



30 Years of Restoring Hope

1996 – 2026

1992: the first crate to Papua New Guinea. 2026: still going.

Thirty Years of Open Hands

Dear friends,

In 1992, Sharon Griffith was working at Mercy Hospital in Nampa when she noticed something that bothered her: perfectly good medical equipment and supplies being thrown away. She knew there were people, down the street and across the world, who would give anything for it.

So she started collecting. The first home for that idea was a basement in a house owned by College Church of the Nazarene, a space the volunteers lovingly called the "Rat Hole." With Liz Murtland as our founding director and a handful of volunteers, Hands of Hope NW sent its first shipment: **a single 4-foot box of supplies to Papua New Guinea.**

In 1996, Hands of Hope Northwest became its own nonprofit. **This October, we turn 30.**

Look at what that one box grew into:

- **Medical aid sent to 82 countries**
- **A warehouse of our own** at 1201 S. Powerline Rd., built in 2003
- **A Local Loan Program**, started in 2004 by Eula Tombaugh, that now lends more than 900 pieces of equipment to Treasure Valley families **free of charge**
- **Our biggest year yet in 2025:** more than **\$4 million** in donated medical equipment and supplies put back into use

None of it happened because of a building or a program. It happened because of people: the volunteers who sort, clean, repair, pack and load every week; the hospitals and clinics that choose to donate instead of discard; and friends like you who give, pray and spread the word.

Last week, 34 years after that first little box, **a 20-foot container of medical supplies left our warehouse for Kudjip Nazarene Hospital in Papua New Guinea**, the very same country where it all began. (Why 20 feet? It's the

only size that can safely travel the roads to get there.) It's a fitting journey for a ministry that got its start in a basement provided by College Church of the Nazarene.

One box became a container. A basement became a warehouse. And a handful of volunteers became a community that reaches around the world.

Thank you for 30 years of open hands.



September at a Glance

The value of medical supplies and equipment placed into the hands of people in need in September, including a container of wheelchairs and equipment for Transiciones Guatemala.

International

- Guatemala: \$142,860
- Philippines: \$6,720 (Mercy in Action; Shalom Christian Bahay Paanakan)
- Burma: \$600

Idaho

- Shelters: \$2,720
- Schools: \$2,010
- Other Organizations: \$21,090

Outside Idaho

- Insulin for Life USA: \$1,270

Local Loan Program

- Families helped: 124
- Equipment loaned: 173
- Value saved for families: \$97,610
- Items given away: \$12,460

Volunteers

- 811 hours given in September

The Next 30 Years Start With You

Every week, a family walks through our doors asking, "How much does it cost?" And every time, we get to say, "It's free."

That answer is only possible because of donors who give. **Every \$25 you give puts \$375 worth of medical goods into use.**

As we begin our next 30 years, would you prayerfully consider becoming a **monthly donor**? A monthly gift, even a small one, gives us something steady to plan around: shipping costs for the next container, repairs for the next wheelchair, and room to say yes to the next family.

Give Monthly

Ways to Help This Month

- **Volunteer:** Tuesday to Thursday, 9 AM to 12 PM. Applications are at handsofopenw.org/volunteer.
- **Shop our Amazon Wish List:** office and Local Loan Program needs. [See the wish list](#).
- **Pray with us:** for safe delivery of every shipment, for provision for a new warehouse, and for lives changed through access to care.





AMAZON WISHLIST

Make a direct impact by helping us stock the tools and resources we use every day.



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Our Contact Information

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