

**Mission Statement:** To develop and execute programs and events that share the love and Gospel of Jesus Christ with people living with disabilities, and to connect them to Christ-honoring churches, organizations, resources, and people within their community.

**Programs:** Access-Life Expos, Access-Life Outposts, Fishing with Friends, Crafting Community and Prayer and Care

**Board of Directors:** Doug Goddard, Ed Nordine, John Deeds, Leanne Goddard, Lisa Deeds, Mary Hayes, Nick Whitaker, Rob Jasper, Tracy Lewis, Vickie Holmes, Wanda Hathaway and Wendy Nordine



## Area Updates

**Central Florida:** The second annual **Big Wheel Deal** wheelchair basketball game to benefit the **Access-Life Expo** in Central Florida is on March 13. If interested in supporting a team or attending this free and fun event to root on those playing contact Doug Goddard at [doug@access-life.org](mailto:doug@access-life.org).

**North Texas:** Monthly **Prayer and Care** fellowships are a mainstay for this area with the next gathering set for March 21. If interested in participating and praying for the local disability community or even hosting a future **Prayer and Care** fellowship contact Bill Matheu at [bill@caltexfunding.com](mailto:bill@caltexfunding.com).

**East Tennessee:** The second annual **Crafting a Community** banquet to benefit the **Access-Life Expo** in East Tennessee is coming-up on April 23. If interested in hosting a table or just attending this free and fun event with family and friends contact Tracy Lewis at [tracylewis@charter.net](mailto:tracylewis@charter.net).



# Wheelchairs and Hearts find Homes in Belize

We are continually in awe of the gracious ways God allows us to be part of His work and our first

international Expo in Belize was a prime example of how He works through us as Believers to both bless others and be blessed by our service. In fact, both in the planning and execution of this outreach, we were not certain how many aspects of our mission trip would unfold with so many unknown factors but as always God went before us preparing the way for many lives to be touched by His grace and mercy!

First, He provided a wonderful ministry partner in Belize, Hearts of Christ that has been in the country ministering to folks for over 20 years. Then, He provided 21 Believers with a heart for people living with disabilities and a passion to serve. Our team was further extended by other Christians in the United States who both supported the outreach through pray and finances, as well as donated mobility equipment and medical supplies to be distributed.

As we were only in Belize for 4 days, everyone hit the ground running once we arrived on Saturday. Thankfully, Korey and Alicia who manage the mission facility there had already begun preparing things for the goody bag stuffing and Expo set-up before we arrived. This ultimately made things flow at just the right pace for us to all gather in worship before the beginning of the Expo at 1pm the next day.

Of course, participants arrived early and in fact started forming a line outside the mission gate. Even though we had many of the activities featured at our Expos in the U.S. like art, crafts, games, archery, prayer and care, Gospel bracelets and lunch it quickly became obvious that the main attraction was the mobility equipment and medical supply distribution. It was sobering to see so many mothers arrive carrying their 5 to 10 year old children with disabilities who could not walk but then humbling to see God's provision in providing the appropriate items to meet their need.

As rewarding as meeting the physical needs of so many of the over 120 people who came that day, the ultimate blessing was both given and received when two participants prayed to receive Christ. Oh, joy, unspeakable joy that Jesus provides to both the new and mature believer on these occasions!

We are already planning next year's trip and outreach and praying about more ways to serve and share the Gospel to the many in Belize who could not attend the event this year. While some walked and others were brought by a local church bus, transportation is a huge issue for the more rural areas south of the mission facility and we are expectantly excited about how God will lead us to meet these needs in the future.

