

# ROC the World Times

Empowering People Through the Gift of Mobility



*Providing mobility products without regard to political affiliation, religious belief or ethnic identity.  
October 2007*

## KENYA TEAM READY TO GO

*Written by: Andrew Babcock*

The Kenya wheelchair distribution is quickly approaching with much anticipation. We are preparing for the largest wheelchair distribution in our history. The distribution team is composed of renowned therapists, wheelchair fitting specialists, physical therapy students, and handy volunteers that are ready for the hard work that lies ahead. The team will arrive in Nairobi in two groups. The first group will have the massive challenge of unloading the two containers of 400 wheelchairs, assembling them, and sorting every wheelchair for a specific recipient and distribution site. They will be assisted by volunteers from Feed the Children. The second team will arrive two days later and the distribution will begin. The distribution begins at Dagoretti Children's Center in the Kibera Slums in Nairobi. The next three days we will custom fit nearly 200 wheelchairs. On Oct. 26th we will travel to Nakuru for the next two



days of fittings before we depart for Sondu. In Nyabondo we will follow up with some past wheelchair recipients and serve another 42 children. On Oct. 29th we'll travel to Tenwek Hospital to visit children from past distributions and fit another 29 recipients. We will visit some cultural sites and walk up Mt. Motigo. The following day we will visit Kaplong Hospital and distribute the remaining wheelchairs. On Nov. 1st we will rest and enjoy the beauty of the Masai Mara National Reserve during a two day Safari. The Masai Mara is an undisputed paradise due to its quantity and variety of wildlife. It is also renowned for its lions and for the annual great wildebeest migration. After some much needed rest we'll return to Nairobi and shop at the various markets and shops before celebrating our completed mission at the Java House Restaurant where we will enjoy an authentic feast before our return flight to the states. Please keep our team members in your thoughts and prayers. We have been blessed with a dedicated and qualified team!

## MOROCCO ON THE HORIZON

*Written by: Andrew Babcock*

The Morocco Foundation's president Ali Bettahi contacted ROC Wheels requesting a similar distribution to the one performed in Mali last year. Ali Bettahi is excited about this opportunity because, "this mission will bring mobility to hundreds of kids who otherwise rely on their family members everyday on their very basic necessities. The wheelchairs help them be more independent and self-supportive."

The partnership has grown to include the Mobility Project. Their Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Murphy notes, "It is especially exciting for us here at The Mobility Project to work with the ROC Chair to further expand our knowledge of the excellent mobility aids that are offered by other credible organizations such as ROC Wheels." The Mobility Project and ROC Wheels will work side-by-side performing the physical therapy clinics, custom fittings, and sport clinics. The mission is scheduled for March 1st - 12th. ROC Wheels will bring two specialists and four volunteers to join an equal number



from the Mobility Project. Lisa Murphy from the Mobility Project says that, "This mission represents tremendous hope to the many children who will finally receive the gift of mobility. A gift that was made possible by the hard work of the people at ROC Wheels and the Morocco Foundation." Together we will be able to provide an unprecedented amount of services. The Morocco Foundation has ongoing medical missions to the poorest regions to provide medical attention and education. Currently doctors are

documenting future recipients and gathering measurements that we will use to build our inventory. We are projecting a distribution of 200 wheelchairs, including 80 ROC Chairs and 120 refurbished wheelchairs. ROC Wheels is responsible for the cost of 80 ROC Chairs. On the back of this newsletter, there is information on sponsoring one of these wheelchairs. This will be the first time in history that such specialized wheelchairs will be given away in Morocco. ROC Wheels is pleased to join this partnership and change the lives of 200 Moroccans. The Mobility Project will incorporate another special component to the mission, combining sport/activity camps which will allow us to further educate and teach more individual awareness to the disabled to encourage them in what they CAN do. To promote hope, dignity and independence in each individual we touch." Show your support for this mission by adopting a ROC Chair for a waiting child.

## ABOUT US

### MISSION STATEMENT and OBJECTIVES:

The goal of ROC Wheels Inc. is to enable atypical children with minimal to profound physical disabilities to parallel normal development patterns and milestones with early intervention with the right equipment. ROC Wheels Inc., (Reach Out & Care) is a 501 (c)(3) faith-based, nonprofit corporation organized to facilitate the supply of wheelchairs and other mobility devices to disabled individuals within developing countries and to further programs and education that will help reduce barriers to, and enhance mobility for these individuals. ROC Wheels specializes in manufacturing innovative, lightweight, durable, functional and aesthetically pleasing pediatric positioning and mobility systems designed to empower the individual and allow the greatest opportunity for optimal mental and physical development. ROC Wheels performs all these operations without regard to political affiliation, religious beliefs or ethnic identity.

### A MESSAGE FROM ANDREW BABCOCK

Throughout my life I've looked up to leaders who have put the benefit of others before themselves. This last year I met more of these people than ever before. Because ROC Wheels put the children's needs first and foremost before all else, we took a great risk in changing the ROC Chair when many said it was "good enough." Not everyone said that though. Wayne Hanson, Tamara Kittelson-Aldred, David Urband, and others found ways to make the ROC Chair stronger, safer, and more supportive for the children. Everyone at Hope Haven overcame many obstacles to make the changes and keep the ROC Chair affordable. It

was a difficult decision financially for me. Part of me wanted to continue as things have been and continue to strengthen the organization financially. But, what makes ROC unique is our core competency of putting the children before all. The Kenya mission was another example of this. Both of these instances we had an opportunity to take the easy road. But when the Lord gives us an opportunity to lead by following the path he has laid out; we must find it in ourselves to serve, sacrifice, and give of our time and money. Now more than ever the mission of this organization is dependant upon your donations. Please put the children first.

### PARTNERSHIPS FORMING FOR JAMAICA

When one thinks about Jamaica, most often we think of beaches and paradise. But the reality is that Jamaica is a poor country with little to no assistance for the disabled. ROC Wheels has partnered with many organizations in past distributions in Jamaica. It is time again to pull together as many qualified organizations as possible to follow up with wheelchair recipients and to serve the needs of others. We are currently waiting to hear from Ruth Palmer in the Kinston East Port Royal Rotary Club in regards to a Rotary International project partnering together with a US Rotary Club. We are projecting a distribution in late March or early April.



*A smiling face from our last trip to Jamaica*

#### Co-Founders

Wayne and Lee Ann Hanson

#### Board of Directors

Wayne Hanson  
Dave Urband  
Art Koenes  
Mark Eichinger-Wiese  
Jes Hansen  
Chrisy Sofianek

#### Staff

*Executive Director*  
Andrew Babcock  
*Associate Director*  
Rick Dendinger

#### Advisory Committee

LeeAnn Hanson  
Stephen Sanford  
Mark Richard  
Brad Wright  
Mark Wellman  
Catherine Mulholland  
Gregor Horacek  
Jody Rich  
Lonny Davis  
Tamara Kittelson-Aldred  
Bill Wright

ROC Wheels, Inc.  
4135 Valley Commons  
Drive, Suite D  
Bozeman, MT 59718  
Ph: 406-556-8065  
Fax: 406-556-8197



*Andrew Babcock in Arequipa, Peru*

# ROC THE WORLD TOUR LOCAL YOUTH– SPEC OF HOPE

The event began with the laughter of children working together to make gifts for wheelchair recipients on the other side of the world. Smiles and laughter spread as the creativity of the children fueled the excitement that soon spread to everyone in the room. The ROC the World Tour event was a family friendly evening to spread awareness, understanding, and support for those with developmental disabilities both here in the US and abroad. The financial goal of the event was to raise funds to cover the remainder of the Kenya budget and upcoming San Carlos Mexico distribution. The event raised \$7,350 that will be directed towards Kenya. We are still **short \$4,980**. The event also gathered children from our local Kids ROC program at Emily Dickinson School. Principal Robbye Hamburg, “In today’s world, the meaningful engagement of students in school is key to their success in life. Altruism is a great way to engage students. When our fifth graders participate in the Kids ROC program to

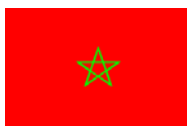


get wheelchairs to students around the world, they go outside of themselves and think of others. Perhaps this is one of the best skills we can teach the students of the twenty first century.” Lee Ann Hanson co-founder of ROC Wheels and director of Kids ROC, “I am extremely excited because Kids ROC is a dream coming true. It’s all about kids helping kids. I want to thank the Gilhousen Foundation for donating the seed money to get this all started. We have an amazing resource of energy and creativity and love in our youth.” Linda Wolfe, Teacher of fifth grade class at Emily Dickinson Elementary School, “Our involvement with Kids ROC has ignited my fifth grade class’s enthusiasm to personally reach out and care for the needs of children in developing countries.” Each fifth grade class is raising funds to adopt a ROC Chair for a child in Kenya. You can help by donating towards the Kenya mission.

Special thanks to the local lead supporters of the event: Greater Northern Physical Therapy, Schnee’s, Intermountain Mortgage, Jenny Dawson/Josh Palmer (The Ridge), Bozeman Deaconess, Insty Prints, and Flying Horse Communications

## WHEELCHAIR DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE

### MOROCCO, AFRICA



**March 1st - 12th 2008**  
**6 ROC Staff & Volunteers**  
**80 Adaptable ROC Chairs**  
**120 Various Refurbished Wheelchairs**

#### Partners

The Morocco Foundation, Ali Bettahi  
 The Association of Moroccan Professionals in America (AMPE)  
 L’Association Marocaine des Handicapés et de l’Enfance Démunie, Led by Ann Kim  
 The Mobility Project, Lisa Murphy

#### Distribution Sights

Southern Morocco, Casablanca and Alaayoune

#### Costs:

80 ROC Chairs	\$ 24,000
100 Refurbished Wheelchairs	Sponsored
Shipping and Trucking	<u>Sponsored</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>
Funds raised to-date	<b>\$ 12,000</b>
<b>Support Needed</b>	<b>\$ 12,000</b>

### SAN CARLOS, MEXICO



**January 2008**  
**24 U.S. Team Members**  
**10 Adaptable ROC Chairs**  
**40 Refurbished Wheelchairs**

#### Partners

Rocky Mountain Ministries  
 San Carlos Community Church  
 Hope Haven International Ministries

#### Distribution Sights

Guaymas and rural areas

#### Other Trip Objectives

Medical and Eyeglass Clinic

#### Costs:

Shipping	\$ 1,000
10 ROC Chairs	3,000
40 Refurbished Chairs	<u>3,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,000</b>
Funds raised to-date	- 0 -
<b>Support Needed</b>	<b>\$ 7,000</b>

**THE IRAQ SHIPMENT ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD THIS MONTH!**

# GIVE THE GIFT OF MOBILITY TODAY AND CHANGE A LIFE

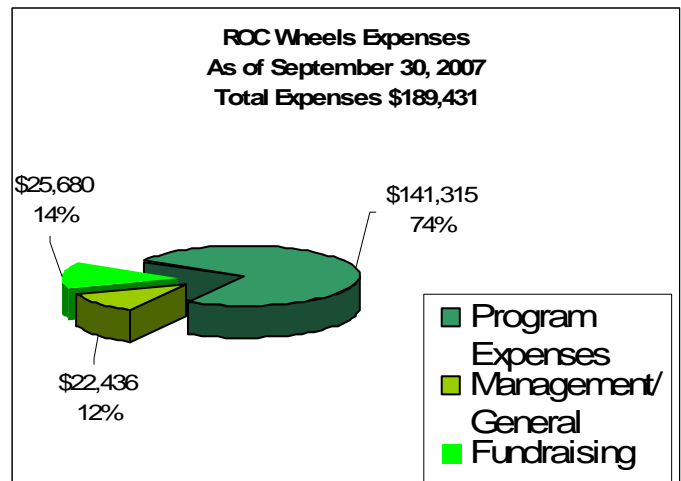
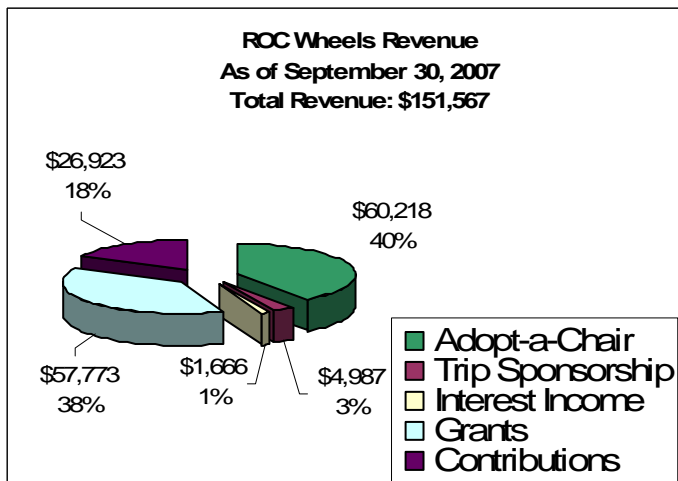


Linda Mueni at Dagoretti Children's Center in Kenya

Please fill out the envelope inside this newsletter and start giving the gift that will last a life time.

## Giving Needs

- ◆ General Support Greatly Needed!
- ◆ \$300 Adopt-A-Chair Sponsorship
- ◆ Support for Kenya and Mexico Missions
- ◆ \$75 Refurbished Wheelchair
- ◆ Development of new ROC Wheelchairs
- ◆ Support a Physical Therapist



Reach Out and Care Wheels, Inc.  
 4135 Valley Commons Drive Suite D  
 Bozeman, MT 79718



Nonprofit Organization  
US Postage Permit # 86







