOPE 4 THEM NOW

After not being able to ship any Mobility Carts for several months because our order of wheels was tied up on a ship somewhere on the ocean, we finally received the shipment and made quick progress of finishing up several Carts. Shipping 50 Carts at one time for a small workshop whose goal is to build 150 a year can create quite a flurry of activity!

Our Distribution Partner for this shipment was "Hope 4 Them Now." This is our shop's first time working with them. They are a 501(c)3 charitable organization who provides support and resources for religious leaders (pastors, missionaries, and leaders) whose missions groups are isolated from the main population. We worked in conjunction with the Mobility Worldwide workshop in Brazos Valley (College Station), who took an additional 100 Carts made in their shop to Eagle Pass, Texas, a town that borders Mexico. The Carts will remain in a warehouse there until they are sent to the field for assignment to disabled people living there.

Our thanks goes to Brazos Valley for coordinating this effort, along with Tom Martin, president of the San Antonio shop. And special thanks to Joe Srubar and Richard Baldwin who drove the trucks and trailers to Eagle Pass on May 6. (See photos next page.)



(Photo courtesy Linda Montez)

25 Mobility Carts loaded on one trailer at our shop and ready for the trip to Eagle Pass



Richard Baldwin stops half-way to Eagle Pass to check on the status of the Carts and tie-downs

(Photo courtesy Joe Srubar)

## A TIME TO CELEBRATE!

Our first-ever Friendship Fiesta was held on April 3 at the Timberwood Park Pavilion in San Antonio. This gathering was to honor our donors and volunteers, family and guests, and to celebrate our accomplishments in 2021. Traditionally we have held a more-formal get-together in the evening for the purpose of volunteers getting to meet donors (and vice-versa) and to highlight some of the lives of people living in distant lands whose lives have been enriched by receiving one of our Mobility Carts. This year at the

outdoor pavilion in the afternoon was a more casual and social atmosphere. Our thanks goes out to Joslyn Campbell and Joana Burge, Board Members, who coordinated the events of the day. (CONT'D)



### 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).

One of the highpoints of the day was the recognition of four of our volunteers who have accumulated specific numbers of work hours over their combined volunteer time with Mobility Worldwide. Those volunteers are:

- Rick Chrétien, 500 hours
- EW Stafford, 1,000 hours
- Bill Myers, 2,000 hours
- Carl Coppock, 2,500 hours

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**SOMETIMES YOU'RE LUCKY;  
SOMETIMES YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT  
PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME; AND  
SOMETIMES IT'S JUST GOD!**

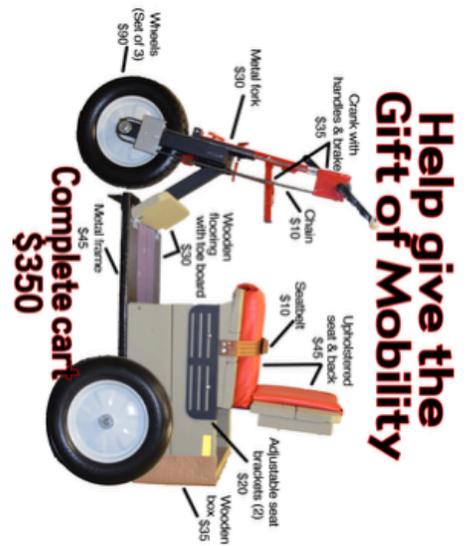
(Article by President Tom Martin)

At the end of last year, we received the largest single donation in our existence. C.D. Barrington, a lifelong woodworker, donated his entire shop to Mobility Worldwide San Antonio! C.D.'s eyesight had been

failing him and he was unable to continue his beloved hobby. This gift was the type of gift that is received with considerable gratitude, and a sense of naivety by many who are not experienced in shop matters to an extent to realize the capabilities handed to us.

Recently another donation was made that was a bit unusual. Mr. Cosmo Defina donated the boards from his deck that he had installed a year ago. He decided to install a swimming pool in the same location, no longer needing the deck. The lumber from the deck was twice as thick as the lumber that we use in our Mobility Carts. As a result of the large and expensive bandsaw that was given to us previously by Mr. Barrington, we were able to cut the donated boards to a dimension usable in the Cart box, saving a couple of thousand dollars in lumber purchases.

The donation by C.D. Barrington is a gift that truly keeps on giving! We appreciate equally both gifts from Mr. Barrington and Mr. Defina and have already put them to good use. Thank you!



Yes! I want to partner with Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio to sponsor the building of Mobility Cart specialty wheelchairs.  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Cart(s) at \$350 each  
 \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Cart(s) at \$450 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