



Bringing Barrier Free Homes to Your Neighborhood!

January 2016

2015 Edith L Trees Grant Award

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Accessible Dreams is funded in part by the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council (PADDCC) and TRIPIL, a Center for Independent Living in Washington, PA.

BEFORE



Maya is a 9 year old with multiple disabilities who receives support through the Rankin Christian Center. Maya’s parents needed assistance to help their available funds cover the numerous modifications and adaptations necessary to make their home accessible. For example, there was no safe way for Maya to enjoy the outdoors in the backyard with her family.

The Rankin Christian’s Center’s support coordinator contacted Accessible Dreams for assistance. With the assistance of the Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust, Accessible Dreams was able to modify the existing patio, creating a smooth level surface and provide a necessary ramping system for ease in access to the patio and backyard.



AFTER

(con't on page 2)

2015 Edith L Trees Grant Award *(con't)*

Paige is 19 years old and has been diagnosed with multiple disabilities. Paige's parents shared her frustration with her inability to navigate through doorways and use the bathroom in her family home. They contacted Accessible Dreams to request assistance with home modifications to improve the quality of Paige's life.



Accessible Dreams did a site assessment that determined the bathroom could be remodeled. A change of the double door to a track style barn door, pneumatically operated by push plate, would greatly improve accessibility, and ADA lever hardware added to a faucet along with a new handheld shower wand would assist with functional use of the bathroom.

Through the Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust, Accessible Dreams was able to provide these solutions and add a much needed therapeutic tub on the existing deck that allows Paige the freedom to complete her water therapy in the comfort of her own home.

**The Edith L. Trees Charitable Grant, in conjunction with Accessible Dreams, is changing lives—
one person at a time.**

Adding Room to Grow



More and more, Accessible Dreams is asked to design home additions that will allow children with disabilities to grow in their home environments and retain the ability to interact with their families. While cost is always a key factor in the design and execution of such additions, Accessible Dreams enjoys displaying our versatility in this arena.

Using panelized construction techniques, we created just such a functional space in the McCandless area of Pittsburgh, PA. This form of construction allows us to diminish the build time and have the space ready for occupancy within 120 days. The outside landscaping and finishing for this project will be completed in Spring 2016.





Housing Solutions for Greene County

By partnering with Dream Homes (a Champion Homes retailer in Finleyville, PA), Accessible Dreams has merged the latest in modular manufacturing with a universal floor plan design to offer the first of its kind “quad” apartment complex as a housing solution for the Redevelopment Authority of Greene County.

The four unit complex (dubbed "Independence Place") boasts two lower-level apartments that are wheelchair accessible and two upper-level apartments that are universally designed. Each unit is 1,100 sq. ft. with two bedrooms and one bath. The uniqueness of this design is that they are built using modular construction: Champion Homes is able to construct the modular units within their factory and transport them to its site, and set all four units on their foundation in 48 hours.

The May 12, 2015, groundbreaking ceremony at 1392 Jefferson Avenue, Jefferson Borough, heralded the removal of two blighted buildings and the beginning of a new integrated housing choice solution for the Greene County community. Greene County is the first county to embrace this concept of using smaller footprint blighted properties to solve the housing shortage for low- to moderate-income persons as well as and persons within the disability community.

As of December 2015, Independence Place is in the finishing stages and will be fully occupied by March 2016 under Arbors Management.



FOUNDATION SET

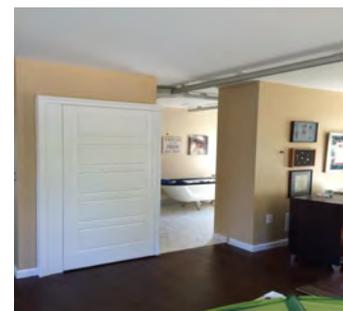
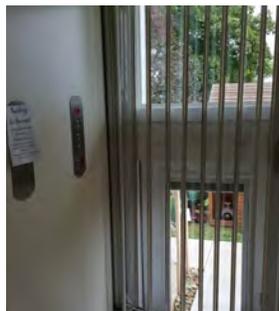


FIRST FLOOR COMPLETE



INDEPENDENCE PLACE
Jefferson Borough, Greene County, PA





Building for Bennett

Building for Bennett is a crown jewel in the Accessible Dreams achievements for 2015. We were able to assist the parents of a 6-year old child with multiple disabilities in building his “forever home.”

The challenge many parents face with a growing child with disabilities is carrying the child safely up and down stairs in a 2-story home. Bennett’s family, when faced with this challenge, started thinking about the additional challenges they would face as he grew older.

Accessible Dreams, in partnership with Prime 1 Construction, was able to assist Bennett’s parents with an accessible housing solution.

In January, construction was started on a two-story 2,000 square foot home addition for Bennett that will give him full access to his home and backyard. It includes an elevator (giving Bennett the ability to safely travel between floors), a bedroom (that can grow with him and his needs), and his own bathroom (complete with a Liko ceiling lift). Furthermore, great care was taken to preserve the original architecture of the home.

Bennett’s home was showcased in the Builders Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh Festival of Homes Tour October 3-4 and 10-11, and in Pittsburgh Magazine (see <http://www.pittsburghmagazine.com/Pittsburgh-Magazine/January-2016/Building-a-Home-for-Bennett/>).

Also, check out “Building for Bennett” on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BuildingForBennett .

Affordable One Level Living!

Accessible Dreams (a not-for-profit developer of accessible homes) teamed with Dream Homes, Inc. (a local distributor of Champion Homes) and Progressive Mobility (a supplier for assistive technology and mobility aids) to create a unique **One Level Living!** model home – the first of its kind in the region! – available to tour by appointment. The **One Level Living!** model home provides options for families of all ages who want an affordable home that can be customized to accommodate special needs, yet be attractive for the entire family.



The **One Level Living!** model home is 1,400 sq. ft. and includes three bedrooms, two full baths, open living room, dining room and kitchen. This home has been designed to allow for wheelchair access throughout. It showcases features that are universally appealing: an open floor plan, wider doors, accessible roll-in shower (with folding seat and hand-held sprayer), wider hallways, and a large first floor laundry room.

Buyers have the choice of multiple floor plans, ranging in size from 1,100 sq. ft. to over 2,000 sq. ft., customizable to fit their special needs. Home prices start at \$65,000 plus land and foundation costs.

Book your personalized **One Level Living!** model tour today! Call us @ 724-223-5115 ext 161.

