



Frederick County, MD

To: Assignment Editors / Business Community

From: Melissa Lentz / Board Member

Regarding: Project Partnership Provides Homeowner Access to the Outside World

Rebuilding Together of Frederick County (RBT) works to provide rehabilitation work to low income homeowners, with a focus on seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities. Recently, RBT collaborated with the Frederick County Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) along with The Knights of Columbus (St. Peter, The Apostle Council) to provide accessibility improvements for the Arieno family, residing in Lake Linganore.

Marlene Arieno's son, Patrick, is confined to a wheelchair due to multiple sclerosis. Rebuilding Together worked with the Linganore homeowner's association for an approval of a ramp and chairlift, to allow Patrick access and flexibility. Mrs. Arieno explained, "*The grant and construction opened new doors for Patrick and enabled him to access the outside world.*" Additionally, a bathroom was completely modified to provide additional convenience and independence for Patrick. Worthington Construction in Mt. Airy provided the construction services for this critical project at a reduced rate.

In addition to the county funding, the homeowner also received a \$25,000 *Accessible Homes for Seniors Grant* through the Maryland Housing Rehabilitation Program, which is administered by Frederick County DHCD. The partnership between Frederick County RBT and DHCD together stretches the rehab dollar for a greater benefit to the homeowner.

As a national organization for almost 25 years, RBT has provided extensive home rehabilitation and modification services to homeowners in-need. Our network of 187 affiliated non-profits brings together 100,000 volunteers and completes nearly 10,000 projects each year, across the nation. We more than double the value of every dollar donated. Collectively, we've reinvested over \$1.3 billion in market value into the communities we serve.

For more information, please contact RBT Board member Tony Nagle at 301-252-3384 or Melissa Lentz at 410-409-0535.