

Season of Giving

Give holiday gifts that transform lives with Free Wheelchair Mission's Season of Giving!

For a donation of \$96 or more, you'll receive a beautiful greeting card, necklace, or bracelet to give someone as a gift—while also providing a brand-new wheelchair to a person with a disability in a developing country.

Each Christmas or holiday greeting card includes a gift code that allows your recipient to choose where their wheelchair will go: Africa, Asia, or Latin America and the Caribbean. Afterward, they'll receive updates about the impact of their gift.

Order greeting cards and jewelry now—or donate \$96 or more—at 800.733.0858 or FreeWheelchairMission.org/SeasonofGiving. eCards are also available for instant delivery.

Wheelchairs are slated to ship to countries including Costa Rica, Eswatini, and Peru. Your generosity will help ensure these shipments arrive in time to bring renewed dignity, independence, freedom, and joy to people this holiday season.

Note: All physical gift orders must be received by December 12 to qualify for standard shipping.



FREE WHEELCHAIR MISSION

FALL 2025 UPDATE



Give Today to Transform Lives



FreeWheelchairMission.org/donate

Access 24 hours a day for easy one-time or monthly giving.



Please send checks to:

Free Wheelchair Mission
15279 Alton Parkway, Suite 300
Irvine, California 92618



800.733.0858

Call Monday to Friday
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM PT

NEW PATHS IN ETHIOPIA

In January, I traveled to Ethiopia to visit Agape Mobility, an organization that became a Free Wheelchair Mission distribution partner in 2022. My goal was to spend time with their leadership, discuss growth opportunities for our partnership, explore the potential for vision trips where supporters can witness wheelchair distributions firsthand, and gather stories and video to share at this year's Miracle of Mobility events.

But the trip became more than I expected—it revealed the unmistakable need for wheelchairs. Too often, I saw men, women, and children crawling along the streets or being carried by loved ones. And yet, amid such hardship, I also witnessed remarkable resilience and faith that left a lasting impression.

When someone receives a wheelchair, it is a message that they are not forgotten by God—or by us. Each story, each wheelchair, is a testament to the hope your faithful generosity makes possible.



Watch the story of Dawit (photo below) MobilityVideos.org

Want to leave a lasting impact? Consider these options:



Give monthly through Mobilize
FreeWheelchairMission.org/mobilize

Leave a Legacy Gift
FreeWheelchairMission.org/legacy



FreeWheelchairMission.org
Transforming lives through the gift of mobility®



DISABILITY IN ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia, home to more than 118 million people,¹ is known for its ancient culture and strong faith traditions. Most of the population lives in rural areas,² where access to healthcare and mobility aids is often limited.

An estimated two million Ethiopians live with mobility disabilities and need wheelchairs.³ Without mobility, they are often left to crawl, depend on others for everyday tasks, or live in isolation. Their disabilities may be present from birth or result from polio, cerebral palsy, accidents, or diabetes. Sadly, those who live with disabilities are often viewed as cursed, bringing stigma on their families.

The need is immense—but so is the opportunity to restore dignity, independence, freedom, and joy through the gift of mobility.

Since 2022, Free Wheelchair Mission has partnered with Agape Mobility Ethiopia, a nonprofit organization based in the capital city of Addis Ababa. Founded in 2011 by Saba T. Marcos (photo below), an Ethiopian polio survivor,

FROM HESITATION TO JOY

Saba Marcos (top) and Melate Bekele (bottom right) share in the joy that mobility has brought nine-year-old Absalat (bottom left).



Agape Mobility works with both secular and faith-based groups to deliver wheelchairs while sharing a Christian message of hope. Over the years, the organization has distributed thousands of wheelchairs, including more than 5,000 from Free Wheelchair Mission.

Agape Mobility is poised to become one of our strongest partners, bringing together a cohesive and highly motivated team with a clear vision to meet the vast needs of people with disabilities in Ethiopia. Their office was once Saba's home and now serves as a hub for this important work. The property can store up to two containers of wheelchairs—about 1,000 units—and, with an additional rented warehouse, they have expanded their capacity to distribute wheelchairs throughout Ethiopia.

During my trip, I witnessed firsthand the challenges of Ethiopia's infrastructure. As a developing country undergoing rapid growth, many roads remain broken, unpaved, or rocky, even as new paved roads are being built. The rugged terrain highlights the importance of wheelchairs built to withstand these kinds of conditions.

Our team was joined by Melate Bekele (photo at left), a member of our staff whose family is from Ethiopia, where she happened to be vacationing. "For the past six and a half years, I've dreamed of distributing wheelchairs in my homeland," Melate shared. "From the moment we arrived, I was reminded why this work is so important. Meeting recipients, hearing their stories, and witnessing the joy and dignity a wheelchair brings was deeply moving."

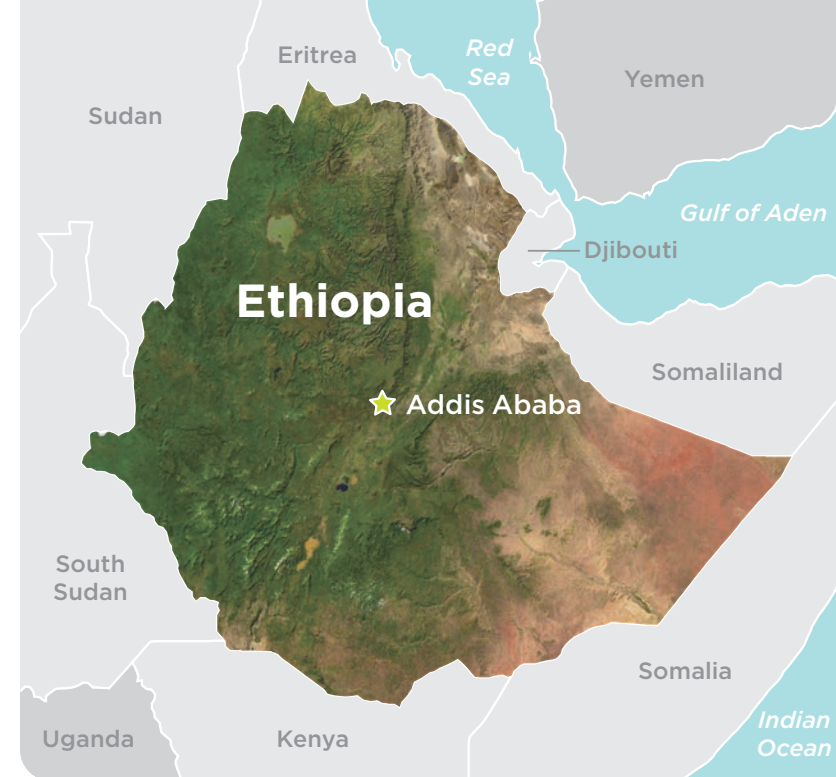
FREEDOM TO MOVE

When Absalat (photo at left) and her twin brother were born nine years ago, she experienced complications that he did not. Her parents didn't realize the lasting effects until, at 20 months old, they noticed a stark difference: her brother had started walking and speaking, while Absalat did not. Doctors diagnosed her with cerebral palsy. About a year later, her

¹ CIA World Factbook—Ethiopia: <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/ethiopia/#people-and-society>

² The Global Economy—Ethiopia: Rural Population, percent: https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/Ethiopia/rural_population_percent

³ UN Ethiopia: <https://ethiopia.un.org/en/286846-international-day-persons-disabilities-marked-call-accelerate-efforts-ensure-disability>



RENEWING DIGNITY AND FREEDOM

In Ethiopia, the difference a new wheelchair makes was impossible to miss.

father abandoned the family, leaving her and her brother in the care of their devoted mother and supportive extended family.

Absalat has never walked and continues to face speech challenges. For years, her mother carried her daily, enduring constant pain and exhaustion, so she could attend school. But as time went by, hope began to fade. They were crushed when, in second grade, the school informed them that Absalat could no longer attend unless she had a wheelchair. Without mobility, Absalat lost her place in the classroom, and she and her mother were overtaken by despair.

Then everything changed. After years of waiting, Absalat finally received a brand-new GEN 3 wheelchair. At first, she was afraid to use it, unsure that her life could be different. But little by little, her hesitation gave way to joy. For the first time, she could move freely—something she had only ever dreamed of. She could now go to school without being carried. She no longer had to be carried to school. She could visit friends on her own and enjoy the music she loves. Her mother watched through tears of joy and relief as the wheelchair brought Absalat not just mobility, but renewed dignity and independence that she hadn't known before. "I want to give thanks to God and to the organization that provided this," said her mother, adding, "My biggest wish is that other children like her also get this chance." With your continued support, we can make that wish come true.

MORE THAN MOBILITY

"The wheelchairs have had a profound impact on our organization and community," said Saba, "showing that with the right support, individuals can lead active, dignified lives and participate more fully in their communities." One of the most important shifts mobility promotes is countering the superstitious belief that people with disabilities are cursed. Saba added, "The mission's reach extends not only to physical well-being but also to spiritual enrichment."

Together, we are paving new paths in Ethiopia: paths of renewed dignity, independence, freedom, and joy. Every wheelchair you help provide is more than a gift of mobility; it is an answer to prayers and a catalyst for transformation in someone's life.

Thank you for standing with us to reach more people, change more stories like Absalat's, and bless those who long for a tangible sense of God's love, all around the world.

With gratitude,



Nuka Hart

Chief Executive Officer
Free Wheelchair Mission