



Community Action Partnership of North Dakota

Homeowners Assistance Fund

Success Stories 2025

Repairing Homes. Restoring Independence.



Region 2 – Bottineau, Burke, McHenry, Mountrail, Pierce, Renville, Ward Counties

Region 2: Marlene Gains Safety and Independence Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund

Marlene and her husband, longtime homeowners in Minot, reached out to Community Action for the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) because mobility challenges were making daily life increasingly difficult. Both experienced mobility limitations, and her husband relied on a walker. As they grew older, a traditional bathtub-shower combination became unsafe, and they worried about slipping, falling, and no longer being able to care for themselves in their own home.

Through the HAF program, Marlene received the support she needed to make essential safety modifications. A walk-in shower was installed, along with a bathroom venting fan and sturdy grab handles placed strategically to ensure stability and reduce the risk of falls. These updates transformed the bathroom into a safer, more accessible space allowing Marlene and her husband to maintain their independence and age safely in their home.

Today, Marlene and her husband feel safer and more confident navigating their home. The modifications have restored peace of mind and made it possible for them to continue living comfortably in the place they love.

Region 3 – Benson, Cavalier, Eddy, Ramsey, Rolette, and Towner Counties

Region 3 – Cindy’s Home Made Warmer, Safer, and Accessible in Leeds

Cindy, a homeowner in Leeds, was struggling to safely use and maintain her home. Her aging ranch-style house had deteriorating siding and an entry door that no longer provided proper access, making it difficult to get in and out, especially during North Dakota’s harsh weather.

After being referred by North Dakota Health and Human Services, Cindy connected with Community Action’s Homeowner Assistance Program, where staff worked with her to assess what was needed to make her home safer and more functional.

Through the program, Cindy received new siding and a new access door, improving both the comfort and safety of her home. These repairs made the house warmer, more energy efficient, and much easier for Cindy to enter and exit.

Staff stayed in close contact with Cindy throughout the process, and the contractor went above and beyond cutting down trees outside the home that were creating additional hazards. This extra effort ensured not only a better repair outcome, but a safer environment around the home as well.

Today, Cindy can comfortably use her front door, stay warmer in her home, and feel confident that her living environment supports her independence and safety.

Region 4 – Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina, and Walsh Counties

Region 4 – Mike’s Home Made Livable Again in Inkster, ND

Mike, a single homeowner in the small rural town of Inkster, lives in a 1915 ranch-style home that had become increasingly difficult and unsafe for him to use. His bathroom was not accessible for his needs, and his failing drain field meant his plumbing system was unreliable and at risk of failure. These issues made it hard for Mike to manage daily activities like bathing and using his own bathroom with dignity.

Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF), Mike received critical home repairs that restored both safety and livability. A new, accessible shower was installed to meet his mobility needs, and his drain field was repaired, ensuring that the home’s plumbing system works properly and safely.

Community Action also went above and beyond by working closely with Mike and helping identify contractors willing to take on the project, even as the work approached the maximum allowable funding level. This coordination ensured the repairs could move forward without delay.

Today, Mike can safely use his bathroom and rely on his home’s plumbing again; something that had become uncertain before HAF stepped in. These improvements allow him to remain in his home with greater independence, stability, and peace of mind.

This is the true impact of the Homeowner Assistance Fund: preserving housing, improving accessibility, and helping people remain safely in the homes they call their own.

Region 5 – Cass, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele, and Traill Counties

Region 5 - Bryce's Home Restored Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund

Bryce, a senior living in West Fargo with his adult son, contacted Community Action because his home urgently needed major repairs. Years of wear and weather damage had left the roof, soffit, fascia, and gutters failing—and the bathroom was no longer safe for him to use. Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF), Bryce received extensive repairs, including: replacement of shingles, soffit, fascia, and gutters and installation of a walk-in shower for safety and accessibility.

Community Action also connected Bryce to additional assistance through the furnace program and Weatherization, ensuring his home was not only structurally sound but also energy-efficient and safe for the long term.

Bryce expressed deep gratitude for the help he received, sharing:

“I don’t know what I would have done without this program and these repairs. It feels like a miracle. Programs like this are a godsend.”

Region 6 – Barnes, Dickey, Foster, Griggs, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Stutsman, and Wells Counties

Region 6 – Protecting a Family’s Home Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund in Jamestown

Rachel, a single parent and homeowner in Jamestown, reached out to Community Action after experiencing ongoing water issues in her basement. She had already exhausted her personal resources making critical exterior repairs, including siding, soffit, fascia, and gutters, but continued to face water intrusion that threatened the safety and stability of her home.

Through the Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF) program, Community Action was able to step in and provide the additional support Rachel needed. Staff coordinated the installation of a drain tile system and sump pump, addressing the underlying water management issues and protecting the home from future damage.

This critical home repair not only resolved the immediate problem but also prevented more serious and costly issues down the road. With the system in place, Rachel can now remain safely in her home without the ongoing stress of water damage or the financial burden of further repairs.

Region 7 – Burleigh, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Oliver, Sheridan, and Sioux Counties

Region 7: Jesse Regains Safety and Independence Through the Homeowner Assistance Fund in Bismarck

Jesse, a homeowner in Bismarck, reached out to Community Action for the Homeowners Assistance Fund (HAF) after struggling with basic daily tasks that used to be routine. Following a mild stroke, Jesse lost some mobility in his leg, making it extremely difficult and dangerous to step over the high side of a traditional bathtub. He often needed his girlfriend's help to get in and out of the tub, creating safety concerns and limiting his independence.

When water also began leaking from the existing tub drain, the situation became urgent. Jesse needed a safer bathing option, but the cost of converting the bathroom was beyond what he could afford.

Through HAF, Jesse received exactly what he needed: a walk-in shower with grab rails and replacement of the leaking tub. These modifications immediately transformed the bathroom into a safe, accessible space.

Today, Jesse no longer needs assistance to use the shower. He can safely get in and out on his own, manage his personal hygiene independently, and move through his home with greater confidence. What once required daily help is now something he can do with dignity and ease.

This is the difference the Homeowner Assistance Fund makes: restoring safety, independence, and quality of life for homeowners facing medical and mobility challenges.
