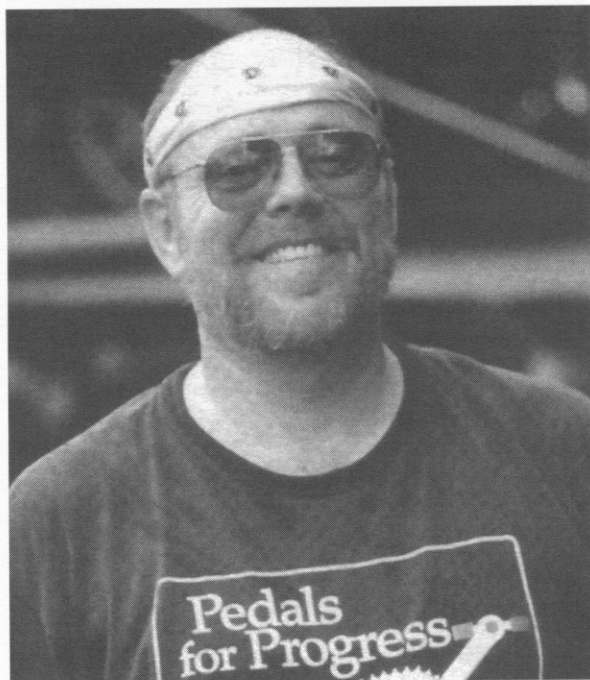


Pedals for Progress was born in 1991 when David Schweidenback decided to give up his successful construction company to devote full time to his bicycle recycling project. When he started the small non-profit organization, he made a commitment to devote his full energy to helping poor villagers around the world improve their earning capacity by providing affordable, environmentally sound and energy efficient transportation in the form of a used but serviceable bicycle. When he won the Shriver Award in 1997, he was recognized for the success of his efforts and his dedication to the Pedals for Progress mission.

During the first year Schweidenback collected 2,700 bikes and a meager salary, but his family was very supportive as he struggled to expand the organization's efforts. During the year 2000, Pedals for Progress donated 8,983 bicycles, 36 computers, and 75 sewing machines in shipments to non-profit partners in 11 developing countries.

After winning the Shriver Award, public recognition led to increased funding and support. Last year, Pedals for Progress and its founder, David Schweidenback, were honored with one of five prestigious Rolex Awards for Enterprise which resulted in worldwide exposure



for the organization and well-deserved credit for Schweidenback. Gilbert M. Grosvenor, of the National Geographic Society and a member of the Rolex selection committee stated, "With skills learned from his Peace Corps experiences, David Schweidenback combined entrepreneurship and philosophy to dramatically broaden transportation in the developing world. He has single-handedly improved the quality of life for many thousands of people."

Most of the bicycles are collected at one-day events held at churches, schools and community centers and staffed by local volunteers from service organizations, schools, faith communities and corporations. The bikes are taken apart at the collection site to fit into a truck and later repacked into overseas shipping containers.

Overseas, local sponsors manage the distribution of the Pedals for Progress shipments. For example, in Macas, Ecuador the local Salesian priests take responsibility for the distribution. A local resident owns the business that cleans and repairs the bikes. A recipient farmer might work off the cost of the bike by pouring the foundation for an infant feeding center or a new school.

Since its inception, Pedals for Progress has shipped more than 46,000 bicycles and other equipment to needy communities in the developing world. By January 2001, large shipments had been sent to the following sites: Barbados, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Panama, Senegal and South Africa. Smaller shipments have gone to agencies in Colombia, Ecuador, Eritrea, Fiji, Malawi, Mozambique, New Guinea, Peru, the Solomon Islands and Venezuela.

Schweidenback completed his college degree at the University of Massachusetts before he served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador where he did surveying work.

In building his global bike-recycling program, he has benefited from the continuing support of his wife, Geraldine Taiani, who is a professor of mathematics. The Schweidenbacks live in High Bridge, New Jersey, and have two children, Rina and Lars.