



*For Immediate Release*

**Global Links, The Blessing Board Launch New Collaboration to  
Make Home Healthcare Items Available to  
Individuals in Need at No Cost**

*Members of the public can schedule an appointment to request walkers, shower benches,  
wheelchairs and other home health items*

PITTSBURGH (September 8, 2022) – Each year, [Global Links](#), a non-profit dedicated to improving health in communities with need, rescues hundreds of tons of high-quality surplus medical materials and shares them with public health facilities around the world and with non-profit organizations in Western Pennsylvania that serve our community’s most vulnerable people. Modeled on a 5 year partnership with Erie-based organization, [CHOSEN](#), this new collaboration with [The Blessing Board](#) will for the first time make it possible for individual members of the public to request and pick up durable home healthcare equipment at The Blessing Board’s two Pittsburgh locations.

Items available to the public will include walkers, bathing stools and benches, transport chairs, wheelchairs and rollators. Many home healthcare products are not covered by insurance, Medicare or Medicaid, while others are out of financial reach for those on fixed incomes who are un- or under-insured, or who cannot afford the copays associated with purchasing home care equipment.

“The Blessing Board seeks to serve those in need. Our time spent with Global Links has made us aware of the need among persons who are unable to live independently because they lack a piece of equipment and haven’t the means to acquire it,” says Richard Garland, executive director, The Blessing Board. “The rising cost of health care, the growth of an aging population, and significant limitations in health literacy nationwide are also contributing to the increase in need. The Blessing Board is happy to launch this collaboration to increase the number of neighbors served at no cost to them.”

To request home care items, the public can visit <https://blessingboard.org/> and complete the online Application for Appointment with information regarding their equipment

needs. A scheduler with The Blessing Board will reach out to arrange a pick-up time once the equipment is in stock. Pickups are available at the following locations:

**The Blessing Board North Showroom in Shaler**

880 Butler Street, Suite 1A

Pittsburgh, PA 15223

Monday through Thursday, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

**The Blessing Board South Showroom in West Mifflin**

1200 Lebanon Road, U420

West Mifflin, PA 15122

Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

“Global Links has worked for several years to find a partner in Western Pennsylvania with the staffing and capacity to handle requests from individual members of the community who are in need of, but cannot afford, home medical equipment,” said Angela Garcia, executive director, Global Links. “Medical equipment such as rollators and shower benches are critical to prevent falls, support independence and quality of life, while transport wheelchairs help both the caregiver and the senior in their care. In addition to accessing these items, we encourage the community to help our neighbors in western Pennsylvania by donating no longer needed home medical items in good condition.”

Donations of [acceptable items](#) may be made at Global Links’ Greentree location via their contactless self-service donation bin at their garage/dock entrance, or via one of their Community Collection Network Partners. A full list of acceptable donations as well as a list of drop off locations can be found at [www.globallinks.org](http://www.globallinks.org) under the “[Ways to Give](#)” tab. For Community Collection Network Partners’ hours and lists of acceptable items, please contact the drop off location directly via the link on Global Links’ website.

Global Links’ collaboration with The Blessing Board builds upon a partnership established with Erie-based nonprofit [Chosen](#) in 2017 to distribute home medical care equipment and supplies in the Erie area. Global Links’ long-term vision is to create a network of community partners across western Pennsylvania with capacity to directly distribute surplus and donated home medical equipment to individuals in need.

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**About Global Links**

Global Links is a Pittsburgh-based non-profit dedicated to improving health in communities with need. Global Links collaborates with U.S. healthcare institutions and the community to rescue hundreds of tons of high-quality surplus medical materials every year. These materials are

shared with public health facilities around the world and with non-profit organizations in Western Pennsylvania that are providing care for their community's most vulnerable people. For more information, visit [www.globallinks.org](http://www.globallinks.org). Global Links. Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

### **About The Blessing Board**

The Blessing Board is a volunteer-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that picks-up and receives donated furniture, appliances and household goods then re-donates them to people who need them. We principally serve Allegheny County and surrounding areas.

### **Media**

Global Links:                Laura Ellis, Veritas Communications Advisors  
412.952.7844

The Blessing Board:      Richard Garland, Executive Director  
412-607-0202