

## **Matching Gift**

A generous donor awarded a \$5,000 matching grant, effective February 29, 2008, until December 20, 2008. The grant is for first time givers or for the amount given above and beyond your gift in 2007. We have received \$600 towards our match.

## **An English Lesson**

"My bicycle, my bicycle, where's my bicycle?" Adonai Songela, a 4-year-old Tanzanian, enthusiastically blurted, while rushing into my house. This was the first complete English question I had heard from him.

It didn't faze Adonai that there was 6+ inches of snow on the ground and that his bicycle was buried under a snow covered tarp. His question persisted until we trudged through the snow and he saw his bicycle.



# His Wheels International Newsletter

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#### **Holding onto Hope**

"Don't worry; I'll be there on Friday!" These were the words of Tom, our mechanic, calling from his hospital bed. He had a blood clot under his arm. We were hoping he'd live through the night. Tom's call declared he was holding onto hope.

HWI has become a lifeline of hope to Tom. In a newsletter last year I mentioned that Tom was diagnosed with cancer. The cancer and the treatment have been brutal. However, even more challenging are the continued restrictions placed on him. His mind still says "go" but his body and doctors yell "stop." He's had to stop bicycle racing and decrease his physical activity. These limitations are about to kill him emotionally.



"Coming here and working on bicycles gives my life meaning." Tom states regularly.

Most recently Tom had a 10lb weight lifting

restriction instituted. Thus he can't lift a bicycle onto the work stand. However, he can sure make a well running bicycle out of something many of us would already have declared trash. Carol, Tom's wife, is glad that working on bicycles gives him "a happy face."

Tom's dedication to HWI gives a rich meaning to Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Please pray for Tom and Carol's health and spirits.

### Partnering with WCGS

"This experience was a highlight of my daughter's 9 years at Wheaton Christian Grammar School (WCGS)." A mom reported after her daughter's radio interview on WETN. She spoke about WCGS bike collection for HWI on February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Through a Service Learning Project, 56 eighth graders each donated 6 contact hours either to an international or a local ministry organization. About 30 students made HWI their service-learning project.

Two curriculum objectives included:

 "To test developing Christian worldview, morality, and value structures in authentic situations. • To develop a heart for Christian service."

Students wrote and designed brochures, letters, speeches, and multi media presentations. The goal was to create awareness for HWI and publicize the bicycle collection on February 29th.



The event was broadcasted on Moody Radio, and two students were interviewed at WETN, Wheaton College's radio station. Articles appeared in the Daily Herald Newspaper, on the WCGS website and in their Family Newsletter. About 80 posters were hung in the community and in churches. A prerecorded phone call went out to every family attending WCGS. After collecting 44 bicycles some students participated in repairing them.

Three of those bicycles were delivered to Adonai and his siblings. (Pg. 1) We continue to receive calls from people who have bicycles to donate.

Thanks to all WCGS participants who made this project a huge success.

Our prayer is that this service project will have an

impact on the students lives for years to come. We long for bicycle transportation to facilitate life transformation in these formable hearts.

#### The Trike's Next Phase

"Isn't this jig fixture amazing?" Overflowing with excitement I asked one of Kevin's (the mechanics) colleagues. To him it looked like any other jig.

To build a tricycle requires 4 different jig fixtures. "This is the most complex project I have ever done," Kevin stated after finishing 60+ pages of drawings for the fixtures. We are having 3 sets of fixtures manufactured and painted for \$6,000.



With the jig fixtures finished the potential for trike manufacturing takes our dreaming to a new level. Here are a few of our dreams.

On March 2, a couple that have partnered with African nationals, along with 4 HWI team members met. We brainstormed and dreamed about the possibility of one day joining with a hospital and creating a vocational rehabilitation. The disabled, treated at the hospital, could

learn to build trikes.

On March 16, as part of our church's mission's festival I was invited to have lunch with Diane and a missionary couple our church supports. After dinner the couple tried the trike and asked if they could take one to the mission field in April. We will not have one built by then, but we plan to provide them with one later in 2008.

On April 5, Kevin and I will meet with a father and his disabled son. If all goes as expected, this team will begin building our trikes. After sharing this God inspired idea with the mom, she tearfully stated, "We've been praying for our son to get a job working from home, since he turns 18 in May. This is an answer to our prayers." If they begin building trikes, we will have more trikes available to pursue future opportunities for trike manufacturing in other countries. It will also allow us to employ the disabled.

These dreams require God sized interventions. We value and need your prayers.

View our 1<sup>st</sup> African trike: www.hiswheelsinternational. blogspot.com

On Behalf of HWI's Team,

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