



CPU Build Event: Hands-On Experience of Transforming Lives

"Most people will not have the chance to travel to some underdeveloped nation to do mission work, but by participating in a build event they can have a hands-on experience of transforming lives," explained Rev. John Battern, a SWIM board member and part of the host team for a recent SWIM CPU Build Event held in April.

"Our build events are the primary way by which SWIM assembles our CPUs (chlorine producing units). The SWIM team provides all the parts and tools necessary to put them together," he said.

Build events are vital to the ministry of SWIM because without new CPUs being built, SWIM's work would come to a grinding halt.

What is a CPU build event?

Depending on the size of the event, anywhere from 8 to 15 people form an assembly line. Each stop along the line is essential part of making a completed CPU. Jobs vary from measuring, cutting, and stripping the wire to soldering the battery clamps to preparing them for shipment. In all, there are eight stations in the assembly line. There is something for every skill level and training is provided for each station.



Purpose

There are three main purposes for holding a CPU build event.

- 1) Build events provide SWIM with CPUs which are in high demand around the world.
- 2) The events give SWIM the opportunity to tell our story: how SWIM is providing safe water and sharing about the Living Water (Jesus) with people all over the world.
- 3) The events give people in the USA an opportunity to make a real difference in people's lives around the globe.



Hosts

This event was larger than most builds as it was hosted by three congregations: the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church, Good News Community Church, and the Harbor of Joy Lutheran Church (all located in Northwest Iowa).

"In all there were about 50 individuals who came to the event. They ranged in age from 15 years old to a couple of individuals in their 80's," John said.

Destination

"It's rare that the CPUs completed at a build event have a pre-designated destination. Most often, they go into SWIM's inventory and are sent out to one of SWIM's overseas partners within a couple of months," he added.

There are several factors that determine where and when they leave the USA, such as:

- Who is traveling overseas and what country or countries are they visiting?
- Which of our partners have given out their supply of CPUs?
- Is there an emergency within a particular country, like a natural disaster or a cholera breakout?



Cost

SWIM asks for a donation of \$50 per unit build. The goal is to have a minimum of 50 units constructed at an event. If significant travel is involved for our team, then the number is usually at least 100 units.

Becoming a part of a CPU build event

"In the past, build events have been regionalized in Michigan and Iowa, but SWIM is in the process of expanding its reach. There is a build event scheduled for September in Charleston, West Virginia," John said.

If someone is interested in hosting a build event, please contact Rich Grant at chlorine4all@gmail.com.



THANK YOU!

The purpose of SWIM is the transformation of lives through sharing the Good News about Jesus, the Living Water, and creating safe water by providing communities with life-saving CPUs.

Your support of SWIM helps us to reach people the world seems to walk by and not notice. It allows us to continue transforming lives.

*If you choose to support us by sending a check, please mail it to:
SWIM, PO Box 227, New Sharon, IA 50207*

If you'd like to make your gift online, visit: <http://swimforhim.org/donations/>.

Thank you for your generosity!

*Rich Grant
SWIM Chairman of the Board*