



The Inland North-West Trinity Project
Home of the Rainbow Freedom Cart
15123 N Little Spokane Dr.
Spokane WA 99208

Tri-Kin Trailways



July 2020
Volume XII Number 2



Another Mobility “Cart” Provider

With over an estimated 22,000,000 people in the world who are mobility challenged, we are always on the lookout for other organizations who provide mobility helps similar to ours. Several months ago, Dick Carpenter made contact with one such organization who has specialized in a West-African country where the need is beyond description. Wheel Chairs for Nigeria has built and donated over 18,500 wheelchairs in 28 of Nigeria’s 36 states, mostly to polio survivors. CEO Dr. Ronald Rice says if they could increase production to 10,000 wheelchairs a year, they would only be scratching the surface of their need.

Wheel Chairs for Nigeria and our Inland Northwest Trinity Project have the same goals; to get help to those living in developing countries who have leg mobility issues. As Dr. Rice says, there are so many polio victims, just in Nigeria, the need is far too great. Even though millions of dollars are given each year for polio eradication, little is being done for its victims.

Dr. Rice, a retired Presbyterian pastor, currently lives in Seattle, but graduated from Whitworth college here in Spokane in 1958 and was their first full-time chaplain. He financed his education totally on photography, and even today there are at least 12 of his pictures hanging on the walls of the HUB at Whitworth. He believes Dick Carpenter was the person God used to begin a chain of events which resulted in him initially going to Nigeria to help improve Bible education to millions of Nigerian students. This led to the first of his 28 trips to Nigeria and the start of Wheelchairs for Nigeria (WC4N) in 1998.



WC4N accomplishes their construction and distribution a bit differently than we at Trinity. While we build our Freedom Carts in Spokane and ship them to developing countries, WC4N has set up a shop in the city of Jos Nigeria where they build all of their hand-powered tricycles using Nigerians, several of them polio victims themselves. This eliminates all of the “hassles” we have to overcome with shipping, customs, and distribution once the carts get to their intended country. Besides chairs for the leg disabled, WC4N also ministers to the blind and the deaf. They are just beginning to construct prosthetics for leg amputees. Where there is a need in Nigeria, it seems, WC4N is there. They



have provided typewriters and a complete electrical system with a new generator for a school for the deaf.

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WC4N's web site (www.WheelchairsforNigeria.org) shows pictures of the results of polio on children and adults. Many videos are extremely difficult to watch ~ seeing the results of polio on 100's of people just trying the best they can to get from point A to point B. The need is overwhelming.

WC4N is by far the largest wheelchair ministry in all of Nigeria, a country with a population of about half of the U.S. but 1/10th of the land area of the U.S., making Nigeria's population density about 5 times that of the U.S.

In 1999, Dr. Rice connected with a local polio victim, Ayuba Gufwan who is their on-site partner. Their distribution in Nigeria has been named "Beautiful Gate" taken from Acts 3:2 where a man who had been crippled all of his life was instantly healed by Peter and John. What WC4N provides for those who cannot walk also gives them instant mobility. Paying for materials and labor



Made completely with used bicycle parts



Transportation to the distribution point

in Nigeria costs about \$150 per wheelchair.

Road transportation throughout Nigeria is not safe and Ayuba travels about 50,000 miles per year. Just today, news came that Boko Haran had killed at least 81 people and kidnapped 7 others in the Northeastern state of Borno.

The letter from Dr. Rice ended with this command from Luke 14:12-14: "When you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

A simple way to make a motorized wheelchair

A great invention. Just pull your wheelchair up to the small motorized wheel, lift the front of the wheelchair slightly off the floor and eureka! you now have a motorized wheelchair.

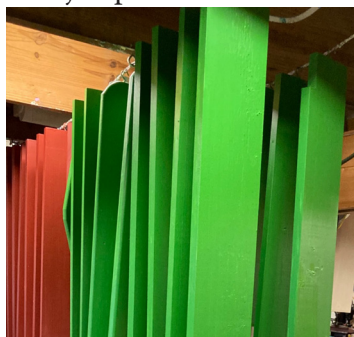


Compassion is language the deaf can hear and the blind can see ~ Mark Twain

Today, give a stranger one of your smiles. It might be the only sunshine he sees all day



Colorful boards for Trinity Carts about ready to be assembled into Carts to be shipped to the leg disabled. Nice job paint crew.



Our Spotlights Volunteer Tri-Kin

Gary Christopher and Dick Carpenter have been friends for over 30 years. Gary, along with Dave Potter (see our April Tri-Kin Trailways) not only cut wood for Trinity Carts, but they also give presentations to clubs and churches to raise funds for Trinity in the Puget Sound Area. Gary was also influential in introducing Dick to World Vision, where our last shipment is headed (see page 6).

Gary was born in North Dakota but moved often each time his Army dad was assigned a new post. Having graduated from Queen Anne High School in 1967, he maintains contact with his school friends through hiking and other social events. Oh, he usually takes Sally (top picture on the right) with him.



Handy with tools? ~ Definitely. In between hiking, birding, time with grand kids (who call him Grampa Gooney), cutting wood for carts, and working with his wife Barb in their immaculate garden, he also builds garden art with Barb. A very proud father; his daughter Lindsay works in one of the labs at Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda Maryland.

One of Gary's favorite past-times is spending time with his 4 grandchildren; here with his oldest at their "coffee time".



New to the Trinity crew: Maddie Harris, our new 11 year old apprentice is field testing a cart she just assembled. She's one who catches on very quickly and is a real winner. Welcome to the shop, we're glad to have you. Yes, her parents have given their permission and appreciate our desire to have her aboard.

Be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, tolerant of the weak, because someday in your life you will be all of these. ~ George Washington Carver

You cannot do a kindness too soon for you never know how soon it will be too late. ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

We got notice that the 2nd of our 3 PET co-founders is now in a much better place. Larry Hills was the missionary in Africa when, walking in tall grass, he almost stepped on a woman crawling on the ground with a baby strapped to her back. His obituary says: Larry farmed in Michigan for 11 years before serving as an agricultural missionary, in both Zambia and Congo, for the United Methodist Church. He retired in 1999 and relocated to Penney Retirement Community in Penney Farms, FL. While in Africa, Larry saw a need for mobility for the disabled. He had a vision to improve their lives by developing a Personal Energy Transportation device (PET) and oversaw the manufacturing, assembly, and distribution of over 11,665 PET units from Penney Retirement Community. Larry would have been 90 on July 14.



John Wesley once said something that one of our founders, Mel West, quite often quotes: “Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.”

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Testimonies from Vietnam

We treasure letters from recipients of our Freedom Carts, so we want to share one we received from several grateful people. It came through John Ditty, Global Hope in Action, and we quote it here as it was written.

On behalf of all the members in Baptist church in Nhon Loc 1A (Phong Dien District, Can Tho city, Vietnam) thank you sincerely to all the pastors, all the donors have helped us and given us a chance to be partner with you in Distributing wheelchair to the disables in Can Tho city last year. Through this work, we have connected with many different committee in local such as, Association of people with disabilities, Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange/dioxin – VAVA, in order to approach the people with disabilities directly, visiting them at home and we distribute the wheelchair for them. And through this work, many people have learnt about God's love and some of the have put their faith in Christ and became member of the local church here.



Mr. VŨ THÁI NGHĨA 38 years old, resident in Trường Long A, Châu Thành Hamlet, Hậu Giang Province “Thank you for the wonderful gift you have been giving. I am so so happy and this wheelchair is precious to me for it will help me a lot in transportation in a daily basis.”



Mr. ĐỖ VĂN CHÂU 71 years old, resident in Trường Long A, Châu Thành Hamlet, hậu Giang Province “I am a veterant, lost my left leg during the war. For many years I have been using crutches to go around but now it's harder for Im getting older. Its such a blessing that you have given me this chair. Im really happy. Thank you Lord and thank you all for your loving heart to us. I pray that God will grant you good health so you can help many others that are in need just like me. Blessings.”



Mrs. TÔ THỊ MÌ 68 years old, resident in Tân Phú Thạnh, Châu Thành A Hamlet, Hậu Giang Province “Thank you very much! I am in the old age, two years ago got mild stroke and my right hand and right foot are really weak. I am selling lottery everyday so I was very happy when I received this wheelchair. It helped me to go around easier, can buy things from the market and have a little place to store the stuff I buy too. Thank you. May God bless you!”

Few words of thanks from Mrs To Thi Mi (above) are one of the statements we have heard many times during our visitations and

distributing the wheelchair. Especially in 2019, we got to be connected with Mr. Hai Than – Hamlet Chief of Kenh Day Hamlet, Truong Long Village, Chau Thanh District, Hau Giang Province. After working together to assemble and distribute the wheelchairs, seeing the way we serve and love people, he has made a statement “Only this belief is the belief of God”. And immediately he led his family to come to Christ. Then slowly 5 people, then 10 more... to come. And now we have his family and other 4 families (20 people from young age to old) believe in Jesus and we have started the small group in his house every Thursday night. We are praying and planning that our church would ask the license from our government to start a church in this area. It's such a big joy for us! Praise God for all the wonderful and amazing things have happened!

The panel at the bottom of this page explains several different ways you can donate to The Trinity Project. There are ways to give funds, leverage your assets, and at the same time save income/estate taxes.

We can't give you financial or tax advice; that needs to come from a professional tax advisor or tax attorney who will help you determine financial consequences of your charitable activities. What we can tell you is that if you have items such as stock, a 401(k), IRA's, or 403(b)s, you are able to donate up to \$100,000 to be transferred directly to the Trinity Project. {Inherited stock falls in another (even better) category.} One thing you do need to keep in mind is that, to avoid taxes, the funds need to be transferred directly from your account to the Trinity Project. Once you personally receive a check, tax is due. Again, different rules apply to different types of investments and timing as to when contributions to the investment were made, so please check with a tax advisor or attorney as you plan your personal charitable giving. There are many tax advantages when you give retirement assets to a qualified charity such as The Trinity Project.



Two additional ways of donating to The Trinity Project are through making a bequest of part, or all, of your estate, and setting up either a revocable living trust or an irrevocable trust (there are advantages and disadvantages to both).

Trinity has also established a Charles Schwab account which is funded for the future (3-5 years) costs for the production and shipping of Trinity carts. To get more specific details about this account, please contact Mike Larson at (509) 998-5517. This is a great way to keep from having to pay capital gains tax, and to reduce your tax liability at the same time.

A new way to give to the Trinity Project: We now have an account with Amazon.com where, when you purchase from Amazon, you can designate a part of their profit to come to us. When you sign in to Amazon, use **smile.amazon.com**. The first time you will be asked which charity you would like to support. Just find "The Inland Northwest Trinity Project", click on it and, as long as you use the "smile.amazon.com" to sign-in, a part of your purchase price goes to help those who cannot walk. There is no added expense to you.

Here are several other ways to make donating to The Trinity Project more convenient.

1) You can send checks, made payable to WCPC (or Whitworth Community Presbyterian Church). Put "Trinity Project" on the memo line, and mail to: 15123 N Little Spokane Dr., Spokane, WA 99208. Please be sure the only thing on the make payable to line is "WCPC".

2) Donate electronically through PayPal (you don't have to have a PayPal account). All you need is either a credit or a debit card. Go to our web-site: **www.nwtrinityproject.org** and click on the word "DONATE". That will take you to the image you see at the right. Just click on the yellow button. We'll gladly send you an official tax receipt (when you request one) when you donate via PayPal.

Tax changes, authorized by Congress last December, include changes which affect federal retirement laws. One provision raises the age when individuals must start making minimum distributions from their individual retirement accounts (IRAs) from 70½ to 72 years of age. The tax law did not, however, alter the giving incentive known as the IRA charitable rollover. Individuals aged 70½ and older may still make tax-free distributions to nonprofits from their IRAs, even if they are not required to make distributions from their IRAs because they have not yet turned 72. The law, as far as giving a non-taxable donation to a qualified charity (such as The Trinity Project), once you reach 70½, remains the same. As we mentioned above, the one requirement you need to be careful of is that your check must go directly from your financial institution to the charity.





A proud owner of a new Trinity Cart. He even has a picture of one of our assembly crews.



One of the thousands of polio victims in Nigeria who desperately needs help with her mobility. (Picture from WC4N video).



Polio has forced him to crawl on the ground all of his life. Now he can transport himself without help.

If you would rather receive your Trinity newsletter by email rather than “snail” mail, please send a note to 18trikin@gmail.com. Right now, the cost is about \$1.50 for each newsletter for printing, supplies to mail, and mailing. OR, if you never read the newsletter and would rather not be bothered, please also let us know. We only want to send information and issues that interest our donors, prayer partners, and volunteers. Your comments about our regular newsletters; (good and bad) are appreciated. Is 8 pages too much, are the stories appropriate, are the articles interesting, is the layout pleasing? Other constructive comments? We would like to hear them.



90 new Freedom Carts headed to World Vision in Seattle on June 12. We'll let you know which country World Vision has them destined for as soon as they let us know. Rumored to be Malawi. But stay tuned.



Final assembly jig and a nearly completed cart.

The new book, “Prius or Pickup”, focuses on ownership. Its authors describe how our ownership of a world view determines how we will function in our culture. This conclusion also applies to our ownership of Trinity and the various aspects of our ministry.

What is OWNERSHIP in Trinity’s mission? In the welding shop, the Paint Barn, the builder’s workspace, and in the various wood working shops, our taking ownership means Tri-Kin bringing their ideas forward to share with their co-workers. Taking ownership tells others — “You can TRUST me to do the right thing”. Being accountable is also about being responsible for the result in the workplace.

We see this frequently in Trinity’s goal of bringing hope and mobility to leg-disabled people in developing countries around the world. Here are some examples:

1. Bushings have to be cut from a long piece of steel and it’s crucial that the cuts be square; otherwise the final piece will not fit on the front fork or the frame. The first idea was to buy a screw-drive, a precision cutting machine, but that proved too expensive. Bob Berndt volunteered to cut them in his own shop if Trinity provided the steel. To date, Bob has perfectly cut 400 bushings for the front fork. Trinity bought the steel but CD’A Metals ships it at their expense directly to Bob in Woodinville. In addition, Peninsula Truck Lines brings Bob’s finished bushings to Spokane without cost. Imagine all of the TRUST embedded in this ownership within our mission.
2. A man came to the Trinity Shop seeking to volunteer as a woodworker. He had the experience and the tools to cut lumber into wood parts. As he shared his background and experience, the idea came to us that he could be the editor of a newsletter, which the project desperately needed but never had. Don Mattocks took ownership of that idea and has published an insightful and informative newsletter for 10 years at about 4 times per year. The TRUST placed in Don has greatly helped the ministry financially and has also educated our financial supporters and prayer partners as to what we do and why we do it free of charge to recipients around the world.
3. Several “small” ideas (but not small in consequence) when added together make a huge difference to the leg-disabled men, women, and children, who receive our Rainbow Freedom Carts. These “small” ideas such as *the spring*, *the drive chain*, and *the braking mechanism* all flowed from our Tri-Kin working together.
 - a. We noticed the spring used on the brake was being distorted in use which causes it to break over time. A new idea from one of our Tri-Kin to cut old rubber hoses into 4” pieces, slide it over the spring and, miraculously, no more bent or broken springs.
 - b. Word came to us from the field, that the chain was working itself loose and slipping thereby causing immobility for the leg-disabled person. One of our Tri-Kin proposed using “sticky tape” inside the pedal post assembly to prevent it from slipping and thus loosening the chain. This idea is “hidden” to the users, but now they don’t need to be concerned about a slipping chain. They can now TRUST their cart to keep them mobile.
 - c. In Sierra Leone, a young man fell when trying to exit his cart. What happened? He was supporting himself on the steering handles which rotated causing him to lose his balance. Idea? How can we here 10,000 miles away stop that from happening? We bought some light weight chain and welded a small hook to the steering brace. The chain is cut to 4-inch lengths and bolted to the brake handle. Now when exiting their Freedom Carts, they hook the chain and there can be no steering handle rotation.

All of these ideas floated to fruition because the Tri-Kin have taken OWNERSHIP of this ministry from the smallest detail to the finished cart. There are many more ideas we can share which represent TRUST the Tri-Kin have in each other developed over 13 years of working together. When you get a chance, ask about “To-Go” Boxes or *heavy spools of banding wire* or *hanging wire in the paint barn*. Curious?

Consider the importance of OWNERSHIP of the cart you will be using if you are a leg-disabled person having to depend on a Rainbow Freedom Cart.



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Freedom Cart Connection – Contact and Newsletter Information



For volunteer opportunities, visits to the Freedom Cart shop, or to request a presentation, please call Dick Carpenter at (509)466-3425 or send him an e-mail at bebold@comcast.net. For address changes or comments about this newsletter, send to 8trikin@gmail.com. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to WCPC-Trinity Project, 15123 Little Spokane Dr., Spokane, WA 99208. Our web-site is: nwtrinityproject.org Please also see the article “Ways you can make a direct impact on the Trinity Project” on page 5. We are on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/trinityfreedomcarts/> where you can give us a thumbs-up.

