



#### From Our Founder Connie Cheren

Friends and family ask me why I devote my time and energy to working in a country 10,000 miles away. It is because I believe in the PFC staff. I believe in what they are doing to change their nation by changing lives – one at a time. I believe when one of our staff gives a mobility cart to someone, they give hope and a future to someone who was crawling on the ground. I believe when a mom learns to read and write in one of our literacy schools it changes her life and the lives of her children. I believe that by teaching thousands to use computers in one of our computer schools it changes lives. By changing lives, families are changed, communities are changed, and eventually a nation is transformed.

I hope you enjoy reading this Fall issue of our newsletter highlighting the work of the PFC staff in leading this change.



As Director of Partners for Care Kenya, I am grateful to work with county governors to bring hundreds of mobility carts to the country. I am especially grateful and impressed by the support of Isiolo's Governor H.E. Dr. Mohamed Abdi Kuti who partnered with us to bring 196 mobility carts to Isiolo. These carts gave the gift of mobility to many adults and children who would otherwise be forced to crawl on the ground or be carried by someone else. Governor Kuti attended the distribution launch and cut the ribbon. We are blessed and honored to be a part of such worthwhile work.

**THANK YOU** to all the county governors who have made it a priority for their office to serve the disabled in their communities.

www.partnersforcare.org



Partners for Care is launching an ambitious campaign to place one water backpack in every nursery school classroom in all 47 counties in Kenya. To date, we have distributed 17,000 water packs to elementary and high school classrooms.



PFC Kenya will launch a campaign called Packs for Kids to raise funds in country for the nursery

school packs. Distribution in nursery school classrooms represents an additional 50,000 packs needed.

You can help by donating \$10 a pack. Help us help the little children to have safe water to drink.



"And anyone who gives a child a cup of water in my name, just because you belong to me, will surely be rewarded." Mark 9:41



The PFC staff are working toward sustainability in all our programs. The outreach team is renting out their equipment when they're not using it. They have been able to raise enough funds to support one outreach staff person.

Meanwhile, the outreach team continues to make progress on their goal of reaching one million people with the life-saving message of HIV/AIDS

prevention.







Our PFC clinic was recently certified by the government to administer immunizations to children. The certification afforded our clinic the opportunity to participate in a country-wide measles eradication program. This is an important step for PFC as we work in three slums – Marurui, Githogoro, and Ngomongo – to immunize the children under the age of five, against deadly diseases and keep the poorest of the poor healthy.

According to a 2012 World Health Organization report, every seven seconds, a child under the age

of five dies. Many die from diseases that would be easily preventable through immunization. These negative consequences of disease can be stopped through vaccinating children to boost their immune system. The challenge lies in reaching all of the population and achieving widespread vaccination coverage, including vulnerable and at-risk populations who are often overlooked and forgotten.

Partners for Care is especially focused on reaching and immunizing young children in slum areas, as they are often the most at-risk group.





#### **Literacy**

**Computer Schools** 

PFC's founder Connie Cheren recently received this message from Pastor Hirbo in Marsabit.

"These mothers are from Segal, two hours offroad from Marsabit Town. Previously Muslims, they converted to Christianity through our outreach program. As a result of cultural norms, some of the women were married at the age of 15. They are all illiterate and hungry to learn to read and write. They have a room. Can we start a literacy class for them?"

I ask you, how does one say no to a man who wants to reach women in the middle of nowhere with the gift of literacy so they can read the good news of the Gospel? Well, of course, you don't say no, you answer that request.

Thanks to your support, Marsabit Literacy School has begun!





This year, thanks to some pretty incredible partners, we opened our 11th computer school! Special thanks to Pete Gardner, Alterius Career College in Norcross Georgia and Dwight Smith, Thanks Be To God Foundation in Columbus, Ohio for the hundreds of computers you donated. And we couldn't have done it without Michael Marotta and UPS Foundation who helped get the computers shipped to Kenya. How are these computers changing lives in Kenya? According to a recent evaluation by our computer school students, 37% of graduates went on to further their education in college and 17% either secured a job or started a business after graduation.

And there are more schools to be opened this year...







Partners for Care is blessed to partner with **Mobility Worldwide** to bring hundreds of mobility carts to those in need in Kenya. PFC has received carts from three **Mobility Worldwide** production sites in the US – Penney Farm FL, Columbia, MO, and Twin Cities, MN.







The life change these carts make possible is nothing short of miraculous as evidenced by the smiles on the faces of beneficiaries!









## **Why I Support Partners for Care**

Professor Dominic Mwenja, PFC Board Member and Supporter



I met Connie in March of 2017 in Marsabit Town, Kenya, where I had gone to teach farmers how to grow hydroponic fodder for sustainable food supplies. As I listened to her talking about the things PFC is doing to help the poor and marginalized in the country, I knew this was an organization I needed to be associated with. Over the years, I have dedicated part of my life to the betterment of the poor in Kenya and listening to a visionary who had so much to offer, my natural reaction was to simply ask Connie what I could do to help her reach more poor and marginalized people in this country.

As an educator for over 30 years, I have a special affinity for children and their learning environment. I know all too well the devastating effects of waterborne diseases on school-aged children in this country. PFC's Water Pack Project was very exciting to me because of its potential to address a major reason why children miss school and have perpetual health issues.

The Mobility Carts project got me even more excited. The people who are touched by this program are given their human dignity back and those who are severely mentally disabled become less of a burden to their caregivers. I remember watching a video by the Sisters of Mercy of a woman carrying her mentally and physically handicapped child wherever she went in the slums of Mukuru wa Njenga in Nairobi. It happens that when Connie, the PFC staff and I went to donate mobility carts to a school called Tusonge Mbele run by the Sisters of Mercy at Mukuru, this child was one of the children who received a mobility cart. PFC has made life easier for many disabled people in this country thereby restoring their dignity and improving their quality of life.

As a CEO of a major hospital in Kenya, I have a soft heart for healthcare programs that touch on the poor. The healthcare program called Circles of Health, that PFC is running in one of the slums in Nairobi, is one of the most innovative programs I have seen.

When PFC brought a whole container of physiotherapy equipment to help the poor, they made it easy for those nursing injuries to heal faster and regain their full potential.

Jiggers are still affecting many people in rural Kenya and PFC has made such a tremendous difference in the fight against this menace. It is even more effective than some of the programs run by local governments.

I will continue to support PFC for reasons already stated and for many more. PFC transforms lives, restores human dignity, empowers the poor and especially women in the rural and marginalized communities. The organization works very effectively with a limited budget and provides a high level of transparency to donors, partners, staff, and program recipients.



Fall 2018

# Saving Lives

# **How You** Can Help!

Donate now to the PFC WISH LIST **Your Gift is Their Gift!** 



Water **Backpack** 



**Provides for** PFC staff to be **Certified in First Aid Training** 



**Logistics and** Transport for a **Mobility Cart** 



**Purchases** an **Industrial Strength Electric Grinder** (converts grain into flour for cooking)



Retrofits a **Sewing Machine** (allows machine to operate without electricity)

















Partnering for hope and health in East Africa

### **Thank You to All Our Partners!**















