



Keeping Our Neighbors SAFE AND SOUND

by Kari Nichols

At the heart of every thriving community is a simple truth: a safe, stable home is the foundation upon which everything else is built. It's where we raise our families, find comfort, and build memories. Yet for too many of our neighbors right here in Dane and Green Counties, this foundation is cracking. As we start this new year and consider what it means to give and share, we at Project Home want to shine a light on the quiet, often hidden, struggle of keeping a home—and the incredible power of a community that comes together to help.

In a region known for its vibrant energy and progressive spirit, the challenges of aging homes, rising costs, and accessibility needs can feel overwhelming. A senior citizen on a fixed income faces an impossible choice

between a critical furnace repair and buying groceries. A young family can't afford to fix a leaky roof, leading to mold and health issues. A person with a disability is trapped in their own home, unable to navigate a single step. These aren't just isolated problems; they're

widespread issues that threaten the very fabric of our neighborhoods.

A Community Powered Safety Net

For 55 years, Project Home has stood as a beacon of hope, working to ensure that our neighbors can stay safe,



warm, and dry in their own homes. We're not just a repair service; we're a community-powered safety net. Our mission is to preserve and improve housing for low- to moderate-income residents in south central Wisconsin, with a special focus on the elderly, those with disabilities, and families with children. Our work is a testament to the belief that every person deserves to live with dignity and security in their own home.

For families struggling to make ends meet, the cost of heating and cooling a home can be a huge burden. Our Weatherization programs are designed to solve this by providing free upgrades that make homes more energy efficient and affordable. This work may include air sealing and insulating attics, insulating exterior walls, repairing or replacing inefficient furnaces, and even replacing inefficient refrigerators or freezers. These improvements don't just reduce utility bills; they improve air quality and create a healthier living environment.

“Project Home came in and insulated our attic and sealed our windows. Now, our bills are so much lower, and the house is finally comfortable. It's made a huge difference for our family.”

— Jessica, single mother of two

Stability and Accessibility

Our Home Repair programs focus on essential repairs crucial to a home's safety. Whether it's a leaky roof, faulty plumbing, or damaged siding, our team works to bring homes back to a stable condition. Additionally, our Serving Those Who Serve program provides dedicated support to veterans and military families, addressing critical repair needs to honor their commitment to our country. A cornerstone of this work is providing Accessibility Modifications, which is a lifeline for



hundreds of individuals. We retrofit homes with wheelchair ramps, grab bars, and roll-in showers, transforming a house from a barrier into a sanctuary.

“Project Home installed a new ramp and grab bars in our bathroom, and it's changed everything. We feel so much safer now, and we can't thank them enough for giving us our independence back.”

— Maria and Luis, Project Home clients

When a furnace breaks in the middle of a harsh Wisconsin winter or a pipe bursts, our Emergency Repair program steps in to address critical issues immediately. We know these emergencies can be devastating, and we act quickly to prevent a small problem from becoming a disaster that displaces a family.

Strengthening Our Foundation

The profound impact of a safe home resonates across our entire region. Ensuring that a senior can age in place or a person with a disability can live with independence is how we build a stronger, more resilient community. The spirit of our community is found in the strength of its people and our

collective willingness to look out for one another.

Project Home serves as a way to channel that spirit into tangible, life-changing action. By ensuring that the homes we live in remain safe and sound, we protect the stability of our neighborhoods for generations to come. To learn more about our programs and how you can support these efforts through financial contributions, please visit our website.

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Photographs provided by Project Home.



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