



CONNECTING GLOBAL COMMUNITIES



The Rotary Club of
Campbell River
Daybreak

In January, 2014 in the South African region of Zululand many lives were touched in a wonderful way. A group of Rotarians with their partners from Canada and the UK had travelled to the province of KwaZulu-Nata with the purpose of providing the gift of mobility. Their goal, to deliver 280 wheelchairs sponsored by the Rotary clubs and community of Campbell River to those who needed them but lacked the access or resources to obtain one.

In the town of Gobandlovu the group was introduced to Doris Mthembu, a mother who had been paraplegic all her life. She was thrilled with her new mobility, and once seated in the wheelchair she was delighted to have a lap on which to cuddle her toddler Akhona. **The unexpected joy at being able to make eye contact with others instead of having people tower over her while lying or sitting on the floor brought her dignity and renewed hope for the future**

Traveling inland for 150 miles to the Macekane district, the team met a young man of 25 who lacked mobility as a result of birth trauma. Sibonelo Ndwandwe's anticipation was palpable as he watched the Ferrari red wheelchair being unloaded from its cardboard shipping carton. Eventually no longer able to contain himself, Sibonelo used his upper body strength to clamber across the few dusty meters separating him from his wheels and climbed into his chariot. The happiness – the independence – mobility at last – what sheer delight! Not even the searing Zululand heat could detract from the group's pleasure of witnessing this young man's appreciation.

The Rotarians and their companions would eventually travel 2,000 kms to deliver the container of wheelchairs so generously provided by their community over 16,000 kms away. The trip would take them to Gauteng, Durban, Richards Bay, Empangeni and finally Cape Town. For all those who took part, the true measurement was not in miles but instead in lives touched.

"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	1750
American Samoa	240
Antigua	280
Argentina	280
Belize	220
Bolivia	80
Canada	788
Chile	940
China	387
Colombia	840
Costa Rica	262
Cuba	950
Dominican Republic	1230
Ecuador	560
El Salvador	1400
Ethiopia	540
Fiji	140
Haiti	210
Indonesia	430
Iraq	280
Jamaica	280
Kenya	560
Lithuania	560
Mexico	11790
Nepal	540
Panama	2240
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:	34070



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