



**Building
a global
partnership
to make
the world
a healthier
place.**



**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
Rehabilitation**
2007 ANNUAL REPORT

The Center for International Rehabilitation (CIR) is a Chicago-based, not-for-profit organization that develops research, education, and advocacy programs to improve the lives of people with disabilities internationally. Founded in 1996 by Dr. William Kennedy Smith, the CIR operates in collaboration with the renowned Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and Northwestern University. Through innovative engineering projects, capacity-building education programs, interactive online tools, and disability rights advocacy, the CIR reaches out to individuals and communities across the globe.



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
Rehabilitation



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A Message From Our President



Dear Friends:

New alliances, new initiatives, and new directions for our legacy programs and products occupied this past year. I'm excited to have this opportunity to share with you the great strides and successes the CIR has been making.

Our year began with steps toward the formation of an important alliance between the CIR and the Republic of Iraq Ministry of Health. This partnership would provide medical, rehabilitation, and management training for Iraqi health care professionals who provide care to the civilian war-wounded. By the end of the year, this powerful relationship was cemented and trainings were underway. Branching out from the CIR's disability background, we initiated a new program that strives to alleviate health care

disparities. iCons in Medicine harnesses the power of the Internet to connect some of the world's most qualified health care professionals to medical professionals in remote and medically underserved areas in need of consultations on difficult cases. As new partnerships and initiatives formed, the CIR continued its tradition of education, training, and advocacy. In this past year we worked to make our prosthetic technologies more accessible to remote regions of the world and developed a new installment to our International Disability Rights Monitor (IDRM) project.

None of this would have been possible without the generous support of friends. As you travel through these pages, I hope that you will be as inspired as we are to keep the CIR's mission alive.

Sincerely,

William Kennedy Smith, MD
William Kennedy Smith, MD
Founder and President



Iraqi physicians attending the first CIR training session in Tuzla, Bosnia

Mending War's Wounded

In October 2006, the CIR and the Republic of Iraq Ministry of Health formed an important alliance through which medical training would be provided to Iraqi physical therapists, rehabilitation center managers, and hospital-based physicians who provide care to the civilian war-wounded.

The program, operated through the Ministry's Emergency Disability Project (EDP) and subsidized by the World Bank, combined academic course work with hands-on training. In September 2007, training of 66 Iraqi physical therapists and 15 rehabilitation center managers began at the University Klinikal Center (UKC) in Tuzla, Bosnia where instruction was provided by professionals affiliated with the CIR and the UKC.

"The Iraq war has taken a terrible toll on the country's civilian population and left many people with significant disabilities," commented CIR president Dr. William Kennedy Smith. "As an organization founded to help people and countries rebuild after conflict, we are dedicated to working with Iraqi health care professionals and the Ministry of Health to deliver the best possible care to the civilian war-wounded in Iraq. We feel it is important to do this—important for the Iraqis, and important as well as for ourselves, and for our country."



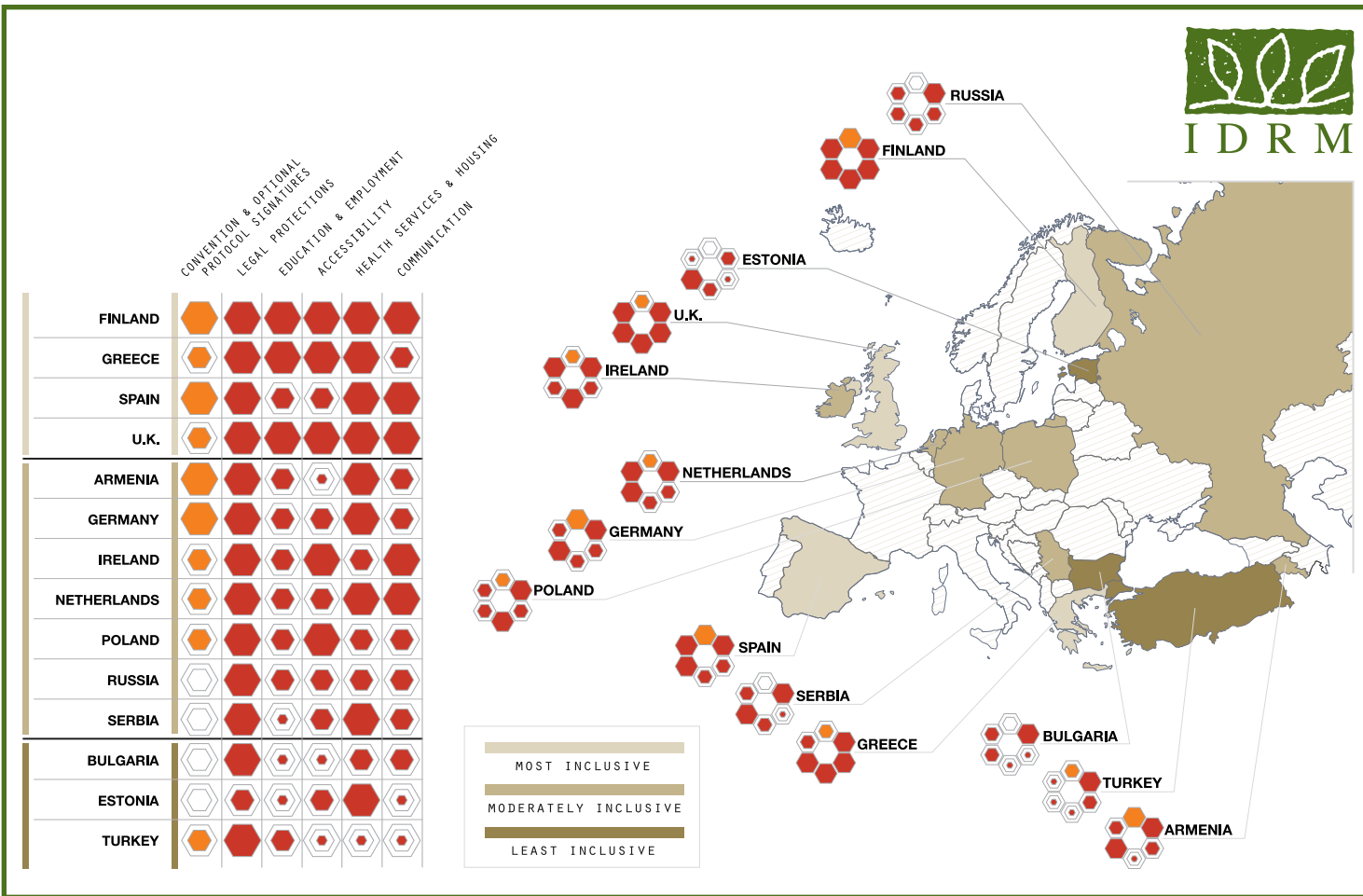
iCons in Medicine

iCons in Medicine is a new CIR initiative that uses the Internet to connect health care professionals to improve care one patient at a time. Through this program, health care professionals in remote and medically underserved areas can access a network of dedicated medical Volunteers, and engage them in a confidential one-to-one analysis of difficult cases. These Volunteers, many of whom are leaders in their fields, provide expertise, encouragement, and advice.

In September 2007, the CIR officially introduced iCons in Medicine through a continuing medical education event held in conjunction with the Chicago Medical Society. The event entitled “Humanitarian Relief through International Tele-Medicine” was attended by more than 100 physicians and medical students who listened to a panel of experts discuss the benefits of using advances in technology to address global health disparities.

The program works to foster international understanding and engage in global collaboration. Health care professionals in remote areas use a special software that allows them to work offline and send requests for consults when Internet connectivity is available. Physicians volunteering to provide consultations receive and reply to requests through the iCons in Medicine website. They can help their far off counterparts without ever leaving their home or office.

Learn more about iCons in Medicine at iconsinmed.org.



Pages in Advocacy

Central to the CIR's advocacy efforts was the publication of the 2007 International Disability Rights Monitor (IDRM) Regional Report of Europe. The year-long project employed a team of grassroots researchers to assess and document the status of people with disabilities in 14 European countries. Since September 2007, more than 220 copies have been distributed throughout these countries.

The IDRM has produced a total of four reports: Regional Report of Asia (2005); Regional Report of the Americas (2004); Disability and Early Tsunami Relief Efforts in India, Indonesia and Thailand (2005); and now the first-ever Regional European report. Not only do these reports provide information that would otherwise be unavailable, the information published in the first three reports played a vital role to the passage of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in December 2006.

To learn more about IDRM, please see IDRMnet.org.





CIR training in Bosnia

Learning from Afar

The CIR continues its long legacy of distance learning by providing upgrade training to prosthetic technicians working in clinics that serve war-wounded, landmine survivors, and other amputees. This unique program provides local health care professionals with the knowledge and expertise to address the ongoing rehabilitation needs of their patients.

For the past several years, the CIR has partnered with the UKC to implement distance learning programs on prosthetics. Initially all aspects of the program were handled by the CIR. In September 2007, the CIR was awarded a contract by the International Trust Fund for “Demining and Mine Victims Assistance” for Bosnia and Herzegovina through the recommendation of its Ministry of Health. Under this contract, the UKC’s future courses will be managed through a shift in responsibility to its local staff. This is a credit to the previous knowledge transfer accomplished through CIR’s distance learning program. This new course will educate 30-35 prosthetic technicians in a two-year program ending in 2009.



14 A prosthetist works on fabricating a monolimb in the Nicaragua study

The Dynamic Foot

In December 2006, the CIR's Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) staff launched a research study in Managua, Nicaragua to evaluate the durability and functionality of the Shape&Roll (S&R) prosthetic foot, which was developed in collaboration with Northwestern University.

The study compares the S&R prosthetic foot, which mimics the natural rollover shape during walking, to the most commonly used prosthetic foot in the region. A four-day training workshop was conducted for five prosthetists from Nicaragua, plus two visiting prosthetists from El Salvador. Workshop participants received comprehensive training and the necessary tools and materials to customize the S&R foot and to fabricate a monolimb for each study patient.

To date, fifty patients have been enrolled in the study. If proven successful, the new foot would serve as an easier-to-produce, more cost-effective and functional alternative to the technology currently being used in the region.

To expand this study, the CIR staff traveled to Tegucigalpa, Honduras in July 2007. This workshop brought together four prosthetists from the Guatemalan Social Security Institute (IGSS) and 10 prosthetists from the San Felipe Hospital in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. In addition, a presentation for other rehabilitation professionals was arranged during this visit.



The CIR's Dr. Yeongchi Wu and Hector Casanova demonstrate the CIR Prosthetic Casting System in New Delhi, India

Learning by Example

Since its creation in 1998, the CIR Prosthetic Casting System has made strides in bettering the lives of people around the world in need of prosthetic devices.

Using a unique vacuum-sealing concept, the CIR research team developed a low-cost, reusable casting system for making artificial limbs. By placing a bead-filled pillow in a plastic bag and evacuating the air inside, prosthetists are able to quickly and accurately replicate the residual limbs of amputees.

In March 2007, CIR staff traveled to Bangkok, Thailand to conduct training on the CIR Prosthetic Casting System at the Thai National Prosthetics and Orthotics School. Under the sponsorship of the World Health Organization, CIR's engineering staff conducted a hands-on workshop, which was attended by 16 rehabilitation technicians from six organizations.

During the same month, the CIR held similar trainings in India demonstrating the CIR Prosthetic Casting System. This Rotary International-sponsored "Hands-on Technology Transfer Workshop," was attended by 35 rehabilitation technicians from India, Nepal, and Afghanistan at the Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS) Clinic in New Delhi, India. As a result, 118 patients have since been fitted with transtibial (below the knee) prostheses and six clinics in India have started the process of implementing the use of this new casting system.



The adult
CIR-Whirlwind Wheelchair

Wheels in Motion

People with disabilities living in areas of conflict face a growing need for wheelchairs. Although there are numerous wheelchair distribution programs, most fail to take into consideration the environment where the chair will be used, the user's body size, and the need for training and service of the wheelchair.

In 2005, the CIR's RERC, in conjunction with Ralf Hotchkiss of Whirlwind Wheelchair International, designed and built an adjustable adult wheelchair appropriate for the rugged landscapes of developing and war-torn areas. This chair, called the CIR-Whirlwind Wheelchair, was tested in the terrains of Afghanistan. In November 2006, staff from the CIR traveled to Bangalore, India to attend the "Consensus Conference on Wheelchairs for Developing Countries." More than 80 individuals representing 50 organizations participated in this landmark conference during which CIR staff presented the benefits of the CIR wheelchair. Paramount to the meeting was the drafting of a set of international guidelines for wheelchair provisions which will improve the quality and service delivery of wheelchairs worldwide.

Today, the CIR continues to distribute the adult CIR-Whirlwind Wheelchair. In addition, the CIR and its partners are developing an adjustable pediatric wheelchair for distribution in 2008.



The CIR visits the Royal Rehabilitation Centre
in Amman, Jordan

International Collaboration

Having established a connection with the Republic of Iraq Ministry of Health, the CIR worked during the past year to further its reach in the Middle East to advance its mission of addressing health disparities worldwide.

In September 2007, members from the CIR staff traveled to Amman, Jordan where they established new relationships with rehabilitation organizations, facilities, and schools in the region. The CIR used this opportunity to expose various prosthetic and orthotics clinics to its technologies. These included The Royal Rehabilitation Centre, King Hussein Medical Center, Al Hussein Society, Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities and the Hashemite Charitable Society. In addition, CIR staff members attended a meeting with the Telemedicine Group from Tikrit, Iraq who expressed interest in working with rehabilitation centers in the U.S., Canada, and Iraq.

As international collaboration efforts expand, the CIR continues to maintain the presence of field staff in Ireland, Bosnia, Jordan, and Nicaragua through its myriad of programs.

Conventions, Meetings and Workshops 2007

Demonstration and Mini Training Workshop at Mobility India on CIR-Wu Prosthetic Casting System

(Representatives from ISPO, USAID, WHO, ICRC):

Bangalore, India; November 2006

ISPO/USAID/WHO Consensus Conference on Wheelchairs for Developing Countries:

Bangalore, India; November 2006

Shape&Roll Prosthetic Foot Workshop:

Managua, Nicaragua; December 2006

ISPO-Sponsored Meeting on Distance Learning:

Hong Kong, China; January 2007

WHO-Sponsored Technology Transfer Workshop on CIR Prosthetic Casting System:

Bangkok, Thailand; March 2007

Rotary-Sponsored Technology Transfer Workshop on CIR Prosthetic Casting System:

New Delhi, India; March 2007

RERC Project Directors' Meeting:

Washington, DC; March 2007

NCDDR Workshop of Systematic Reviews:

Washington, DC; April 2007

RESNA 2007 Annual Conference:

Phoenix, Arizona; June 2007

Shape & Roll Prosthetic Foot Workshop:

Tegucigalpa, Honduras; July 2007

Meeting on Consensus Conference on Wheelchairs for Developing Countries and Guidelines for Manual Wheelchairs in Less-Resourced Settings:

Vancouver, Canada; July 2007

ISPO 2007 – 12th World Congress of the International Society of Prosthetics and Orthotics:

Vancouver, Canada; July-August 2007

American Telemedicine Association's First Annual Mid-Year Meeting:

Las Vegas, Nevada; September, 2007

Our Generous Donors

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*Thank
You*

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Financials

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FY 07

Revenues and Support

1. Fundraising and Contributions	\$84,770
2. Grants	\$3,546,501
3. Contracts	\$160,148
4. Donated Services and Facilities	\$23,800
5. Other	\$9,562
Total Revenues and Support	\$3,824,781

Expenses

1. Program Services	\$1,935,065
2. Support Services	\$226,229
Total Expenses	\$2,161,294

Change in Net Assets **\$1,663,487**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FY 07

Current Assets and Equipment

1. Cash and Investments	\$2,151,377
2. Accounts Renewable	\$320,137
3. Equipment and Patents	\$43,656
4. Reports	\$22,390
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,537,560

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities	\$377,769
Non-Current Liabilities	\$23,075
Net Assets: Unrestricted	\$343,952
Net Assets: Temporarily Restricted	\$1,792,764
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$2,537,560

Make a difference

With your help, the Center for International Rehabilitation (CIR) will continue to assist people with disabilities worldwide in achieving their full potential.

Please help support the CIR's research, training, and education programs in some of the poorest nations on earth.

You can donate online at www.cirnetwork.org or mail your donation to the CIR's Chicago or Washinton DC office:

**211 East Ontario
Suite 300
Chicago, IL 60611**

or

**2600 Virginia Ave., N.W.
Suite 709
Washington, DC 20037**

In addition to giving by check or credit card, the CIR can also receive gifts of stock.

For more information, or for any questions, please e-mail donate@cirnetwork.org or contact the Development Office at (312) 289-4970 X 247.

Your support is greatly appreciated.



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