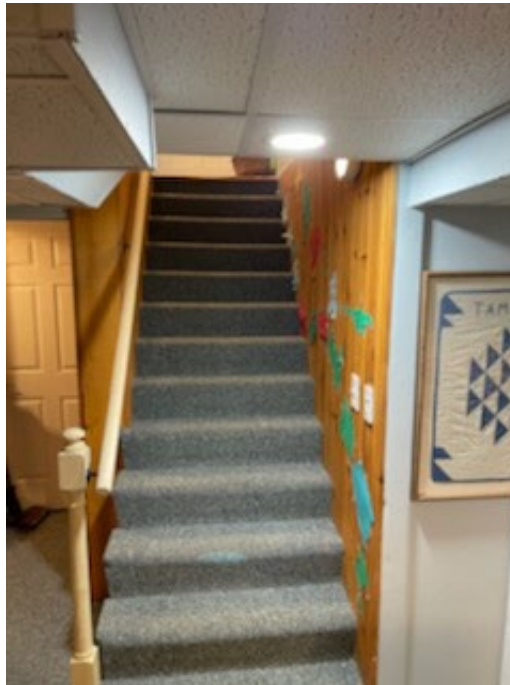


11/2/2022

Disability Advocates was able to follow up with 3 Veterans in October. These Veterans had already had home evaluations, we did follow up with equipment and home modifications the total served this year is 16. Each of these Veterans has had an Occupational Therapy home accessibility assessment to determine the needs of the Veteran to continue to live safely and independently in their homes.

So far this year the funds have been used to construct one permanent wooden wheelchair ramp, one stair lift, and 1 bathroom modification that removed the bathtub and allowed for a walk-in shower. 3 Veterans have had grab bars and railings installed. The other Veterans received assistive devices including Reacher's, a cushion, cane, a bathtub bench, a tub seat, a bed rail, and a walker. We were able to give one Veteran a tall chair from our loan closet that he uses at his counter and makes getting up and down much easier for him. In July we were able to provide a bariatric lift chair for a Veteran, and a ramp so another Veteran could safely exit his home. He was not able to leave his home until this ramp was installed, his wife was so appreciative of the ramp as it made it much easier for her and her family and gave her peace of mind. She left us a voicemail thanking us. We completed a job where the Veteran had numerous grab bars and handrails installed along with some improved lighting as he has a vision impairment. See below.





In August we depleted the funds for adaptive equipment and home modifications. We continue to complete home evaluations and using other funding sources for the equipment and modifications as we are able. In October we assisted a Veteran with recommendations for threshold ramps and grab bars in their home. We did a home visit to trial the equipment.

We have also tracked 144 information and referral calls from Veterans in Kent County during the time between January and November of 2022. Disability Advocates participated in a project called Deck for a Vet, sponsored by a radio station and a local builder. They will be providing deck upgrades for 3 Veterans in November.

We continue to partner with other community agencies in our efforts. Senior Neighbors, Home Repair Services, Building Bridges, and several contractors have assisted in making these homes safe and accessible for our Veterans. Disability Advocates also uses vendors such as Careline and Advantage Ramps.

Please contact me if you need further data. We will be sending links to success stories as we get them. Thank you so much for providing Disability Advocates with the opportunity to serve our Veterans.

Judy Morris, OTR/L CAPS
OT Program Manager