



Wisconsin Medical Project

Summer 2025

Hello Friends of Wisconsin Medical Project,

This year has already been quite eventful! We've sent two full containers overseas, distributed many loads of supplies locally, and participated in an Earth Day recycling event at Alliant Energy Center. This edition of the newsletter includes details of these accomplishments and more:

- **WMP's reach and impact so far in 2025**
- **A special thanks!**
- **Stories of individual donors**
- **Revival of WMP's popular Warehouse Party – Save the date for Saturday evening, September 13**
- **How you can continue your support of WMP with a financial contribution**

WMP's Reach and Impact in 2025

- **INTERNATIONAL REACH:** WMP has sent two containers to its overseas partners – one to the Gambia and one to Ivory Coast. Another is planned to go to Nigeria this summer. WMP's team is also planning for a container to go to Cuba this year and has container requests from Belize and Senegal we are hoping to fulfill. *Shipping these containers abroad aligns with WMP's ultimate mission: to provide durable medical equipment and supplies to partner organizations in areas of great need.*
- **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:** Supply and equipment donations are received on a regular basis from area hospitals and clinics, Agrace Hospice, senior centers, assisted living residences, VFWs, and local and regional organizations such as Sharing Resources Worldwide and the Good News Project in Wausau. Donations are also received from countless individuals who contact WMP through our website to arrange pick up or drop off. *Keeping many thousands of pounds of usable, durable goods out of landfills each year fulfills another important part of WMP's mission.*
- **REACH THROUGH PARTNERS:** *WMP shares donated goods with other area organizations that ship needed supplies to international partners*, including Madison-based Med Hope Salone that ships goods to Sierra Leone. Other organizations WMP has worked with in 2025 ship goods to Tanzania, Ukraine, and Honduras.
- **LOCAL IMPACT:**
 - *WMP provides supplies to organizations serving our own community*, such as Madison Street Medicine. This year, WMP has provided MSM with approximately two deliveries per month, which include no-rinse foam soap, disinfectant wipes, exam gloves, ace bandages, rollators, and canes.
 - WMP re-distributes substantial donations of adult incontinence supplies locally. WMP delivered a full pallet (30 boxes) to River Food Pantry in June, and delivers 7-10 boxes every other month to Badger Prairie Needs Network, and 7-10 boxes twice monthly to WayForward Resources.
- **BUILDING AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY:**
 - WMP participated in an Earth Day recycling event, sponsored by DANEnet, at Alliant Center. We collected a number of donations and shared in the benefits of DANEnet's broad advertising and communications campaign.
 - A team from UW Health visited the warehouse to learn about WMP's work. Bernie shared the history of the organization, our current work, and ongoing needs.
- **ODDS & ENDS:**
 - WMP donates Hearing Aids and batteries to UW's "HARP" (Hearing Aid Recovery Program). This program provides no-cost hearing healthcare to individuals in Dane County.
 - WMP gives all donated eyeglasses to the Lions Club of Cross Plains.
 - All plastic bags are given to Sharing Resources Worldwide, who forward them on to an organization that recycles them into benches for parks, schools, and libraries.
 - Pellitteri has recently donated a cardboard recycling dumpster, emptied monthly, to make it easier to manage all our extra cardboard.



Left and middle: Photos from a recent delivery of supplies to Sierra Leone through Med Hope Salone; Right: WMP board members Ann Behrman, Ron Geason, and Bernie Micke at the Earth Day event at Alliant Center on April 22.

Special Thanks

WMP could not possibly accomplish all of the above without its dedicated all-volunteer team. Shout outs to Russ Koval for his leadership in the warehouse; Dave Kinyon for his weekly trip to Sharing Resources Worldwide; David Peterson for getting us on Channel 3 News recently; Don Zastrow (and his buddy Dan!) for recent trips to Reedsburg and Wausau as well as around Madison; all the supply sorters and packers on Tuesdays and Fridays (Jack Kenny, Mike Zirkel, Karl Szewczyk, Dave Kinyon, Karen Young, Bob Skloot, Ruth Ann Peacock, Frank Kilpatrick, Mary Jo Kilpatrick, Chuck Pils); Jack Kenny for supplying tape; Scott Diaczun for pallets and man-power; Jon Heinrich for warehouse organizing help; Yacouba Traore for organizing the shipments; Caroline Garber for creating inventory lists; Terry O’Laughlin for testing electric equipment; Dan Golden and Pape Samb for loading containers; and Bernie Micke for always bringing the donuts.

Stories of Individual Donors

WMP receives many donations from families, most often after a loved one passes. We want to thank these families who contact us directly. We appreciate the opportunity to pass on items that were part of the care effort of a family member. It is often a chance to acknowledge the family's grief and emotional effort, as well as learn about the patient and the family. It is reassuring for families to know that their donations will get continued, appropriate use in caring for others.

Russ Koval has had many meaningful interactions with recent supply and equipment donors. Russ shared these stories:

I wanted to share a few stories from individual donors. This year, I met a woman who kept her husband’s hospital bed for a year-and-a-half after he passed away until she found WMP. She knew what it meant to her husband to be able to use it in their home, and she felt strongly that it go to someone else who needed it.

I also met a man who was married for over 60 years, and he could barely tell me about his wife without tearing up. I felt honored to give him the hug he needed.

Don and I were contacted by a woman twice in the past year, as first one parent then the other passed. Bernie and I met two daughters in Middleton who proudly showed us their family home dating back over 100 years.

Recently, I rearranged a woman's living room for her (after removing a bed) and she was so grateful for the help! (And the visit!)

Bernie is masterful at gently asking about the deceased person, often noticing photographs of the family on the walls.

Warehouse Party SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, September 13, 4-8 pm
Demetral Park Shelter, 601 N. 6th Street, Madison



WMP is bringing back the Warehouse Party! Save the date of Saturday, September 13 for food, music, and community – all in support of WMP’s important work bringing medical supplies to people and places in need.

Additional details enclosed.

2019 WMP Warehouse Party with live music from Tony Castaneda Latin Jazz

Make a Gift

We couldn’t do this work without your generous support.

All of the work detailed in this newsletter—and much more—is made possible through your generosity, and the need for the equipment and supplies among our international and local friends is greater than ever.

Will you continue your support of WMP a gift?

Donations can be made online at www.wismedproject.org/donate (scanning this QR code will bring you there).

Or, they can be mailed to: Wisconsin Medical Project, 26 N. Prospect Avenue, Madison, WI 53726

Thank you for reading and for your support!


Dr. Bernie Micke and the Wisconsin Medical Project Board

