

ALTERNATIVES IN MOTION

The Mission: Provide wheelchairs to people who need them but cannot afford them and who do not qualify for any other financial assistance.



“What’s Your Handicap?” Golf Classic

On Tuesday August 14, 2007 golfers will tee off at Thousand Oaks Golf Club in Grand Rapids, MI to swing for mobility and raise money for Alternatives in Motion.

The third annual “What’s Your Handicap?” Golf Classic is a four-person scramble starting promptly at 1:00p.m. All proceeds from this event will benefit Alternatives in Motion. Registration is \$125.00 per person for 18 holes of golf w/ a cart, box lunch, and dinner following the event. A

reception and benefit auction will take place immediately following the tournament. Last year’s event brought in nearly \$15,170 and we hope to top that number this year.

Over the last 11 years Alternatives in Motion has raised over \$1.3 million dollars and has placed over 650 wheelchairs to individuals throughout the United States.

Don’t miss your chance to play golf at this beautiful West Michigan course.

For registration and sponsorship information, please call Matt Chapman at 616-493-2620.



Pictured from left to right, AIM Board and Staff members, Gina Porcaro, George Ranville, Dick Gauthier, and Liz Spieker. Call (616) 493-2620 for sponsorship and registration information.

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Pig Roast:

On Saturday May 5th, students from Grand Haven Central High School held a pig roast fundraiser for Alternatives in Motion. This was the second year Alternatives in Motion benefited from

the event. This year the students raised a total of \$3,261 for Alternatives in Motion, surpassing the previous year’s total by \$900. Thank you to all of the students who participated and to Social Science teacher and event coordinator Casey Wilkinson.

Way to Go!





Meet Our Recent Recipients



Joyce:

Joyce came to us in February looking for a portable scooter she could load in her car. It just so happened one had been donated to us a few days earlier.

Joyce has Multiple Sclerosis and has lost the ability to walk for long distances or stand for any extended period of time. Despite her disability, she still keeps a positive attitude and is enjoying the things she loves. Joyce uses her new power scooter from Alternatives in Motion two days a week when she visits the local YMCA where she participates in water aerobics classes. After working out, her legs are too weak to make the trip across the parking lot to the car. Joyce enjoys spending time with her friends and going new places. She said, “I even took the scooter to the mall. I never went to the mall before I got my

scooter and boy did I miss a lot.”

Rosalind:

At nine-years-old Rosalind contracted Polio while living in Union Grove Wisconsin. After years of treatment as a child, Rosalind now lives with Post Polio Syndrome and is again losing the use of her legs. With her new power chair from Alternatives in Motion, Rosalind is able to walk her dog Mattie and spend time with her husband doing what they enjoy. Rosalind is looking forward to someday getting a lift installed in her van so she can become even more independent and mobil.

Rosalind tells us the scooter has made it easier for her to get from place to place and she feels much safer without having to worry about the risk of falling. Rosalind said, “I urge all people to generously donate money and equipment to Alternatives in Motion. I would have never received my power-chair without the help from the staff at Alternatives in Motion.”



Recipient Update: *Angela Taylor Perry*

Angela Taylor Perry received her first power wheelchair from Alternatives in Motion in 2004 while she was a student at the Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, MI. She later went on to become the first Calvin trained black woman ordained in the Christian Reform Church.

Angela has been working at The Church of the Servant since 2005 but is now on her way to a new calling. Beginning in September, Angela will begin her new role as pastor of reconciliation services for Holland's Faith CRC. Angela recently returned from a mission trip to China where she used a manual wheelchair on loan from Alternatives in Motion. Angela says, "I am deeply grateful for Alternatives in Motion. Without this organization's help the goals that I have set would be nearly impossible. With ambulatory assistance I am able to be as independent as I dare to be."



Angela and friends on the streets of China

Program Report

So far in 2007 we have assisted 27 individuals with their mobility needs. 11 power chairs or scooters, 3 manual wheelchairs, 2 walkers with wheels, and 6 mobility accessories (batteries, tires, lifts, etc.) have been donated to those in need. The majority of equipment placed this year has been through in-kind donations of used equipment. There are currently 47 individuals on the waiting list still in need of equipment. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our mission so far this year. Without your support we could not provide mobility assistance to those who need it.

Current Needs

-Machere, a Grand Rapids area woman who strives to be active within the community, needs a scooter lift for her van. Alternatives in Motion has a lift that was donated, however we need the remainder of the money to install the lift. Cost is approximately \$400.

-We currently have three wheelchairs in our inventory that would meet the needs of three current applicants. Estimated costs for shipping, fitting, and maintenance of this equipment is approximately \$1,700.





Charity of the Year 2007-2008



Johnnie Tuitel speaking with the MASC & MAHS staff.

Each spring, high school students involved in the Michigan Association of Student Councils and the Michigan Association of Honor Societies (MASC & MAHS) adopt a charity for their "Charity of the Year" program. Participating schools then raise money in a variety of ways for the charity over the course of the academic year. We are pleased to announce that Alternatives in Motion has been selected as the state wide charity for the 2007-2008 school year.

This marks the second time Alternatives in Motion has been selected as the charity of the year by MASC & MAHS. Alternatives in Motion founder Johnnie Tuitel will visit and speak to as many of the individual MASC & MAHS student leadership meetings as possible. In 2004 students raised nearly \$100,000 for Alternatives in

Motion, and the students we've talked to are already fired up about beating that record. Ask your son or daughter if their school participates in the MASC or MAHS programs. For more information please visit: www.michiganprincipals.org/students/ and click on the charity of the year link.

Give the Gift of Mobility!

Help us help others by making a donation to Alternatives in Motion. All donations, both cash and in-kind, are tax deductible. We accept gently used mobility equipment that is in good working order. To arrange an equipment pick up please call 616-493-2620.

If you know of someone who is in need of mobility assistance, please pass along our name. Individuals may apply for assistance online by visiting www.alternativesinmotion.org or by calling 616-493-2620.



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