



CANADIAN
FOUNDATION **WHEELCHAIR**
FONDATION CHAISE ROULANTE CANADA
Global Wheelchair Program Partner

NEWSLETTER UPDATE
October 2013

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS



ROTARY DISTRICTS 5370 & 5790

What did 20 people between the ages of 13 and 83, from Alberta and Texas, with different ideas, personalities and expectations have in common while travelling together in the Dominican Republic?

The answer is both simple and astonishing. They shared the humbling experience of being invited into homes to give the beautiful gift of mobility. Their aim was to deliver new wheelchairs to those who lacked the means to obtain one, knowing that each wheelchair held the capacity to positively affect the lives of 10 people.

In February, 2013, Rotarians and family members traveled over 1000 km throughout the Dominican Republic on a trip that would leave an indelible mark on their lives and hearts. In over 75 homes together with local Rotarians they willingly lent their hands, lifting small children into new chairs, hugging their mothers, adjusting footrests, shaking hands with proud husbands and fathers. Everyone quickly came to realize that this program changes the outlook on life for all the individuals involved.

Providing mobility by delivering a wheelchair may seem simple, yet all who participate are amazed at the extent of its impact on so many levels. A child goes to school, a mother has the freedom to tend her garden, and a father can support his family.

Through the *power of partnerships* the Rotary Club of Edmonton Strathcona has led the way in improving the lives of others through the gift of mobility since 2008. With the support of The Rotary Foundation and 15 Rotary clubs in Rotary Districts 5370 and 5790, over 3,200 wheelchairs have been delivered in countries around the globe that include Mexico, Panama and Indonesia.

Through these projects Rotarians from sponsor clubs have gained expertise and resources by working with other Rotarians and clubs in their own and other districts. Rotarians in host countries have had the opportunity to learn about the purpose of Rotary International. The synergistic power of working together, sharing skills and elevating the achievement potential has strengthened local communities.

"Together we are making the world a better place, transforming lives, one project, one program, one wheelchair at a time. And in the end we transform ourselves..."



Thank you to the dedicated Rotarians for all they have done and continue to do to deliver mobility into the lives of others!

Transforming lives through mobility

WHEELCHAIRS DELIVERED

and Committed to Date

Afghanistan	1,750
American Samoa	240
Antigua	280
Argentina	280
Belize	110
Bolivia	80
Canada	788
Chile	940
China	387
Colombia	840
Costa Rica	130
Cuba	950
Dominican Republic	1,230
Ecuador	560
El Salvador	1,400
Ethiopia	540
Fiji	140
Haiti	210
Indonesia	430
Iraq	280
Jamaica	280
Kenya	560
Lithuania	560
Mexico	11,420
Nepal	540
Panama	2,240
Peru	340
Philippines	950
Puerto Rico	110
Russia	283
Rwanda	290
Sierra Leone	670
South Africa	950
Sri Lanka	280
Tajikistan	240
Ukraine	280
USA	110
Venezuela	280
Vietnam	950
Zambia	560

TOTAL TO DATE: 33,458



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