

# CONNECTED BY *Compassion*

## **Seeing Impact Firsthand in Guatemala**

This month, members of the Hands of Hope Northwest team had the privilege of visiting our longtime partners at Transiciones Guatemala. While we have worked together for many years, seeing their ministry firsthand gave us a deeper appreciation for the incredible work being done and the lives being transformed every day.

During our time in Antigua, we toured the Transiciones facility and witnessed the care and craftsmanship that go into every wheelchair, prosthetic, and physical therapy treatment. From manufacturing wheelchairs from raw materials to creating custom prosthetic limbs, every service is tailored to the individual. What stood out most was the staff's unwavering commitment to each client. Whether a fitting took 45 minutes or two hours, every detail was carefully adjusted to ensure comfort, mobility, and dignity.

One memorable encounter was with 17-year-old Catherine, who had outgrown her wheelchair after five years. We watched as measurements were taken and a completely customized wheelchair was built specifically for her needs. It was inspiring to see how Transiciones combines technical skill with genuine compassion to provide life-changing mobility.

We also traveled to the Maya village of San Juan Bautista on the shores of Lake Atitlán, where 16 wheelchairs, along with canes, walkers, and diapers, were distributed to grateful recipients. For those unable to reach the distribution center, the Transiciones team delivered equipment directly to their homes. One such visit brought us to an 87-year-old man who had been confined to his bed. After being fitted with his new wheelchair, he and his family were filled with joy at the prospect of once again being able to venture into town together.

Another powerful moment came when we met Petronila, a 33-year-old woman born with spina bifida who received her first wheelchair from Transiciones at the age of seven. Before that, she could only move by scooting across the floor. That first wheelchair gave her independence and transformed daily life for both her and her family. Despite the challenges she still faces, her perseverance and determination were an inspiration to all of us.

We were also blessed by the friendships we formed with the Transiciones staff. Their compassion for one another and the people they serve was evident everywhere we went. Whether navigating steep cobblestone streets, sharing meals together, or enjoying a spirited wheelchair basketball game, we saw a community united by a desire to help others thrive.

This visit opened our eyes to the profound impact that donated equipment and supplies can have in remote communities. It also gave us a clearer vision of how Hands of Hope Northwest can continue supporting this ministry in meaningful ways. More than anything, we returned home grateful for the relationships that have been built and excited for what lies ahead.

Though separated by thousands of miles, we are united with our friends in Guatemala by a shared commitment to restoring mobility, independence, and hope. We look forward to continuing this partnership and witnessing the many more lives that will be changed in the years to come.



*Petronila*





# Supporting Healthcare in Syria

Compassion has the power to bridge great distances, connecting people who may never meet but share a common desire to help others. Through a recent partnership with Global Gateway Network and Multifaith Alliance, medical supplies donated through Hands of Hope Northwest were sent to support healthcare providers serving communities in Syria.

These supplies will help equip medical facilities and aid organizations working to provide care in areas where access to healthcare resources remains limited. From basic medical supplies to essential equipment, each item represents a commitment to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families facing difficult circumstances.

This shipment is a reminder that meaningful impact is rarely accomplished alone. It takes donors willing to give, volunteers willing to sort and pack supplies, and trusted partners willing to navigate the complex process of delivering aid where it is needed most. Together, these connections make it possible for compassion to travel far beyond our community.

As we reflect on this month's theme, Connected by Compassion, we are grateful for the many individuals and organizations that make efforts like this possible. Through partnerships such as Global Gateway Network and Multifaith Alliance, your generosity continues to reach people across the world, providing hope, healing, and practical support to those in need.



## April & May Impact Snapshot

The totals below reflect the monetary value of medical supplies and equipment distributed locally and internationally. Each figure represents resources recovered, repurposed, and placed into the hands of individuals, families, and healthcare providers in need.

### International Mission Trips

- Papua New Guinea - \$148,100
- Ukraine - \$1,320
- Guatemala - \$189,100
- Cambodia - \$34,185
- Ghana - \$11,880
- Kenya - \$935

### Local

- Shelters - \$25,725
  - Schools - \$12,500
  - Clinics - \$34,940
  - Other Organizations - \$200,450
- Outside Idaho
- Insulin for Life-USA - \$2,200

### Local Loan Program (LLP)

- Families helped - 264
- Value saved - \$188,650
- Equipment loaned - 350
- Given away items - \$13,160

