

How MDS Puts Your Contributions to Work for Unmet Critical Needs

Home Modifications ♦ Specialized Equipment ♦ Respite ♦ Critical Dental Care ♦ Winter Clothing Essentials

Because of your generosity, we are better able to provide funds for essential needs for a very vulnerable population, those with developmental and related disabilities and their families. Your contributions go **directly** to fill these unmet needs — not to cover overhead expenses. You truly can make a big difference, right here in the Monadnock region.

♦ Overhead Lift System

A child with quadriplegic spastic cerebral palsy uses a wheelchair at all times. As she ages, she has gotten heavier, and her spasms make it even more risky for both child and parent to lift her from wheelchair to bath and bed.

♦ Adaptive Device

A middle-aged man with severe cerebral palsy has been using a positioning wedge to help keep his respiratory system clear. This wedge also prevents bruising, scraping and general discomfort for him. After a number of years, this wedge must be replaced, but it is considered an alternative device and is not covered by Medicaid.

♦ Van Lift System

An older individual has a number of medical appointments to get to, and also wants to participate in family activities. Her aging sister is primary caregiver, and has had multiple back injuries due to the continual strain of lifting and repositioning, often from transferring her to their van. The current lift is over 10 years old, and has been malfunctioning.

♦ Tablet for Better Communication

A middle-aged woman's ability to get proper medical care, work, and participate in the community has been compromised because she has difficulty with speech and is hard to understand. With her MDS service coordinator, she attended a workshop to learn more about using tablets as assisted communication devices. Her care team was impressed with how much more effectively she could express herself using this special technology. Medicaid will not pay for this unless a person is totally reliant on the device and uses the tablet to do all the speaking for them.

♦ Emergency Respite

A single parent household includes two elementary school aged children, one of whom has a disability and receive services from MDS. The sibling has developed a serious health crisis, and respite funds will provide extra support for the child served by MDS, so that the mom can give fullest attention to the child who is quite ill.

Donate

We offer a secure on-line donation option at www.mds-nh.org.



♦ Van Conversion

A family with a teenager with spina bifida wants her to be able to participate in family activities outside the home that require using a vehicle. She can self-transport close to home, but without the converted van she would be housebound in inclement weather and in need of more intense respite care when the family has to be away.

♦ Family Respite

A local family with two children has an older daughter with multiple learning and physical challenges. She requires close supervision at all times for her safety. Because the family does not receive Medicaid, they are not eligible for respite funds from traditional sources. These parents need in-home respite so they can attend important school events for the individual's younger sibling. This respite will give them peace of mind for their daughter's safety while they attend, and for "sibling support", i.e., a bit of time for undivided attention to celebrate the gifts of the child who does not have a disability.

♦ Dental Care

A 30-year-old's dental care was affected by multiple medications over many years, and he has recently developed severe mouth pain and chewing problems. The treatment needed to stem the cause of that pain will require sedation. Without this dental work, he will lose his teeth — at this young age, his speech and health are already being affected by these dental issues.

♦ Specialized Wheelchair Tray

A client with cerebral palsy has worked hard to improve her independence in completing everyday tasks for herself, including eating, folding her own clothes, and doing crafts. The special wheelchair tray she uses is beyond repair, and needs replacing. Medicaid won't fund this piece of equipment.

Thank you!