

## Enhancing Independence

### Essential Equipment and Support for People in Need

There is typically no government assistance for people to get the majority of essential equipment like ramps, lifts or the special cushions or pressure relief mattress surfaces that prevent potentially life-threatening pressure sores.

Where support is available for mobility devices (wheelchair, wheeled walker), 25% of the cost must be contributed by the client. Coming up with these funds can be impossible for many whose financial well-being has been devastated by their injury.

People not being covered by the Ontario Disability Support Program, or by work or personal insurance are falling through gaps in the system and they need help getting essential equipment and support they need.

Equipment funding makes for life-changing and lifesaving help that lasts for years. Although equipment is expensive, we are experts at making funding go a long way. We negotiate best pricing, pursue donated equipment, and when used equipment donations and purchases are not impeded by COVID-19, we can help provide as much as four dollars' worth of equipment with a dollar of funding.

Your donation funds essential equipment and supports that will:

- Correct an unsafe situation.
- Improve immediate health outcomes.
- Make it possible for the recipient to leave hospital, or a care facility, and move back to the community.
- Significantly improve independence in the home.
- Significantly improve independence in the community.

People who receive help are selected based on need by a committee of Spinal Cord Injury Ontario front line staff who collectively have decades of experience helping and assessing the needs of people with spinal cord injury. The committee includes people with lived experience of spinal cord injury.

In the past year, the Enhancing Independence Program has helped 84 people get the essential equipment and support they need.

COVID-19 has increased the number of people who need help, impeded used equipment donations and cut fundraising income. Your help is needed to stop people falling through gaps in the system.

You can change someone's life by making secure online donation today at [sciontario.org/independence](https://sciontario.org/independence)  
Please don't hesitate to contact Paul at [giving@sciontario.org](mailto:giving@sciontario.org) or 1-877-422-1112 ext. 801 with any questions.

# Enhancing Independence

Essential Equipment and Supports for People in Need

## What does equipment cost?

|                                   |                      |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Manual Wheelchair                 | \$6,000 to \$11,000  | (Client Portion \$1,500 -\$2,750)   |
| Power Wheelchair                  | \$15,000 to \$25,000 | (Client Portion \$3,750 to \$6,250) |
| Pressure Relief Surface for a Bed | \$1,000              |                                     |
| Ceiling Lift                      | \$3,000+             |                                     |
| Commode                           |                      |                                     |
| Stationary                        | \$300                |                                     |
| Self-Propelled                    | \$1,300 to \$4,000   |                                     |
| Ramp                              |                      |                                     |
| Portable (varying length)         | \$300 to \$800       |                                     |
| Permanent (10m)                   | \$2,000 to \$3,000   |                                     |
| Porch Lift                        | \$6,000 to \$8,000   |                                     |
| Safety Grab Bar (Installed)       | \$150                |                                     |
| Power Wheelchair Battery          |                      |                                     |
| Lead (usually 2 needed)           | \$100 to \$200       |                                     |
| Gel (usually 2 needed)            | \$200 to \$400       |                                     |