



A Role Playing Exercise of a Wheelchair Program in Central America

Wheelchairs for the World

Written by Will DelHagen

This sheet of paper describes your role and gives you instructions. In order to achieve the intention of the exercise, please do not share this paper or discuss the contents with anyone else unless directed to do so by an instructor or these instructions.

After reading these instructions, you will get together with the other people who have been assigned your role to discuss it and make sure everything is clear to you. After this, you will join a group of the other players in this exercise. Your role is listed below:



Parent of a Paraplegic in Central America:

Senor(a) Silla-de-Ruedas

You are participating, as the character described below, in a meeting with a visitor from the United States, Martin Moneybags. Stay in character and note the special instructions below.

You are a father (or mother) of five, living in Central America. One of your sons is eighteen years old and he is a paraplegic due to a bus accident when he was younger. Up to now, he has been stuck at home because he has no form of mobility aid, such as a wheelchair. They have always been too expensive or simply unavailable. You are slowly putting away money, bit by bit, in hopes of buying him a wheelchair someday. He now has the opportunity to attend vocational training and get a job, but it's impossible unless he has a wheelchair to commute the 2 miles to the school, which is on rough roads.

Besides the wheelchair, there are numerous things that you feel you should spend your money on to provide for your family, and you certainly do not have the disposable income to just go out and buy a chair. They generally cost \$300 or more, which you simply cannot afford. You don't know much about wheelchairs yourself, but you think they must be able to make them for less. You know that Mr. Moneybags is somehow related to disability assistance and you see this as an opportunity to finally have wheelchairs available in your country.

Special Instructions:

Only provide information in response to direct questions. Do not offer additional information beyond what is specifically asked of you.