WINTER 2022



OFF THE DRAWING BOARD. During the hard winter months, January and February, we focused on planning and organizing two large projects.

IN MARCH we commenced work on the basement project outlined in our Fall *BluePrint*. A mother, under treatment for cancer and burdened with medical bills, had requested we turn an unfinished basement into a playroom for her young son. Volunteer turnout was gratifying and on the first weekend, we managed to frame the walls and closets.

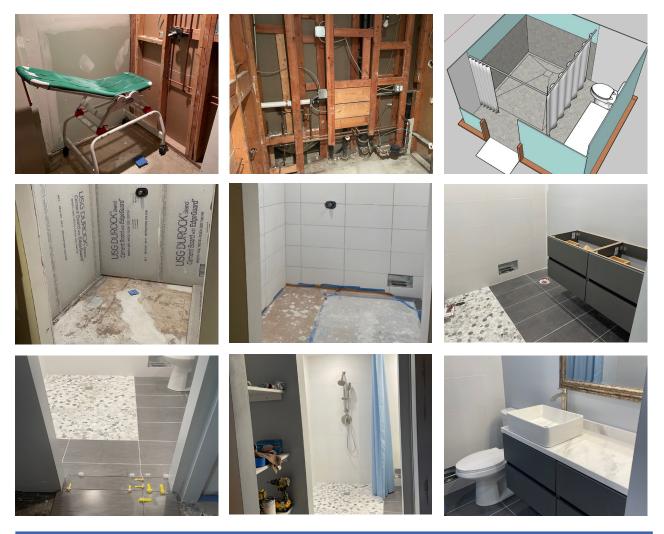


In the weeks following, we added electrical outlets, hung the drywall, and completed all the finishing touches—doors, casings, flooring, baseboards, ceiling fixtures, and paint. The son and his friends now have a safe, comfy room to do what 10-year-old boys do—we're not sure what that is, but it's loud.





OUR NEXT BIG PROJECT was for a family in Hoffman Estates with an extremely disabled teenage daughter. They had been trying for years to have a bathroom that would be totally adapted to the special needs of their daughter. Essentially, what was required was a "shower room" that would accommodate a roll-in shower chair. Work had begun on plumbing and some electrical but was never completed. Referred to us, we built them a new Bath Room—fully tiled with a hanging hospital-style curtain wall, toilet, vanity, linen storage, and lighting. It will mean they can finally bathe and care for their daughter properly and with dignity.



WE PUNCHED WINTER IN THE NOSE. Custom windows arrived from our good friends at Pella that we installed in a Hoffmann Estates home. The live-alone grandmother now has her drafty old windows replaced and can look forward this winter to cozy rooms and lower heating bills.

WE PUT A SINGLE MOM'S MIND AT EASE. During her home inspection, problems were discovered that she had to ignore to get the "as-is" price. Concerned for the safety of her daughters, she reached out to us to mitigate the problems. We fixed the sump pump, added electrical outlets in the garage to eliminate dangerously long extension cords for the door openers, replaced circuit breakers to bring the panel up to code, fixed a deck pulling away from the house, and several other minor but important fixes.



ALLIANCES EXPAND OUR MISSION. As we have reported in the past, The Build Team has begun helping other community not-for-profits. Importantly, we have helped remodel WINGS housing, repair facilities for Catholic Charities, Neurobalance Center, BYFS, and Citizens for Conservation.

The latter has developed into a significant benefit to both organizations. As you may know, CFC has acquired a large portion of the Hill 'N Dale horse farm, formerly owned by the Duchossois family—246 acres and 27 buildings! The Build Team has entered a partnership of sorts—we're helping fix up the farm's headquarters which has now become CFC's new offices. Importantly to TBT, CFC has granted us access to one of the barns to store our trailers and tools saving us thousands of dollars in annual costs.

As plans unfold in the transition from farm to prairie, The Build Team will assist CFC with structural modifications.

We couldn't continue to share these wonderful stories without your support. By using volunteer labor, a small amount of money will fund a large project. Please consider a contribution to The Build Team this Holiday Season.

Donations can be made online at thebuildteam.org or by check to the corporate office. All donations are fully tax deductible.



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