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# ★ COVER STORY ★

## THIS STORY JUST IN: By The Malawi (East Africa) Project / May 9, 2023

### Mobility Worldwide Texas-San Antonio

P.O Box 701172  
San Antonio, TX 78270  
(210)596-4584  
Website: [mwsanantonio.org](http://mwsanantonio.org)

Shop Location: 219 E. Nakoma Drive, San Antonio, TX (Rear entrance only; no mail delivery)

### The Need

Over 65 million people need a wheelchair! In most developing countries, few of those who need wheelchairs have access and there are insufficient production facilities available. (21st World Congress of Rehabilitation International, World Health Organization, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics, and Disabled People's International, 2008).

Of the more than 18 million amputees around the world, about 80-percent of those live in developing countries. ("Bringing Prosthetics to Developing Countries." Atlanta Business Chronicle, May 2010).

### Our Mission

Our mission is to provide Mobility Carts (specialty wheelchairs) at no cost to individuals with disabilities who live in developing countries and who have no appropriate means of mobility by: operating a manufacturing site to construct Carts; educating the public about the great need of disabled and disadvantaged persons; raising funds to support the construction and delivery of the wheelchairs; and disseminating the wheelchairs to the applicants through international agencies and sponsors.

"Action for Progress" continues to crisscross Malawi, assisting those with mobility problems. At its heart, there are many stories. Thousands of people have been helped restore their lives. School dropouts have gone back to school, those failing in business have gone back to work with the help of a Mobility Cart. Others can go to the store and community events, church services, soccer games, or just visit friends, or hold down a job. However, no matter how many are helped there are still others waiting.



This is the reason Action for Progress was sent to the southern district to locate a man named Samuel. A report had reached Action for Progress that Mr. Waimwa was in difficult straits and needed immediate help.

Mr. Waimwa was located and, upon arrival, reported he is 69 years of age. He stated that 10 years prior to this time his legs began to weaken. Even though it was his job to support his family through the small business he owned, his issues with mobility became more and more of a problem and pain developed more intense each day. Every effort within the financial constraints of his family were tried and failed. Nothing worked. Day by day, week by week, the cost of medical care was draining their cash. There seemed to be nothing that could help them. At that same time his business started to decline. The pain continued to grow and finally he was unable to walk at all.

Samuel could not wait to feel the experience of moving about on the Mobility Cart, and a big smile indicated this unit was just the right fit. Its promise seemed bigger than life, and Samuel started telling those who gathered how great a blessing this had proven to be. "Thank God for this gift," he said. "Now I can visit my friends and family, go to church services, shop in the market, and attend village community meetings."

His wife, too, had some thoughts of her own. "I will now have the space to do other household chores. I can care for the children, attend meetings, and travel around the area without having to be concerned about my husband." And she said, "Life for a person with mobility challenges can be compared to a life in prison."



## WE NEVER GET TIRED OF TELLING THIS STORY!



Our Distribution Partner in Acuña (Coahuila), Mexico, informed us they could use some additional “Carritos” (Mobility Carts) for their disabled citizens. So on June 7, 2023, Joe Srubar and Rob Remig of Mobility Worldwide loaded up the trailer with 20 Carts and made the drive to Del Rio, Texas. Our contact people from Mexico were there waiting for us with open arms and trays of fresh bread, breakfast cake, and cookies baked across the Border in Mexico! We also took with us one standard wheelchair, a rolling walker with a seat, and a pick-up walker.

Our Distribution Partner, DIF, (Development of Integral Families) is responsible for all social, child and adult welfare, nursing home, and handicap services in the city. With a limited budget, donations such as wheelchairs and durable medical equipment are always welcomed.



Pictured above top are Rob (hat) and Amalia (DIF Director), Joe and Zaira (DIF Assistant). Also pictured are José (DIF driver) and Joe, transferring Carritos to the DIF trailer.

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## A LEGACY OF GIVING

When someone’s life touches your life, you tend not to forget that person and what he meant to you. And sometimes it’s small

things that help us celebrate those relationships and friendships. In this case, that “small thing” happens to be an engraved metal plaque that has been attached to the back of a Mobility Cart and sent across our border to be used by a disabled person in another country.



John Nelson was the treasurer for Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio for about three years. We lost John on September 13, 2018. But his wife, Mary, and their daughter, Kari, lost even more — a husband and father.

Because of John’s passion for providing mobility to disabled persons, Mary and Kari decided to keep that legacy going. For an additional donation toward the cost of producing a Mobility Cart, they have made possible the completion of SEVEN Carts to memorialize and honor their family members. Each Cart — a different name plate on the back of the Cart. Each Cart — a different life touched by the “Gift of Mobility.” John’s plaque is attached to Cart #1935 and was picked up at our shop on May 9, 2023 by a missionary pilot with a destination of El Salvador.

Thank you Nelson Family!





# MOBILITY WORLDWIDE VOLUNTEER & LEADER RECOGNIZED



In 2012, Morgan's Wonderland, located in San Antonio, became the world's first theme park designed for individuals with special needs. And since 2014, Morgan's Wonderland has shown the spotlight on individuals and organizations in the community who have made a difference in the lives of people with special needs.

Each year, nominees are sought to go through a selection process where just five are selected to have their name enshrined on the Wall of Fame located at Morgan's Wonderland. And one of those people recently chosen is Margot Newcomb, a volunteer with Mobility Worldwide.

Margot became a volunteer with Mobility Worldwide in 2011 and began building specialty wheelchairs (Mobility Carts) that are shipped to over 100 developing countries around the world.

Margot has risen from volunteer woodworker to President of the Brazos Valley production site to Board Chairman of Mobility Worldwide. Under her volunteer leadership, the nonprofit organization has grown to 20 production shops in the U.S. and three in Africa. Margot has personally delivered Mobility Carts to impoverished, Third World countries - Haiti in 2019, Liberia in 2020, and Liberia again in 2023.

On the evening of June 24, Margot was honored by the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation's "Hearts of Gold Awards." Accompanied by her family and supported by several volunteers from the Mobility Worldwide San Antonio shop, she was recognized at the banquet, featured by the inscription of her name on the "Wall of Fame," and presented with a trophy honoring the occasion. Congratulations, Margot!



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

\$\_\_\_\_\_ toward the production of a Cart

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Cart(s) at \$350 each

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Cart(s) at \$450 each, which includes a personalized metal plate attached to the Cart

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of / \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable and mail to:  
 Mobility Worldwide TX-San Antonio  
 P.O. Box 701472  
 San Antonio, TX 78270

