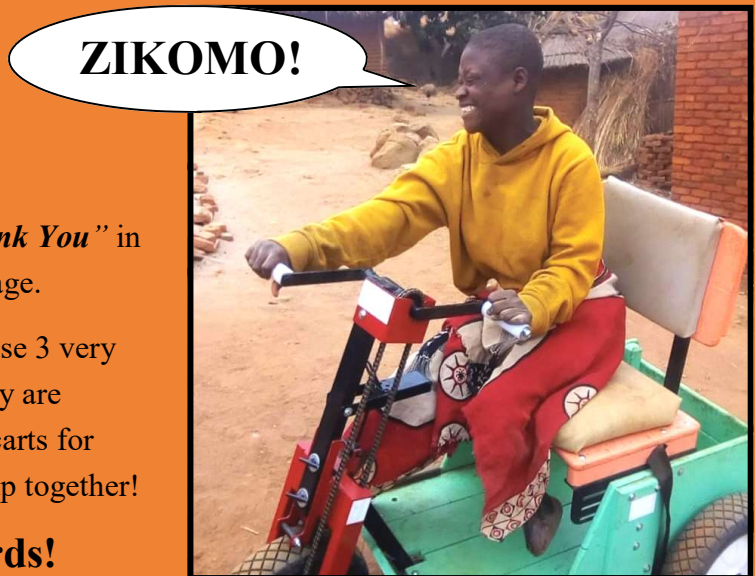


WINTER 2023



Mobility Ministries, Inc.

A Ministry to the World . . . from Northwest Indiana



“*Zikomo*” is the excited expression of “*Thank You*” in the Chichewa language, Malawi’s heart language.

Turn to pages 2 and 3 to read more about these 3 very thrilled people — they want YOU to know they are grateful to YOU for providing these mobility carts for them. It is *Mobility* and *Dignity* all wrapped up together!

Life-changing!— beyond words!

“Zikomo” says Yobu Tchaiford *(continued from page 1)*

Every year in Malawi the start of the school year coincides with the beginning of the rainy season; heavy and constant rains come down in torrents for hours! The mud makes it unbearable for those who must crawl on the ground everywhere they wish to go, and 14 year old **Yobu Tchaiford** is just too large and too old to be carried everywhere. His only option for his future is to find a way to get an education and yet, that is quite difficult because school is many kilometers away. Sometimes his family has just a bit of money to put Yobu on the back of a ‘bicycle taxi’ to get to school for a day, but most days the money is simply not there—food for the family must come first!



Several months ago Yobu did make it to school, but when he arrived the school’s headmaster called him to the office. There he found his mother, the head teacher, and a community leader standing nearby. He was called over, and to his surprise, presented with a brand-new mobility unit. This unit allows Yobu to get to school on his own, without the family sacrificing food money!

Yobu’s Life Changed!— beyond words!

“Zikomo” says Lucy Debe *(continued from page 1)*

Mangochi lies at the southern end of Lake Malawi; it is a major crossroads for travel in Malawi. The city’s population is well over 50,000 people. But just because one lives in a location where roadways are an important part of city life, does not make mobility available for everyone.

Lucy Debe suffers from epilepsy. Lucy was born in 2001 and as she developed, her left leg stayed smaller than her right one. Then she developed epilepsy and in her early teen years, Lucy suffered seizures, some of which resulted in burns she acquired from falling into cooking fires; proper and immediate medical care was unavailable for her and her family. Also, as in many African nations, there is a belief that epilepsy is associated with evil spirits, and people suffering from this disease are often ostracized along with their families. Then the *Center for Disability* became aware of Lucy; they contacted *Action for Progress* and arranged for *AfP* to fit out a Mobility Unit for Lucy!



“She can peddle wherever she wants or needs to go,” said Lucy’s mother. “***Action for Progress* has placed a shelter of love over us.**” It is not hard to see what happiness looks like when one sees the excitement on the face of young Lucy while peddling her mobility unit.

Lucy’s Life Changed!— beyond words!

***Our Mission Statement:* To reflect the love of Jesus Christ by bringing MOBILITY and DIGNITY to those in emerging countries who are unable to walk.**

“Zikomo” says Joseph Patrick *(continued from page 1)*

It was nearly time for the annual heavy rainy season to turn the ground into a mud surface. For Joseph this had always been a bad time. The dust of the dry season had its drawbacks for a person that crawled on the ground, but it was the mud of the rainy season that made his movement nearly impossible—both physically and mentally.

Joseph Patrick is 25 years old and for his entire life his feet had provided him with no mobility. He used his hands and arms to pull himself along, dragging his legs behind. Unfortunately he was unable to finish his high school education; he couldn't afford to get any mobility assistance device; and his lack of mobility stymied everything. He was at a dead end. His goal of becoming self-sufficient and supporting himself in life seemed totally out of his reach—merely a wishful dream.

Then *Action for Progress* learned of his plight. *AfP* delivered a brand-new orange, blue and yellow mobility unit to Joseph—and it was given to him FREE! *Afp* configured it to perfectly fit his body. Joseph climbed onto the seat and began to move about. It was a miracle! Now he could finish his schooling on the side, and visit the grocery wholesaler in person to handle purchases for the small grocery shop he opened up to support himself. His world is expanding and with the added convenience of movement and more time, he will be able to attend local soccer games, church services, and other community activities. According to the village chief, Joseph wants to give his support to the village development agency. The doors of opportunity have been flung open for Patrick and he is now able to take full advantage of this. His life moved from doors closed to opportunity, to doors wide open to many possibilities for life activities he never was able to do . . . all because of a mobility unit. The insurmountable obstacle of immobility is gone!

Joseph's guardian expressed his delight about Joseph's new situation: “Joseph is hard working. My family buys our groceries from his shop. He is an example for disabled people that disability does not limit a person to inability. In our village he is like a torch that you can see from afar. Everyone knows him and no one can fail to see him. He has **Mobility** and **Dignity!**”

Joseph's Life Changed!— beyond words!



Cindy Westerhoff is Enjoying the Colors of Heaven!

Cindy was part of the Mobility family since 2015. She began working at our Shop as “The Bottle Cleaning Lady.” When people would donate used milk bottles and pop bottles, they often needed cleaning. First, Cindy graciously did this task with thousands of bottles. Secondly, when there was an opening in the painting department she gladly joined that crew on Tuesday mornings.

Thirdly, her Lord transferred her to her final task on September 10, 2023 when Cindy entered her heavenly home—(she won't be transferred again). In spite of the sadness we feel at her passing, there is a deeper joy in the thought of her running into the arms of her Lord Jesus with her big smile and her catchy little chuckle. She is enjoying the Miracle of Eternal Life with Jesus, in a body made totally new with no more medical issues! She served Jesus at Mobility Ministries, now she serves Him face to face—forever!



Cindy Westerhoff

Malawi's News Outlets are Spreading the Word about Our Mobility Carts



In March of this year the longest-running and strongest cyclone to ever strike Malawi took a devastating toll on the residents of the southeast portion of the nation. Malawi was already suffering painful devastation from a shortage of readily available assistance, intense poverty, and widespread disease before the storm arrived. With little or no resources in reserve, the nation struggled for six months with the after-effects of the storm.

The *Malawi Project*, with its sister organization, *Action for Progress*, continued to provide essential aid to the affected area, even after most organizations ended their aid programs. *The Daily Times*, a major news organization in Malawi, and the *Zodiac Broadcasting Service*, another news leader in Malawi, carried reports that confirmed *AfP* was continuing to provide assistance, and highlighted the recent *AfP* activity in the Zomba area with its distribution of 50 mobility units, many canes, and many crutches. These items are valued at 11 million Kwacha, the local currency [approx. \$5,600]. During the distribution local government leaders gathered and Deus Gumba, a member of the Malawi Parliament, acknowledged his gratitude, and noted that the disability assistive devices “*will transform many lives.*”

It costs about **\$400** to build and ship each Mobility vehicle!

NGO eases mobility challenges in Zomba

By Jarson Malowa

Thirty five people who were facing mobility challenges in Zomba’s Namasalima area will now have easy access to their schools, businesses, and working areas after *Action for Progress* came to their rescue.

The organization has donated many wheelchairs [carts] and many crutches, a move the organization’s executive director Wilson Isaac Tembo said is aimed at removing barriers to development.

Tembo said the items are worth K10 million [\$5600]. “We would like to make sure that they have easy access to learning places, businesses, and working places,” Tembo said, as the vehicles were distributed.



READY TO GO— People use their newfound wheelchairs— Pictures by Jarson Malowa



YASSIN— This will ease challenges they face

In his remarks the Malawi Council for the Handicapped Rehabilitation Officer for Zomba District Council, Charles Yassin, said the donation will motivate people with physical impairments to contribute to national development efforts.

“People with disabilities would want to take part in

development activities but their impairments make this impossible. Therefore, the coming in of these tricycles and the crutches will ease the challenges they face,” he said.

The Village Group Chitimbe, who is under Traditional Authority Kuntumanji in Zomba District, hailed the help of

[non-government charities] who are complementing the government’s efforts in making the lives of people with disability easier.

She, however, said many more people from the area look down on people with disabilities, a view which she said, derails development in Zomba.

[This incredible scene in Malawi](#), is only made possible when our **Supporters** provide financial support of **\$175,000** each year so our **Volunteers** can provide the gift of **Mobility** and **Dignity** to [hundreds](#) of individuals! Will you help? You are making a difference!



**Container #12
to Malawi**

Wheatfield, IN — On November 14 after loading this 40 ft. Container, our volunteers watched the truck drive off with 230 boxed mobility carts, 47 pairs of crutches, and several hundred *Days For Girls* kits. It was a beautiful, sunny 54 degree day and the packing went extremely well. Everyone present gathered for prayer for the container’s safe travel by trucks, trains, and ships. Prayers were also expressed for the many people whose lives would be filled with joy when they received their carts and their very own Chichewa Bible—for each it will be a life changing experience, physically and spiritually. This is only possible because of faithful volunteers, parts suppliers, and supporters like you! We are truly blessed to partner with so many people who love the Lord and want to share that love with their “neighbors.”



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