



CRUTCHES 4 AFRICA

Our Interact District 5495's

Signature International Service Project

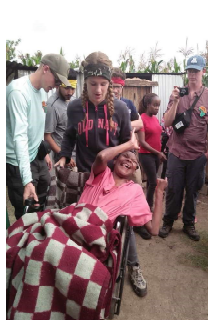


Crutches 4 Africa began as the international project of the Mountain Foothills Rotary club, which is based in Evergreen, Colorado. Rotarian David Talbot, who managed to survive the initial onslaught of Polio, and overcame the prognosis that he would never walk again, lived an active and athletic life until his mid-50's. However, due to the debilitating effects of Post-Polio Syndrome, he has spent his recent years back on crutches. As a professional photographer, while working in Uganda, David saw the crippling consequences among the people there who had survived the disease of Polio. With their disabilities and lack of mobility, they are often rejected in their communities and treated like dirt. Back in the States, David realized that many people have lightly-used, no-longer-needed mobility devices from a twisted ankle, ski accident, or operation. He saw crutches at garage sales, in dumpsters, and unfortunately in roll-off containers headed to landfills. He says, "I knew that I had to do something" — and this was the genesis of the Rotarian Crutches 4 Africa nonprofit organization.

Crutches 4 Africa's goal has been to collect and distribute **one million** mobility devices. To date, more than **212,000** crutches, canes, walkers and wheelchairs have been distributed in 16 African countries and 11 other nations around the globe. C4A distributes mobility devices to whomever needs them — regardless of race, gender, tribe, age, or religion. Visit their website at www.crutches4africa.org and learn more about our Rotary partner's amazing work.

Our Interact Crutches 4 Africa: During the 2015-16 Rotary year, our Interact District developed a pilot project among our clubs, partnering with Crutches 4 Africa, and collected enough crutches, wheelchairs and other mobility devices to help fill a 20-ft. shipping container to send to our Rotary, Rotaract and Interact partners in Kenya. Building on that experience, our combined Rotary and Interact clubs have since then been collecting enough devices to continue to ship — now in 40-ft. containers. Since 2018, with the contributing & logistical support of American Furniture Warehouse, our invaluable corporate partner, we helped C4A ship containers to Uganda, Kenya, Nigeria and Mexico. In addition, we have sent so far **eight Interact Ambassadors Teams** to Kenya and **four teams** to Central Mexico, to assist our Rotary partners there with the distribution of these devices, and to provide other needed services. **Again this year we will be sending mobility equipment and Ambassadors to Kenya and Mexico.**

Our D5495 Interact District Council is inviting and encouraging all Interact, Rotaract and Rotary clubs to join us in collecting these mobility devices. We also need the help of all of these clubs, as well as individual donors, to raise the \$60,000 required to ship the mobility devices and to cover the airfare, insurance and other in-country expenses entailed in sending our Interact Ambassadors Teams to Kenya and Central Mexico each year. **Help us change lives and make good things happen!** All contributions should be sent to Interact District 5495, 4747 E. Elliot Road, 29-457, Phoenix, AZ 85044. If you want tax deductibility for your contribution, make your check payable to the Rotary District 5495 Charitable Fund, noting on it "for Interact C4A." Otherwise make checks payable to Interact District 5495. Thank you for helping us make a difference!



Crutches 4 Africa Mission Statement
We toil together to enable those we may never see. Hobbled in life by illness, accident, or act of violence. Many are hopeless. The generous donations given to Crutches 4 Africa are the tools we use to help raise the hindered, to lift them from the dust, and help them on their way.