



Promoting, Rehabilitation, Independence, Dignity, and Education

Huntingdon County PRIDE Incorporated
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Thankful for PRIDE

Dear PRIDE Supporters,

I have worked for PRIDE for two years now and continue to be amazed at how we help so many in the community. Over the last 2 months, the tables turned, and I became the recipient of PRIDE services and could not be more thankful. Many PRIDE supporters know that I had a baby boy, Maddox, in June of this year. While on maternity leave, I had an accident and suffered from two fractures to my right leg. Being unable to put weight on your leg is challenging, and the pain is significant, but having a newborn baby made everything more difficult. I was struggling with meeting my basic needs and just wanted to be able to take care of Maddox. I received crutches from the hospital and a brace and had to wait to hear from the orthopedic surgeon. I felt utterly helpless, as I am sure that many people do when they endure such an injury.



Had I not worked for PRIDE, I would NEVER have known about the equipment loan program. A quick phone call to my doctor, who provided necessary prescriptions for several pieces of adaptive medical equipment PRIDE provided to help me get around in the house. I finally got a shower with my shower chair, my family could assist in lifting me with a gait belt, and most importantly, I could take care of Maddox using a wheelchair. Without these items, there is no way we would have been able to stay in our own house.

For two years, I have watched countless medical equipment go out the door, FREE, to anyone in need. Everyone is always so appreciative, and I now I understand more than ever why.

Following my surgery, where I received a metal plate and six screws in my knee, I have had my fair share of talks with doctors and nurses. Every time we would explain the equipment we had at home, they were stunned that such a program existed. I've seen other patients with broken or aging equipment because their insurance doesn't cover those items. I was truly blessed to receive these loans, and I don't want to think of what I would have done without them.

My goal is to ensure everyone in Huntingdon County knows of this program. I know there are still those unaware that we have the equipment or that it is a free loan. This is a fantastic county, and I am even more thankful to the many individuals who donate items or money to our agency. The strength and support of a small town is why we live in Huntingdon County. Thank you to all of our amazing PRIDE supporters from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,

Ashley Winegarder-Executive Director & Maddox Winegardner-Director in Training



