

Home Accessibility Case Study Specific to Spinal Cord Injury

Jim and Kate's Story

Jim and Kate's world changed one day when Jim was involved in an accident while riding home from a motorcycle trip, resulting in T6-7 paraplegia and two wrist fractures. While Jim was recovering in a rehab hospital, Kate knew that their story and 1/2 home would need some changes in order for Jim to maintain independence. The home assessment revealed steps at the garage and front door entries and a master bath that had an inaccessible soaker tub, shower, toilet room, vanity and closet. There was also thick pile carpeting in the master bedroom and bathroom that would create increased difficulty with wheelchair management if not removed.

The Solution

The carpet in the bedroom was replaced with hardwood flooring and the bathroom floor was replaced with tile. The space that housed the soaker tub and water closet was reconfigured to create a large barrier-free shower. The toilet was relocated along the outside wall of the shower with plenty of space to allow for easy transferring. A slope skirt vanity and accessible closet storage was added. Doorways were widened to the bathroom, closet and garage entries, and a ramp was installed inside the garage. Jim was able to make a smooth transition home even though his involvement with the changes was minimal. Jim's goal of being able to accomplish daily routines without assistance was reached and he has successfully been at home for 5 years with no additional changes being needed.

About LifeWise Renovations®

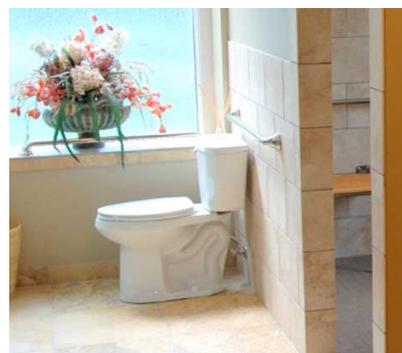
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