



# HIS WHEELS INTERNATIONAL Hand-Pedaled Trikes

NEWSLETTER

Promote the design, fabrication, and manufacturing of hand-pedaled trikes

**December 2021, Volume 16, Issue 2**

## **Mobility Device Provision and Distribution Conference (MDPDC), September 20-22, 2021**

This is the first ever 22, 2021 there was the first ever conference for people doing similar mobility work. Over 50 people gathered in Missouri, or online for an exhilarating line up of speakers. I was honored to be part of the non-financial sponsors, networking, and offering advice when sought.

We at His Wheels International were so glad for the leadership of Scott Walters, the Executive Director of Mobility Worldwide who had the vision for the conference. Once the conference is uploaded, we will make the link available on our website blog [www.hiswheels.org/blog](http://www.hiswheels.org/blog).

Due to the COVID situation, I was grateful to attend via Zoom and gave the closing speech via video. Click on the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGgM9PfeLVk> to view the 15-minute speech. It also provides an overview of the work His Wheels International has done since 2005, over the past 16 years.



Thanks to our collaboration friends at Messiah University, who took our trike to the conference where it was showcased along with other organizations products. Our children's coloring book was distributed.

Out of the conference, a steering committee is being formed, to begin figuring out how to formalize a collaboration. I have been invited to be a part of this committee.

## **Três the Trike's November Treks**

In October I received a call from Will Austin at Basic Utility Vehicles (BUV). He said, "Alice, I'm going to the Global Mission Health Conference ((GMHC) in November and would like to take the His Wheels trike we have at our shop. Afterwards I'd like to pass it on to someone who could get it overseas to someone in need." Thanks to the partnership with BUV, Will took the trike along with our story/coloring book. Many tried the trike and received a book at GMHC.

During the conference Will identified Duvon Mcguire, President from New Life International (NLI) to take the trike. Many people visit NLI where they will display the trike. When NLI identifies a person, and a shipping container, they will include the trike. NLI will also have our children's book for distribution too.

## **Mercy Surgical Polyclinic, Bunia, Congo, DRC**

His Wheels International's (HWI) tagline is Mobilizing God's Work Worldwide. "That is an audacious tagline," was an astute comment I received early on. Now, years later I can say, indeed it is an audacious tagline. However, we serve an audacious God. Bikes and trikes have been the platform for also helping others to actualize his/her God's sized dreams. It is through working together with people like Surgeon Jacques in the Democratic Republic of Congo and others that God is fulfilling out audacious tagline. I invite you to watch this 5-minute video about Surgeon Jacques' God size dream for Mobilizing God's Work throughout the DRC and beyond.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fR017XGz9zM&t=3s>.

One thing I regret about the video is that I do not pronounce Jacques's name correctly, with the beauty of the French language, but instead I butchered it with my American twist. I have told Jacques I will do better next time. Jacques, thanks for your cross-cultural grace.

Many ask me, "How do you know (fill in the blank)? How did you get involved with this ministry? Here is another one of the stories that has brought so many pieces of my past together in a God size way. Did it all begin in 1983 when I went to Zimbabwe on a short-term mission trip, and had a four-hour layover in Zaire (now DRC), even though we were unable to deplane?

I began praying for Jacques after I met his in-laws, Mboligihe and Mbofulani, in Wheaton in 2005. In 2007, while meeting with Dr. Fran White, she said, "I need to find a surgical residency for Jacques." I mentioned Pan African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) and within a week Jacques was headed to Cameroon to begin his 5-year surgical program.

In 2020 I learned Jacques was beginning to make up plans for the Mercy Surgical Polyclinic. At the same time, I learned that a married couple, Jess (American) and Matt (Congolese) were returning to the States. Matt would pursue an architectural degree so he could go back to Congo and help people just like Jacques fulfill what God had called them to do by providing sound architectural structures. Jess's mom, Michelle, was my Dean at Nursing School. Being a twin, I was so excited when I learned Michelle was expecting twins. Only God knew what He had planned for our friendship.

Development work is done one relationship at a time and it draws upon all life's experiences. Jess, Matt, Jacques and his wife Dinah have already connected via Zoom. Matt has made some important connections for Jacques with Engineering Mission International. You can read a wonderful article about Matt's vision here: <https://emiworld.org/emi-tech/bridging-knowledge-gap>.

## **Good things take time**

Years ago, someone close to me said, "Alice isn't afraid to try anything. She'd even apply to be a football coach." Guilty as charged! I had applied to be a football coach. I knew nothing about coaching football, but I can tell you I knew more about of football than about prototyping, building, and distributing a hand-pedaled trike!

I often struggle with the reality that reaching one's dreams is a long process with what seems like more dashed hoped than actualized successes. But when the successes come, they are sweet.

Having the first trike built in Uganda, and distributing it is one such example. However, due to the prayers and tenacity of one youngster, K, who's about 7, the project is still going forward, even though there has been a year long pause.



On December 6, 2021, K got to try the trike. Present at the testing was Sue, a physical therapist and missionary with AIM (who also knows Jon's family from Ideas Workshop, who built the trike), an engineer who was in Uganda for a wedding, K's physical therapist, Sylvia, Star's Uganda's Founder, (the program for those living with disabilities where K attends), etc. Since HWI began building trikes, our goal has been to have a team to make sure the trike properly fits the end user along with making sure the design is safe. God's timing is always best. Only he could have pulled together this team. Here

is the link to the video : [https://youtu.be/L\\_lxC3DcGCg](https://youtu.be/L_lxC3DcGCg)

See the physical determination of K to use all his strength and then some to get in and out of the trike without assistance was amazing. Then to see the socialization the trike brought, as Sylvia's daughter jumped on the back of the trike for a ride. Even though he was struggling to propel the trike forward, he revved his arms a few times before going all out. I would have said, "Get off the trike so I can pedal." Later it struck me that he now had something to offer another person and he took great delight in her being part of the journey.

The trike was returned to Ideas Workshop, where it was built. Sue plans to have others try the trike. She is writing up a report of things needing to be addressed for safety. Our physical therapist also knows Sue and they have talked. We are hoping to have the engineer talk with our design engineer also.

***Financial Contribution Information:*** Visit our website at [www.hiswheels.org](http://www.hiswheels.org) and click on the yellow donate button in the upper right-hand corner to give online. Or make a check payable to Faith & Learning International with His Wheels in the memo line and mail to: **Faith & Learning International P.O. Box 480, Wheaton, IL 60187**

*Thank you for your part in this amazing adventure of His Wheels International.  
Merry Christmas on behalf of the entire HWI team,  
Alice Teisan Founder & Executive Director*



P.O. Box 1096 \* Midland, MI 48641-1096 \* 630-510-1005 \* [info@hiswheels.org](mailto:info@hiswheels.org)  
Blog: [www.hiswheels.org/blog](http://www.hiswheels.org/blog) \* Facebook: HisWheelsInternational