



NEWS RELEASE

Home Builders Care of Fargo-Moorhead Foundation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Home Builders Association Remodelers Council builds wheelchair accessibility ramp for Fargo family

Fargo, N.D. – The Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead’s Remodelers Council constructed a wheelchair accessibility ramp Dec. 7 for Fargo resident Elena Andersen, 3443 17th St. S. The HBA of F-M and Remodelers Council members, along with Home Builders Care of F-M Foundation, coordinated the effort and donated time for the project.

Elena Andersen, daughter of Sherry Andersen, was diagnosed with myelomeningocele, more commonly known as spina bifida, at birth. Spina bifida is a birth defect in which the backbone and spinal canal do not close before birth. This causes the spinal cord and meninges (the tissues covering the spinal cord) to stick out of the child’s back. Sherry Andersen was relieved to find out about the partnership with Freedom Resource Center and the HBA’s Remodelers Council, as her daughter is entirely wheelchair-bound.

“Since Elena has been in a wheelchair all of her life, this ramp will give her more access to the house,” she says. “It will give her more independence and most importantly freedom to come and go when she wants.”

Individuals and companies that volunteered for the project include: Accent Contracting; John Fugle, Casselton Lumber, Inc.; Dave Anderson, Kevin Briggs and Tyler Carr, Dave Anderson Construction; Sylvia Lunski, Design Direction, Inc.; Dan Beecher, Foam DR’s LLC; Gary Grandbois, Granites Unlimited; Roger Bauch and Terry Rocheford, Home Heating, Plumbing & A/C, Inc.; Bob Roers, Laney’s; Brent Atkins, Minnkota Windows, Inc.; Russ Richards, Rebuilding Together Fargo-Moorhead Area, Inc.; and Ursula Hegvik, Smart Spaces, Inc.

The Remodelers Council is a committee of the HBA of F-M that deals with issues affecting the remodeling segment of the building industry. Council members continually lend their efforts to these types of charitable projects building two to three ramps a year depending on funding and emergency needs. Projects are generally referred through Freedom Resource Center, an advocacy organization designed to assist people with disabilities in achieving and maintaining independent lifestyles.

The HBA of F-M is a non-profit trade association of over 800 members that has been in existence since 1956. Its mission is to provide quality services, benefits and education to members and the community while representing the collective interests of the home building industry.

Home Builders Care Foundation is the HBA of F-M’s charity dedicated to supporting skill training, education and projects related to the housing industry.

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For answers to any questions regarding this release, or to arrange an interview with Sherry and Elena Andersen or Remodelers Council leaders, please contact Krista Mund at (701) 232-5846 or kristam@hbcfm.com.