

Project Reconciliation for the Disabled: Send Wheelchairs and Crutches to the Disabled Kids of DPRK

(Washington, D.C. March 30, 2000): The Institute for Strategic Reconciliation (ISR), a Washington-based think tank, appealed last fall to send wheelchairs and crutches to the disabled children and women of DPR Korea, the group ignored by the international humanitarian aid community.

The America Wheat Mission, Inc. (AWM), a Korean-American Christian service group for the disabled, has responded by kicking off a national campaign in March to send 150 wheelchairs and 500 crutches to disabled children and adults of DPR Korea. The Washington Chapter of the AWM has already pledged to send 20 wheelchairs. The AWM has appealed to numerous Korean American churches as well as its chapter offices in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Philadelphia, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. to Love the disabled of DPR Korea.

"On average, about 10 percent of a nation's population are the disabled," Reverend President Jung Taik Jung of the AWM notes. "The Bureau of the Census has indicated over 10 percent of Americans have a severe disability," Reverend Jung continues. He supposes DPR Korea may not much differ from such an international average of the disabled rate. "However, the disabled of DPR Korea has been ignored by the international aid community in the past few years," voiced Reverend Jung leading the AWM's campaign.

Rev. Jung has observed in the past two years how transparently and effectively the ISR's Reconciliation Ambassadors with Medicines (RAMs) has sent critically-needed medicines to treat over 700,000 patients in northern half of the Korean peninsula. "Substantial amount of ISR aid of antibiotics have reached the disabled of DPRK," Jung confidently notes.

President Asaph Young Chun of ISR had given a sample crutch for kid to DPR Korea during his February medical team visit to DPR Korea. "Korean doctors have appreciated such a gift for the disabled," Chun notes. ISR suggested to DPRK its humble desire to help the disabled with American aid of wheelchairs and crutches. DPRK pleasantly complied. The partnership of ISR and AWM is a small start to look after the needs of the vulnerable disabled of DPRK.

A compassionate assistance of an international medical relief organization enables ISR and AWM to ship a 20-foot container of wheelchairs and crutches this May to DPR Korea at humanitarian price. The third operation of medicine shipment this May to treat over 900,000 people of DPRK is named "Project Reconciliation for the Disabled" as its program focus is on caring for the critical needs of the forgotten disabled of DPRK.

"Reconciliation between DPR Korea and the United States comes slow as people-to-people contacts gradually help restore mutual trust," partners Jung and Chun note in one voice. "Patience is the modest approach."

Please Help Now

For more information or participation, contact ISR at 301.570.3948, 301.570.0911 (fax), or ISR@Ureach.com. You may help send wheelchairs and crutches to the disabled of DPRK by sending your generous donation (payable to ISR) to:

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