



HIS WHEELS INTERNATIONAL

Bikes & Hand-Pedaled Trikes

NEWSLETTER

Providing pedal-powered transportation for the able and disabled with dignity

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The fabricating of 15 trike kits sent to Soddo Christian Hospital in Ethiopia, were completed this fall. Dr Anderson wrote, telling us that the child pictured here received a trike. "His family is extremely happy that he will be able to go to school in this way! PTL (praise the Lord) and thanks to HIS WHEELS." They plan to make some adjustments so the trike fits him better.

In the future our product line will include a compact trike, which would be suitable for a child such as this. Kevin finished a design this summer that will fit a child from five years old to a person over five feet tall.

"We hope to be able to start a little plant to manufacture these on our own in Soddo," Dr. Anderson wrote.

This fall Kevin, our engineer, and Ted, who is hoping to travel to Ethiopia in 2012, engaged in some preliminary discussions about what is involved in setting up a factory. We look forward to helping Soddo Christian Hospital in this endeavor.



Another Trike Travels

Dr. Harold Adolph took one of our trikes to the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, from November 10-12th. He displayed it at the Soddo Christian Hospital Booth. Part of the plan was for him to give the trike away at the conference.

Following are a couple of the connections that have already come from the conference.

On November 11th Dr. Adolph wrote in an email, "I had just told the Lord that the trike still didn't have a home and would He please help me find a good home for it. Minutes later, when I arrived at our booth, my brother Bob was there, who said he would like the trike to go to Togo. So Bob packed it up in his vehicle to take to Dr. Russ Ebersole, a pediatrician who is returning to Togo West Africa soon."

Back in 2007 the Ebersole family lived in Wheaton while on missionary home assignment for a year. The family got bikes from His Wheels and their sons helped us work on bikes. When the Ebersoles returned to Togo then, HWI sent one of our first generation trikes along with them.

Also after the conference a board member from PET International, an organization that makes wooden hand pedaled trikes, emailed us. "The need has come up for a trike that has higher wheels... and can carry some cargo. From your photos it looks like His Wheels is making a trike much like what we are envisioning. How can we work with you to get a trike that fits our needs?" PET has distributed over 30,000 trikes to people in 92 countries. PET representatives from Indiana, Missouri and Iowa will meet with His Wheels team on December 5th at our headquarters.

Grateful Hearts

By the end of October it was apparent that His Wheels needed to make some hard decisions. Throughout the fall we had had two undergraduate classes, one from Wheaton College and the other one from University of Illinois Chicago, that were doing marketing projects with us. As we tried to answer their questions, I found myself struggling to convey our mission.

In addition, our team was becoming weary of being pulled in so many different directions. We also lacked the financial resources to continue leasing the headquarters. So as a board we had thought it best to downsize and take the time to clarify our vision. We were about to terminate our lease. But God had other plans!

God revealed His plan to us through one of His servants. The messenger said, "I don't believe it is time for you to leave the building. Alice, you know the mission God has given you. I read it in your book (draft copy)! I am going to cover your rent until June of 2012, at which point we will reevaluate the situation."

Throughout the month of November God has helped us define our main focus which is our hand-pedaled trike and manufacturing process. He has confirmed this through prayer, board members and others, and by opening new doors.

We are continuing to refine the bike side of our ministry so it supports our main focus. Our hope is to have these changes posted on our newly-designed website in January. We will also include the information in our next newsletter.

On behalf of the entire His Wheels team we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas,

*Alice Teisan
Executive Director*



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