



AMERICAN WHEELCHAIR MISSION

A Global Wheelchair Mission Partner



Frequently Asked Questions

1. How much does it cost to sponsor a wheelchair?
A - \$150 sponsors the delivery of a wheelchair to a person in need.
2. How are the wheelchairs delivered?
A – We deliver wheelchairs only by 110 wheelchair shipping containers (\$16,500) to the US and by 280 wheelchair containers (\$42,000) to the US and other countries. This allows us to deliver a brand new wheelchair with a donation of \$150.
3. How do you determine who gets the wheelchairs?
A – We allow our donors to choose where their wheelchairs go, and we then combine the donations for containers to the US or other countries. Our distribution partners help us deliver the wheelchairs within their areas of operation.
4. Who in the US needs wheelchairs?
A – We deliver wheelchairs to veterans and VA centers across the country as well as to retired priests and nuns and a variety of local needs including churches needing wheelchairs.
5. How can we get wheelchairs to our local community?
A – Councils can combine their efforts within the district or state council to hold Wheelchair Sunday parish drives. This will raise the funds for one or more containers of wheelchairs.
6. How much can we raise during a Wheelchair Sunday?
A – Our experience has shown that parishioners are very generous when our mission is explained, and their donations do not affect the church's weekly collection. We have often raised enough for a full container of wheelchairs in one or two weekends with a three-minute pulpit announcement after mass, which we will supply. A full Wheelchair Sunday presentation conducted by us during mass when we show our video and take a second collection averages 161% of the church's weekly collection. Again, without affecting the amount collected by the church.

7. What is the impact on a person in a foreign country who need wheelchairs?
A – Children can go to school for the first time. Adults can go to work to provide for their families, and the elderly can get out of a bed they may have been confined to for years. **We are answering the prayers of entire families.** (There are more than 100 million people worldwide who need a wheelchair but cannot afford one.)
8. Why are we giving wheelchairs to veterans, isn't that our country's responsibility?
A – Veterans who have not registered with the VA after their service can't get a wheelchair years later. It is like applying for health insurance with a pre-existing condition. If they had registered after leaving the service, they would be helped. But we are here to help them and their families in need.
9. Can we participate in a wheelchair distribution?
A – Yes, we love to have Knights and their families join us delivering wheelchairs in Mexico, Vietnam, The Holy Land and other destinations each year.
10. What do I do with a wheelchair I would like to donate?
A – We suggest you contact your local Salvation Army or Goodwill Industries. They will take the donation and get it to someone in need.
11. How can I get more information about the program?
A – Please visit our website at amwheelchair.org to read or download our Wheelchair Sunday booklet in the Knights of Columbus section, and watch videos of our wheelchair distributions around the world. Also, you can contact our Director of Public Education, Dan Moberg, at dmoberg@amwheelchair.org (208) 457-0745 or Chris Lewis at clewis@amwheelchair.org (702) 580-0705.