

ANNUAL REPORT | 2022

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH THE GIFT OF MOBILITY®



**FREE
WHEELCHAIR
MISSION**





"God often brings to mind scenes from my trips over the years of distributing wheelchairs. I remember beautiful, beaming faces of men, women, and children. As they come to mind, I take that time to pray for them."

"So, although I don't 'hear' God often, I trust that his silence and these images are telling me that we are on the right track."

Don Schoendorfer
Founder & President,
Free Wheelchair Mission

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A Letter From Our Founder & President and Our CEO

Dear friends,

In 2022, thanks to your continued prayers and support, Free Wheelchair Mission entered our third decade since our founding. It has certainly been an eventful year. When the war in Ukraine broke out in February, you responded by helping us send urgent medical supplies along with 1,176 wheelchairs in partnership with Invacare Europe.

You sent 50,160 wheelchairs to people living with disabilities in 29 countries throughout 2022, and since 2001, your generosity has sent a total of 1,334,828 wheelchairs to 94 countries worldwide.* Each one of these wheelchairs represents lives transformed: of individual wheelchair users as well as of their caregivers, families, and communities.

We resumed international travel, with long-awaited visits to our partners in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Asia. Our manufacturing team also visited Krypton, our new, second wheelchair manufacturer in India, that will help to alleviate supply-chain issues.

This year has not been without its difficulties, however. High shipping costs have not returned to pre-pandemic levels. Inflation has affected spending as well as charitable giving. To meet these economic challenges, we have been actively seeking new revenue channels. In 2022, we launched Mobilize, our new automated monthly giving program. Monthly donations provide stability and sustain the progress of our mission, with lower administrative costs that extend the impact of your gifts.

We have been expanding our communications on digital platforms in order to increase awareness of our mission. In 2022, we expanded to new social media channels, with one of our videos going viral and being seen by over a quarter of a million viewers.

Free Wheelchair Mission has also seen more press coverage and a growing media presence with the new *Miracle Wheels* book, podcasts, television programs, and more.

These efforts to streamline our organization are being done to maximize your impact and ship as many wheelchairs to as many people as possible, for years to come.

We could not do what we do without you. Thank you for being a partner with us in this mission. Together, we can continue to provide wheelchairs to the estimated 75 million individuals worldwide who are still waiting to receive one.

With gratitude,



Don Schoendorfer
Founder & President



Nuka Solomon
Chief Executive Officer

*Statistics reflect data from Fiscal Year 2022: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.



Who We Are

Free Wheelchair Mission is the world's largest nonprofit manufacturer of cost-efficient, durable wheelchairs designed for the developing world.

Since 2001, we have distributed more than 1.3 million wheelchairs to individuals living with disabilities in 94 countries, providing renewed dignity, independence, and hope through the gift of mobility.



What We Do

We design and manufacture wheelchairs that are shipped by ocean container to our worldwide network of distribution partners, whom we also train in wheelchair provision, assembly, maintenance, and use.

By collaborating with like-minded partners across the globe, we provide mobility to people living with disabilities in under-resourced countries — all at no cost to the recipient.

Whenever possible, our partners help us let wheelchair recipients know that they are loved by God and are receiving their new wheelchair because of Him.



The Need

The World Health Organization estimates that 75 million people in the world need a wheelchair. Without mobility, people living with disabilities in developing countries are often left confined to their beds or homes, hindering opportunities to pursue an education, make a living, or participate in community. A new wheelchair would offer them countless new possibilities.

Our Mission

To provide the transforming gift of mobility to people with disabilities living in developing nations, as motivated by Jesus Christ.

Our Vision

We believe in a world where everyone who needs a wheelchair has one.



Board of Directors

Dan Hanson**
Executive Director Distributed Retail, loanDepot

Mark Hedstrom**
Treasurer
Retired, CFO and COO, Colony Capital, Inc.

Debbie Hendry**
Retired, Operations Executive

David Hummelberg**
Vice Chairman
Retired, COO and CFO, North American Distribution, Capital Group

Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie, Ph.D.**
International Disability Rights Advocate and Policy Analyst

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President, Institutional Consulting Services, Beacon Pointe Advisors

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Founder and President

Susan Shore, P.T., Ph.D.**
Secretary
Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Therapy, Azusa Pacific University

Marjorie Turner, J.D.*
Retired, Senior Counsel, The Boeing Company

* Served in Fiscal Year 2022.
+ Serving in Fiscal Year 2023.





Nelci, 31 years old, Brazil

Nelci's Story Nelci is a 31-year-old woman from the indigenous Guarani tribe in Brazil. She has been unable to walk since she was seven: she does not know why, but she remembers that the weather was very cold when she suddenly lost the use of her legs.

Nelci and her family live in a tiny, one-room home located in remote Jaguapiru village. She stays home with her two-year-old son while her husband goes out to work as a gardener each day. While she can manage most tasks on her own while inside their small home, Nelci needs assistance to go outside. Her neighbor would often come by to help, and her husband would help whenever he was home, but Nelci yearned for the independence and freedom to leave her cramped, little house on her own.

When she saw the new wheelchair being delivered to her by our CEO, Nuka Solomon, and a team from our local distribution partner, the Rotary Club de Maringá — Parque do Ingá, Nelci got emotional.

“Thank you for coming all this way to bring a new wheelchair,” said Nelci through tears.

Now, Nelci has the freedom to leave the house to run errands in town, meet with friends, or simply go outside with her son for some sunlight and fresh air.

Where We Worked

Free Wheelchair Mission has shipped wheelchairs to 94 countries since 2001. In 2022, we worked in the following countries:*

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

China

Colombia

Costa Rica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Eswatini

Ghana

Guatemala

Haiti

Honduras

India

Jordan

Jamaica

Kenya

Mexico

Nepal

Nicaragua

Pakistan

Paraguay

Philippines

Rwanda

South Africa

Uganda

Ukraine⁺

Vietnam

Yemen



*This list reflects shipping data from Fiscal Year 2022: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

⁺Committed in 2022 and delivered in Fiscal Year 2023.

Our Impact*



50,160 Wheelchairs Distributed
to 29 Countries



98 Containers of Wheelchairs
Shipped



137 Wheelchairs Distributed
Per Day on Average



81% of Wheelchairs Distributed
With a Christian Message



13 Distribution Partners Trained
or Audited in 9 Countries



1,334,828 Wheelchairs Distributed
Since 2001

*Statistics reflect data from Fiscal Year 2022: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

Expanding Our Production Capacity

In 2022, Free Wheelchair Mission accomplished a long-anticipated goal of adding a second factory to produce our wheelchairs.

After a comprehensive search, we have partnered with Krypton at their high-quality production facility in Kolkata, India.

The pandemic not only impacted the production capacity and output at our first factory, but also caused widespread distribution challenges, including skyrocketing shipping fees and delays in getting wheelchairs to our partners. We are excited that our second factory will help us to mitigate these challenges by enhancing the stability and capacity of our wheelchair production.

The first wheelchairs from the new factory came off the production line in 2022. Don Schoendorfer, our founder and president, and Keith Herr, our director of manufacturing, were in India to inspect some of our wheelchairs as they came off the line. Additional units produced by Krypton have since been tested on our wheelchair test track at Free Wheelchair Mission headquarters in Irvine, California, and we expect to start distributing wheelchairs from the new factory as soon as 2023.



Hope in the Midst of Tragedy

When natural disasters, pandemics, or wars strike around the world, people living with disabilities in developing countries can be among the most vulnerable. Therefore, when war erupted in Ukraine in early 2022, Free Wheelchair Mission made possible a shipment of urgently needed medical supplies that included surgical supplies, burn dressings, gauze, trauma kits, crutches, tourniquets, and more. Then, through our longstanding partnership with Invacare Europe, we sent 1,176 Invacare Action 1R wheelchairs to those in need of mobility in Ukraine.

These shipments were made possible by the generosity of our partners and donors, including those who gave to our Medical and Mobility Emergency Fund. This fund provides medical supplies and mobility aids to select distribution partners during difficult times, allowing them to offer critical health care services during times of desperate need.

“We are grateful for this opportunity to serve those with disabilities in Ukraine and hope these wheelchairs can provide hope amidst very difficult circumstances.”

Nuka Solomon
Chief Executive Officer, Free Wheelchair Mission



Our Distribution Partners

In 2022, Free Wheelchair Mission distributed 50,160 wheelchairs through our distribution partners, including:*

- Al-Khidmat Foundation
- Buenas Nuevas
- Central American Relief Efforts
- Centre for Employment of Persons with Disabilities (CEPD)
- Children International Philippines
- Christian Aid Ministries Nicaragua
- CILSA
- Do It Foundation
- Faith in Practice
- Father's Heart Mobility Ministry
- Food for the Hungry Rwanda
- Food for the Poor Colombia (Order of Malta)
- Food for the Poor El Salvador (FUNHOPO)
- Food for the Poor Guatemala (Order of Malta)
- Food for the Poor Haiti
- Food for the Poor Honduras (CEPUDO)
- Food for the Poor Jamaica
- Fundación Hospital General El Buen Samaritano
- Fundación Vista Para Todos

- FURMEX
- FUSAL
- Giving It Back To Kids
- Help for the Andes Foundation
- Henan Disabled People's Foundation
- Hubei Disabled People's Foundation
- Humanity & Inclusion Nepal
- Jesús Responde
- Junta de Beneficencia de Guayaquil
- Metanoia Missions
- Network 21 South Africa
- Pure Hands
- Rotary Club of Maringá - Parque do Ingá
- Tenwek Hospital
- The Luke Commission
- United Palestinian Appeal
- Urban Mosaic
- Walkabout Foundation Haiti
- Walkabout Foundation Kenya
- World Vision India
- Xinjiang Disabled People's Foundation

*This list reflects partner data from Fiscal Year 2022: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

Extending Our Reach

Since our founding, Free Wheelchair Mission has been able to distribute more than 1.3 million wheelchairs in 94 countries because of the strength of our distribution partners. We have developed and fostered a worldwide network of like-minded organizations that receive the training and ongoing coaching they need to import our wheelchairs, store them, assemble them, and lovingly distribute them to those in need in their communities.

Our network pushed through into new territories in 2022, extending our impact to some of the world's most isolated people living with disabilities. In Brazil, our partners embarked on a series of expeditions to deliver wheelchairs to indigenous communities in remote regions, braving torrential rains and hazardous driving conditions.

“Those wheelchairs changed many lives and helped to change people’s views about disability inclusion in many situations. We saw it clearly with indigenous tribes, where kids were excluded from their community for not being able to walk. After they received the wheelchairs, they were back in community again.”

Renata Krambeck

Rotary Club of Maringá—Parque do Ingá, a distribution partner in Brazil

Special permission is required to serve these indigenous communities, which have had limited interactions with the outside world. Thanks to the unprecedented relationship between local leaders and our distribution partner, the Rotary Club of Maringá—Parque do Ingá, we now have access to these historically underserved communities.





Fraser, 29 years old, Eswatini

Fraser's Story Fraser is a 29-year-old father of two who lives in Eswatini, a landlocked country in the south of Africa. As a young boy, Fraser would spend much of his time playing outside with friends, but he began to feel dizzy and lose his appetite, with his knees growing stiff. Fraser was diagnosed with juvenile arthritis, which caused permanent damage to his joints and left him unable to walk.

To move from place to place, Fraser would have to crawl. His parents would often help, but when he was 19, his mother left Eswatini to work in South Africa and has not returned since. Fraser and his children live with his father, aunts, and cousin. While they are always happy to help, Fraser does his best to live independently and not depend on others.

“I will be able to go anywhere,” declared Fraser. “I am able to do things on my own, independently. I believe this wheelchair will transform my life.”

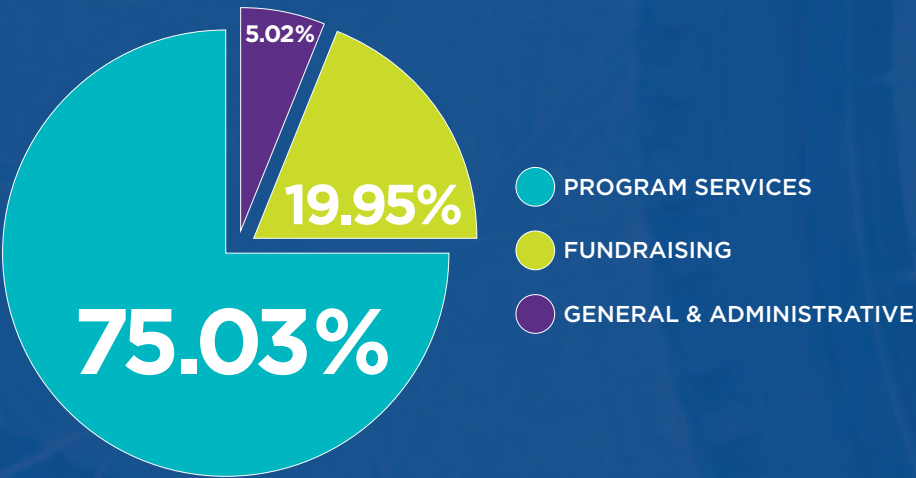
When Fraser received a new GEN_2 wheelchair from The Luke Commission, our local distribution partner, he was elated. “Thank you so much, Free Wheelchair Mission. I am so grateful.” Now, Fraser can take his children to school and to church without having to crawl any longer.

Our Financials*

In 2022, we continued to strive for excellence by maintaining a 75% program ratio as we distributed 50,160 wheelchairs in 29 countries.

We continue to transform lives thanks to the unique partnership we have with our distribution partners and donors like you.

Expense Allocation



Statement of Financial Position			
Assets	2022	2021	2020
Total Current Assets	\$2,582,334	\$2,188,091	\$1,996,418
Other Assets	\$963,066	\$1,092,781	\$961,820
Total Assets	\$3,545,400	\$3,280,872	\$2,958,238
Liabilities	2022	2021	2020
Total Current Liabilities	\$716,580	\$468,462	\$762,464
Deferred Liability	\$259,650	\$315,461	\$239,698
Total Liabilities	\$976,230	\$783,923	\$1,002,162
Net Assets	2022	2021	2020
Unrestricted/Undesignated	\$1,860,349	\$1,577,549	\$1,167,388
Temporarily Restricted	\$708,821	\$919,400	\$788,688
Total Net Assets	\$2,569,170	\$2,496,949	\$1,956,076
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,545,400	\$3,280,872	\$2,958,238

Statement of Activities			
Support & Revenue	2022	2021	2020
Contributions	\$8,990,684	\$7,223,816	\$7,949,367
Gift-in-Kind	\$2,763,573	\$2,341,259	\$1,938,762
Other Revenue	\$135,437	\$418,848	\$59,542
Total Support and Revenue	\$11,889,694	\$9,983,923	\$9,947,671
Expenses	2022	2021	2020
Program Services	\$8,866,985	\$7,060,321	\$7,072,244
General and Administrative	\$593,135	\$449,207	\$564,936
Fundraising	\$2,357,353	\$1,933,522	\$2,045,352
Total Expenses	\$11,817,473	\$9,443,050	\$9,682,532
Net Assets	2022	2021	2020
Change in Net Assets	\$72,221	\$540,873	\$265,139
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$2,496,949	\$1,956,076	\$1,690,937
Net Assets, End of Year	\$2,569,170	\$2,496,949	\$1,956,076

As a result of our financial transparency and accountability efforts, we are proud to receive the highest ratings from the following charity rating organizations:



*Fiscal years reflect July 1st through June 30th of 2022, 2021, and 2020.

Our Supporters

Whether by participating in events such as the Move for Mobility or by giving monthly through Mobilize, supporters including donors, volunteers, ambassadors, businesses, foundations, and churches are providing the life-transforming gift of mobility around the world.

"I truly believe that we are blessed to be a blessing, so I am so thankful Free Wheelchair Mission is a vessel to do that through."

Yony Kifle
CEO, Your DMV Team Realty

"The fact that you can change the trajectory of someone's life for under \$100 is truly remarkable."

Stephen Kim
Associate Principal—Private Equity, Teacher Retirement System of Texas

"From design and manufacturing to distribution via a network of affiliates is truly an accomplishment to be applauded."

Tom Rodberg
President, Eden Outsource

"We are proud to spread the mission of transforming lives through mobility so that even more people can learn about the difference this wonderful organization makes."

Mike Keimig
President and CEO, Markel Surety

"Besides the impact on physical lives with a free wheelchair, the spiritual lives of the recipients are impacted by the friends and partners that deliver the wheelchairs."

Chuck and Barb McLucas



Major Corporate & Foundation Supporters

Our special thanks to these organizations for their significant financial support in 2022. Their generosity helped transform thousands of lives.*

loanDepot

The P & L Odette Charitable Foundation

Downs Energy

Cynthia Lake Charitable Trust

Farmers & Merchants Bank Trust Company

Advisors Mortgage Group

The Logos Charitable Fund

Hager Family Foundation

CapRock Partners

Kellogg Garden Products

MIC Systems & Software, Inc.

Kellogg Supply, Inc.

The Capital Group Companies, Inc.

The Croul Family Foundation

The Thompson Family Foundation

Sorenson Legacy Foundation

Wasily Family Foundation

Donald G. Goodwin Family Foundation, Inc.

Abra Prentice Foundation, Inc.

Marriott Daughters Foundation

Foles Believe Foundation

FOAM-it



*Some unlisted corporate or foundation supporters have requested to remain anonymous.



FreeWheelchairMission.org
Transforming lives through the gift of mobility®