

# FOUNDER TALKS SYMPATHY VS. EMPATHY



I recommend to all the fascinating, educational and informative book, "Strangers in Their Land," by Arlie Russell Hochschild. In its earlier pages the author writes about what he calls the "empathy walls." Empathy is much more than sympathy. Sympathy says "I feel sorry for you, and I'm so glad I do not have your problem. There but for the grace of God go I." Empathy says, "I try to put myself in your situation, to indeed walk in your shoes. I try to understand how you feel. I weep not for you but WITH you. What can I do?"

I have taken many persons, young and old, into poverty situations, and where people are marginalized and degraded. Perhaps 2/3 came back with sympathy but not empathy. "I'm so glad I live in the USA. It makes me appreciate what I have." Those were comments from many. But there were others who changed their lifestyles and lives because of what they saw. They had empathy. In their hearts they said, "Those are my sisters and brothers. They are a part of my human family. I must find ways to help them, to share life with them." (Our mission family has begun the work of celebrating our 25th anniversary in 2019. There are 2 distribution trips planned in February to Haiti. Write to us if you're interested.)

I have found the folks in our Mobility Worldwide family, donors, shop volunteers, etc. to be empathizers. Most have never been to personally meet those who crawl upon the ground or have to be carried. (Although volunteers/supporters go each year on distributions around the globe.) Most have never met a mother who for 18 years carried a child who had polio, until she could no longer bear that burden. Most have never seen a legless man who had for 40 years been confined to his bed, arise and go out into his community. But the empathizers of MW have asked, "What does a cart cost?" and sent money. They have asked "How can I help?" and shared their skills. There is a wall that divides sympathy from empathy. Our MW folks have torn down that wall and used its materials to build bridges. **(\$300 buys parts for and ships a Mobility Cart; any amount helps. Can you help?)**

One of our presidents made history by shouting out, "Tear down that wall!" There is a Spirit that speaks to us likewise.

**- MEL WEST, DIRECTOR EMERITUS**

## REMEMBERING OUR PROMISES (Located on our website under "About")

Promise 1. We promise to keep you regularly informed as to how Mobility Worldwide MO-Columbia is investing your donations of money, supplies, time, energy and skills to make a difference around the world.

How are we doing keeping you informed? Some of you have asked for special information and we responded through our weekly email Update. The more emails we have, the more assured you will continue to be informed. So share your email with us and ask for the Update.

## COME VISIT US AT A SHARE FEST ACROSS MO.

We are an approved mission with the statewide, ecumenical Festival of Sharing. Many denominations are members of this organization. We will have volunteers at these locations. Come visit us and ride a cart.

**September 15<sup>th</sup>**  
St. James UMC Paseo Campus, 5540 Wayne Ave., KC 64110

**September 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Tipton UMC, 204 US-50, Tipton 65081

**September 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Macon UMC, 208 Pearl St., Macon 63552

**October 6<sup>th</sup>**  
1<sup>st</sup> UMC, 501 S. Walnut Street, Dexter 63841

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Immanuel UCC, 221 Church St., Ferguson 63135

**October 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Cameron UMC, 201 North Pine St., Cameron 64429



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# GIVE THE GIFT OF MOBILITY, DIGNITY, AND OPPORTUNITY

**MAKER OF THE MOBILITY CART SINCE 1994.**

## ROADS HERE ARE ALL DIRT, MUD, AND ROCK...

**THIS REPORT FROM GUINEA TELLS EXACTLY WHY OUR MOBILITY CARTS WERE INVENTED.**

Hi, My name is Peter Fiedler and my wife and I are Americans living in Guinea (west Africa). We have a friend here that has been handicapped for many years, and several times we have tried to help him with a mobile wheelchair, but we never succeeded. **The roads here are all dirt, mud, and rock and there aren't good quality materials to build anything for him. There also isn't anyone experienced that could have done the work.**

Then to our surprise, about three months ago, he received a new mobile cart! It has been such an amazing blessing for him. **I really appreciate the high quality and durability of the cart, it's amazing.**

Living here in Guinea, we have noticed that unfortunately many organizations have trouble getting aide to the people that actually need it. Whether it's corruption or logistics or other problems, sometimes it can be difficult. But in this case, a very deserving man received the perfect gift!

We looked up the tag on the cart and saw your website address, so when we got home we looked it up so that we could send you our thanks. Thank you so much for your hard work! Peter Fiedler

(A tag is attached to each cart with the shop number, production number, date, and website. This allows for follow up evaluations, sharing our contact info, and to receive reports such as this.)



**Our mission: Mobility Worldwide MO – Columbia's mission is to provide appropriate mobility for all of God's children in need. We seek to provide mobility first for those in greatest need and with the least resources in poor or underdeveloped countries.**

## DISTRIBUTION REPORT APRIL 2018 WITH KENYA RELIEF

In April, four of us from Columbia (Barbara, myself, Elsie, and Sandy) went to Kenya for a Mobility Cart distribution. We worked with the Kenya Relief organization and had the wonderful help of two faculty and five physical therapy students from Alabama, as well as two women from Arkansas. We distributed 180 carts over two days in the western village of Migori. The picture shows how some people got their carts home. These carts are so important to the recipients that they came from as far away as 500 miles to receive them; people came from Uganda and Tanzania; even the First Lady of Kenya, Margaret Kenyatta, was there to highlight this event. People are willing to put in a lot of effort due to the hope and the joy of being lifted off the ground. All of you volunteers & donors at Mobility Worldwide MO - Columbia make things like this possible.



**- JEFF MORAN**

# MA CHAW VOLUNTEERS USING HER CART

**SHE BEGAN TO SHOW SYMPTOMS OF POLIO AT 20 MONTHS OLD.**

Report: July 16 2018: "Dear Von, How are you? I hope everything is going well with you."

I would like to give you an update about the wheelchair mission that we had on July 7th and 8th in Htantabin, Burma. We gave out 15 adult wheelchairs. The recipients were very happy to receive the wheelchairs and they emphasized how useful they will be. We plan to do another mission after rainy season.....

Thank you very much for your wonderful support! Kind Regards, Kabaw Wah | Project Officer, Burma Children Medical Fund"



Packed carts in background.

Report: July 30, 2018: "How are you? **With the amount of requests coming in after our last mission in Yangon, we will be needing more of your wheelchairs.** However, we will have to be looking for sponsor for shipping from USA to Thailand....



Your Mobility Carts are big hit in Burma....Again thanks for all your help, Kanchana Thornton, Director

Ma Chaw Su Hlaing is 38-year-old who lives in Hlaing Thar Yar Township, A Hlel Ywar Village, Yangon Division in Myanmar. **When she was one year and eight months old she began to show symptoms of polio and then lost the ability to walk soon after.** She is a costume designer and also teaches costume design. She is a volunteer with the Myanmar Independent Living Initiative (MILI).

"I work as a volunteer in MILI because the improvement of life for people with disability in Myanmar is needed. Especially education, health, finances and transportation - all still have barriers for people with disability. Our country got democracy a few years ago but nothing has changed. The improvement of quality of life for people with disability is very needed. And that's why we try to suggest, demand, and discuss the right of disability person to policy makers in parliament. For example, disability person with wheelchair have difficulty to get in the bus. If bus driver sees a person in wheelchair, they do not want to pick them up. Our members feel discrimination from others. I think that every person in Myanmar should get the same rights. The government should organize transportation for people with disability. I join every disability activity and I fight to get equal rights," said Chaw Su Hlaing.

She is very thankful to the donor for the Mobility Cart and said it is like new legs. **"Thank you to the donor for these new legs, I would have never thought that I would get this [Mobility Cart].** This is the first time I receive donation in my life."



# CAN A HUSBAND AND WIFE WORK TOGETHER?

Tom and Joy Young drive in from Auxvasse at 33 miles to assemble carts on Monday. Thank you Tom and Joy for coming to the shop! By the way watch for them on their tandem bicycle on your favorite local trail.

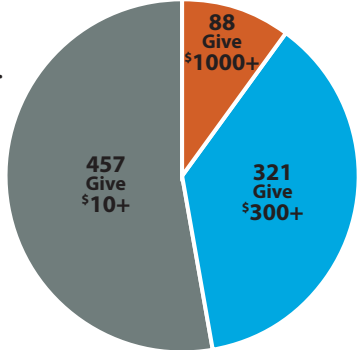
Volunteers Needed: Young or Old (we have 92 years old), male or female (three couples currently), disability (MD, needs to sit on a stool with his cane), hearing impaired, or need many healthy ones to stand at a drill press. We train all tasks. So your time is most needed. We will make you feel fulfilled. Come to the shop and check us out and see how you might fit in. M-F, 8-3 pm.

# WHERE DO ALL THE FUNDS COME FROM?



Many might be amazed that we are averaging 35 carts per week since January 1, 2018. At \$300 each that equates to \$10,500 needed per week. Wow!! Thank the Lord that you, our readers and donors, are generous.

You might also be surprised that the Columbia shop is not benefitted from any grants on a regular basis. International mission grants are much more difficult to secure. We are open to those funds, so if you have a grant writing friend that wants to help, send them our way.



2018 is bringing in many contributions from IRAs Required Minimum Distribution. Marion and I fell into that this year since I turned 70 1/2 years old. If you send your RMD directly to Mobility Worldwide MO-Columbia, you receive great tax advantages; and this local shop can build more than 35 carts per week. We have had regular contributions in 2018. Think about us in a great way.

Legacy Giving is kicking off this year with a Society of about 20 members that have included MW MO-Columbia in their wills or trusts. That is a long term gift that will give after you are gone.

The month of December brings in about one fifth of our needs each year. We are participating in the CoMOGives campaign again in the Central Missouri area. You will be able to give online in a simple format. Watch for the kickoff to start December 1.



Pull cart for those who cannot crank either.

Usually, we have generous donors that offer a large block of funds as a match for you to support. You have been so generous as you support our match campaigns, and we have been able to make them each time.

Thank you all for supporting us. Our donor pyramid has 88 donors over \$1000 for 58% of donations, 321 donors at \$300 to \$1,000 per year or 32 % of donations, and 457 donors of less than \$300 for 10 % of donations. Where do you fall in our pyramid? Can you give a little more to bring mobility to those greatest in need. Consider stepping up this year. And those crawling on the ground are about to gain the biggest smile you have ever seen.

**- GARY MOREAU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# GIFTS GIVEN LAST QUARTER:

We appreciate all the donors and families who have chosen to Mobility Worldwide to honor or remember someone. These gifts will be put to good use building and shipping mobility to others in need.



## GIFTS GIVEN IN HONOR:

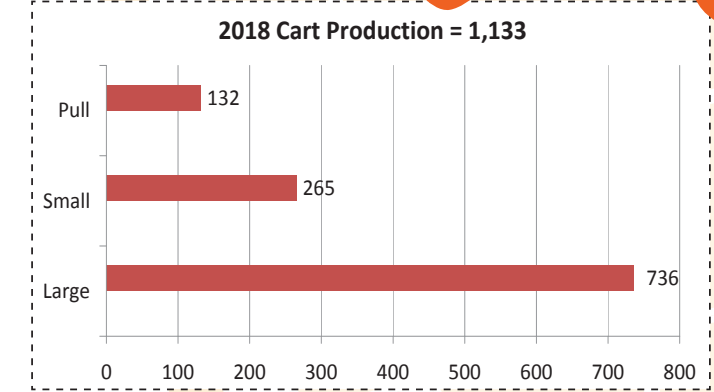
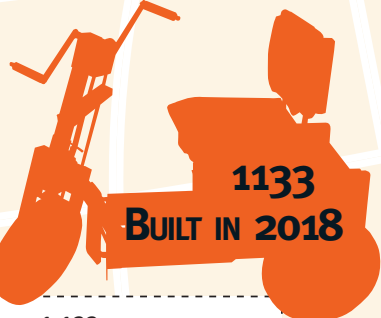
- Jim and Tabby by Judy Roberts
- Ron Brookshire by Harrisburg Baptist Church
- Mary Lou Enslin by Winnie Runge
- Dale Brigham & Jo Turner's Anniversary
- First Wedding Anniversary for & by Roger Hofmeister & Marge Hicks, Carolyn Johnson
- Father and Brother by Barbara Wolf
- Diana & Lloyd Rudloff by Kim Rudloff
- Doris Speckhals by Knights of Columbus
- John Skinner by Barry & Jo Azdell
- Jim Taylor by Elizabeth Vining
- Ryan Vangel by Brooke & Mussa Omar
- Jim and Judy Wall Retirement by Kelly Bender, Matt & Natalie Cleeton, Erica & Kinjal Majumder
- Rashaun Wilson & Sam Fels marriage by Judy Wall
- Mel West by Harold & Patsy Garner
- Mel & Barbara West by David Leuthold
- The West Family by Martin West

## GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY:

- Dorothy Appelgate by Peter & Janet Hermanson, William & Joyce Appelgate, Nancy Uran, Patricia Hoversten, Calvin & Karen Martin, Priscilla Gilbert
- William Appelgate, Kenneth Appelgate, Harold Appelgate by William & Joyce Appelgate
- Delores Denny, Otto Steinhaus, Marilyn Appl & Richard Buechler by Mark & Leigh Kottwitz
- William Bentzen by Bill & Jan Goodson
- Paul Braisted by Anne Braisted
- Dick Brashler by Gladys Campbell
- Umbra Duffy by Gene & Dana Harris
- Gilbert C. Felling by Mark Felling
- Tom Forney by Joe & Pat Powell
- Howard Fox by Shirley Ryan
- Charles Fulhage by Jane Fulhage
- Rev. Kenneth Hughes by Dorothy Dale Hughes
- Diane Kneeland by Mary Russell
- Roland Meinert by Shirley Meinert
- Patricia Welsh by Thomas Watkins
- Carol Sechler by Joyce Anderson
- Barbara Schreiner by Donna Wagner

- Don and Wanda Smith by Cheri & Dan Erdel
- Sid Powell by Mary McGavock, Mary Ann Semon, Dan & Linda Vinson, Karla & Donald Haddock, David & Donna Wrenn, Nancy Schultz, William & Roslyn Boston, Luis and Kathleen Occena, Claudia Rackers, Mark & Elizabeth Simones, Barbara Spencer, Coy & Martha Again
- Otto Steinhaus by LaVonne Patterson
- Dorothy Weimer and deceased workers of Share and Care by Liz Meinhardt
- Moine West by Gladys Campbell
- Madeline Wilcox by Larry Wilcox
- Harold Wilson by Donna Wilson
- Jim Zajicek, Jr. by Jim Zajicek

**"A DIAMOND IS A PIECE OF COAL THAT STUCK TO THE JOB"**  
- MICHEL LARSON



## MOBILITY CART DONATION SLIP

Yes! I want to give the GIFT OF MOBILITY to a person whose legs do not function.

My check is enclosed for:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ carts at \$300.00 each.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ carts sent to Kenya at \$55 each for extra shipping expense.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **Mobility Worldwide MO-Columbia** and mail to: 1908 Heriford Road, Columbia, MO 65202  
Tel: 573-886-7877

# CONTACT Us

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