



Success Stories



TRANSITION SCHOOL

The UDS Transition School helps high school students with disabilities learn skills necessary to prepare for life after school.

CF was a senior high school student from a divorced family who resided with her mother. She suffered from depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder and explosive anger issues. Her mother was an uncontrolled alcoholic who beat and abused her regularly. She was extremely angry, unable to trust anyone and had difficulty having relationships with others.

We worked with her on anger management, how to feel the emotions without letting them consume you, what we can control in our own lives, ability to move on, being grateful, and trust and forgiveness of self. She thrived in the small group atmosphere we were able to create. At the end of the program she said she was, "surprised that she learned so much more than she thought she would." Her angry energy shifted and she said one day that she, "realized she can't help/change her Mom; she could only control herself." She was able to get her driver's permit with our help and will be getting driving lessons soon.



Watch Our Videos!

To learn more about how UDSF is changing lives in our community, check out our client videos on our website.



udservices.org
888-837-4235

SERVICE DOGS

“ While on a normal walk with my UDS Service Dog, Renner, I suddenly blacked out. Renner began barking which alerted a neighbor who called 911 for an ambulance. The neighbor told me that Renner laid beside me, put his head on my chest and barked until someone came to help. The bond I have with him is truly amazing. ”



PERSONAL HOME CARE

Independent Living Services (ILS) a division of UDS Foundation, has a participant who lives with her son. Her son had a heart issue and needed to be in the hospital for an extended amount of time. The participant could not be left alone and ILS was able to provide enough aides to keep her home for a week while her son was in the hospital.



RESOURCE CENTER

Our Resource Center Care Representative, Sherrybeth, assisted a Spanish speaking family to overcome an obstacle in applying for waiver benefits. Meredith was denied for an ODP waiver and they were unsure why. After hours of calls and using the assistance of the Care Management team, it was found that Meredith was not fully meeting the ODP requirements. This was a blow to the family, since Meredith has a learning disability and just needed access to a day program. With Sherrybeth's assistance, Meredith was approved for a PA State Waiver. Meredith now attends Adult Enrichment. Without Sherrybeth's help overcoming the language barrier and motivation to dig into this, Meredith may not yet have access to a day program.

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Adult Enrichment provides participants the opportunity to socialize, learn, gain valuable life skills and explore the community. Above everything else, we are a community of friends who have fun together, support one another, and share in each other's challenges and triumphs.

We invite you to view one of our video success stories ... www.adultenrichment.com

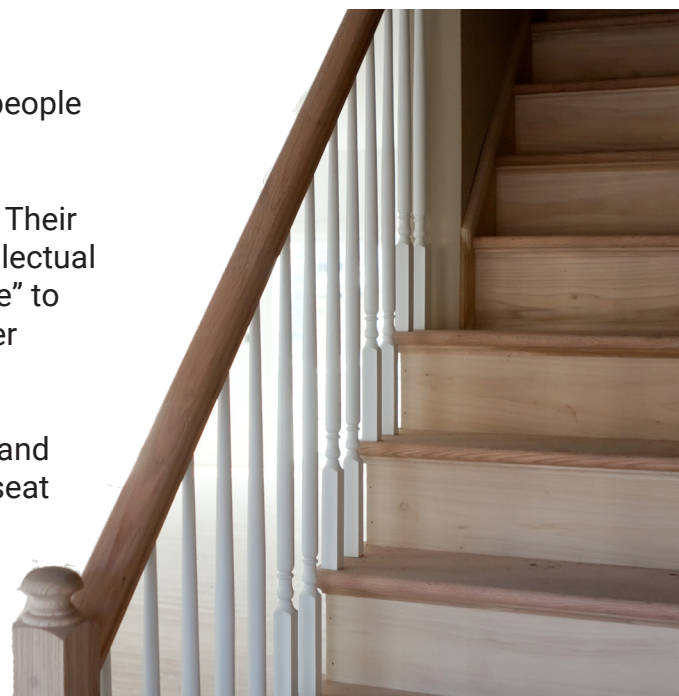


ACCESSIBLE HOME MODIFICATIONS

Every modification is a step in the right direction towards people with disabilities being able to live independently.

One in particular was a family that lives in a 4 story house. Their adult child is diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and other intellectual disabilities. The elderly mother was doing a creative "dance" to get her adult daughter on her shoulders in order to carry her from floor-to-floor in the house for many years.

UDS was able to get a four story curved stair lift approved and installed allowing the daughter to transition herself into a seat and access all floors independently. This is the largest continuous stair lift that we have installed to date and was life changing for all members of the house.



FACTS...

- *Over 1 billion people live with some form of disability.*
- *The number of people with disabilities are dramatically increasing. This is due to demographic trends and increases in chronic health conditions, among other causes.*
- *Almost everyone is likely to experience some form of disability – temporary or permanent – at some point in life.*
- *People with disabilities are disproportionately affected during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *When people with disabilities access health care, they often experience stigma and discrimination, and receive poor quality services.*
- *There is an urgent need to scale up disability inclusion in all levels of the health system, particularly primary health care.*

Source: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/disability-and-health>

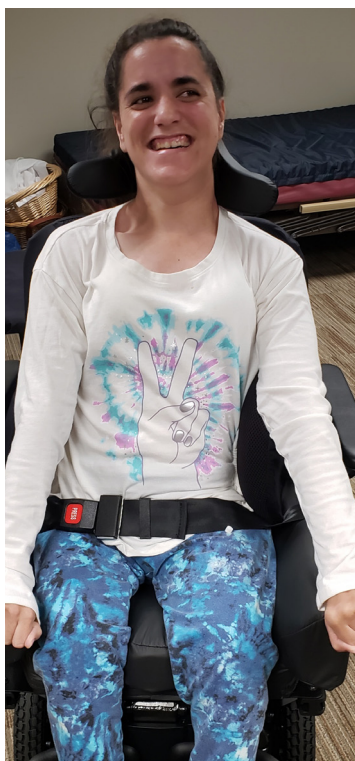


CARE MANAGEMENT

UDS was provided with a total of 59 animatronic animals. We received 35 cats and 23 dogs to complete a hybrid study.

Placement of the animatronic animals focused on two demographics: individuals with cognitive loss/dementia and individuals feeling social isolation/feeling of loneliness.

Of the individuals currently enrolled in the study, 19 enrolled in cognitive loss/dementia and 29 enrolled in social isolation/feeling of loneliness. Thus far, 23 individuals received dogs and 25 individuals received cats. We look forward to comparing our final outcomes on findings for the individuals enrolled and the 2 key demographics studied.



CUSTOM WHEELCHAIR SEATING

Stephanie is a participant in our Adult Enrichment program. She drives a power wheelchair and loves socializing and doing activities with her Adult Enrichment friends. The molded seating system we provided to her in her new chair conforms to the curvature in her spine and gives her the support she needs to sit upright and drive independently. Her new wheelchair allows her to elevate the seat so she can be at the same level as folks who are standing. When she first used this function on the new chair she was thrilled and smiled from ear-to-ear!

United Disabilities Services

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