

The Case for Support

ProjectMEND
MEDICAL EQUIPMENT REUSE





FOR OVER 25 YEARS

WE EMPOWER

Too often individuals living with disabilities and illness feel as though they are a burden on their family and friends, having to depend on them for help with daily activities such as bathing, sleeping, and eating. The great news is that technology in medical devices has greatly enhanced independence and quality of life for those with disabilities and illness. This is where Project MEND comes in. Our entire mission is to ensure that those living with disabilities and illness who may be economically disadvantaged are able to have access to the medical equipment and other assistive technologies that will improve their quality of life. Project MEND takes donated medical equipment, professionally sanitizes it in accordance with State standards, refurbishes it and then gives individuals solutions to greatly increase their self-sufficiency and quality of life.

For over 25 years, through our life changing programs, Project MEND has:

- Helped people become mobile and independent; improved their quality of life, through enhanced interaction with friends and family, and allowed them to be an active participant in their community;
- Given individuals the ability to communicate for the first time with their family and caregivers allowing them to better participate in their life and advocate for their healthcare; and
- Saved equipment from dump sites, keeping unsanitary and potentially bio-hazardous equipment contained and out of the hands of untrained individuals while promoting a “green friendly” environment.

A massive benign tumor on her spine left Dolores with no other options than to have surgery.

“ Because of Project MEND, I have a wheelchair that allows me to get around my home. My goal is to be able to walk again, and I am grateful that Project MEND has given me the start to getting my independence back. ” -DOLORES



WHAT'S NEXT

Project MEND is the oldest and largest organization in Texas providing these life-changing services. In fact, we are one of only two non-profits in Texas licensed to refurbish medical equipment. In 2017 we provided services to almost 1,500 customers, issuing 2,733 pieces of medical equipment and 221 assistive technology devices.

WE FACE A CHOICE

- 65% of our customers are seniors; the senior population is expected to grow by 20% every 5 years.
- The average wait time for a piece of medical equipment through publicly funded healthcare is 3-5 months.
- Public healthcare will only pay for 2 pieces of medical equipment every 5 years no matter how many you need, which jeopardizes people's health, every day.

Since 1992 Project MEND has been the only local resource for individuals that need life changing medical equipment and technology. Over the last 25 years we have helped veterans receive the prosthetics and medical equipment they need to be back on their feet, babies acquire the cranial helmet they need for proper development and helped individuals with the devices they need to get out of bed and their home. With our help, thousands of children and adults of all walks of life have been given the highest degree of self sufficiency possible.

**“ Ethan is happy,
and without pain.
My family will never
be able to thank
Project MEND enough
for the difference
they’ve made in
Ethan’s life. ”**

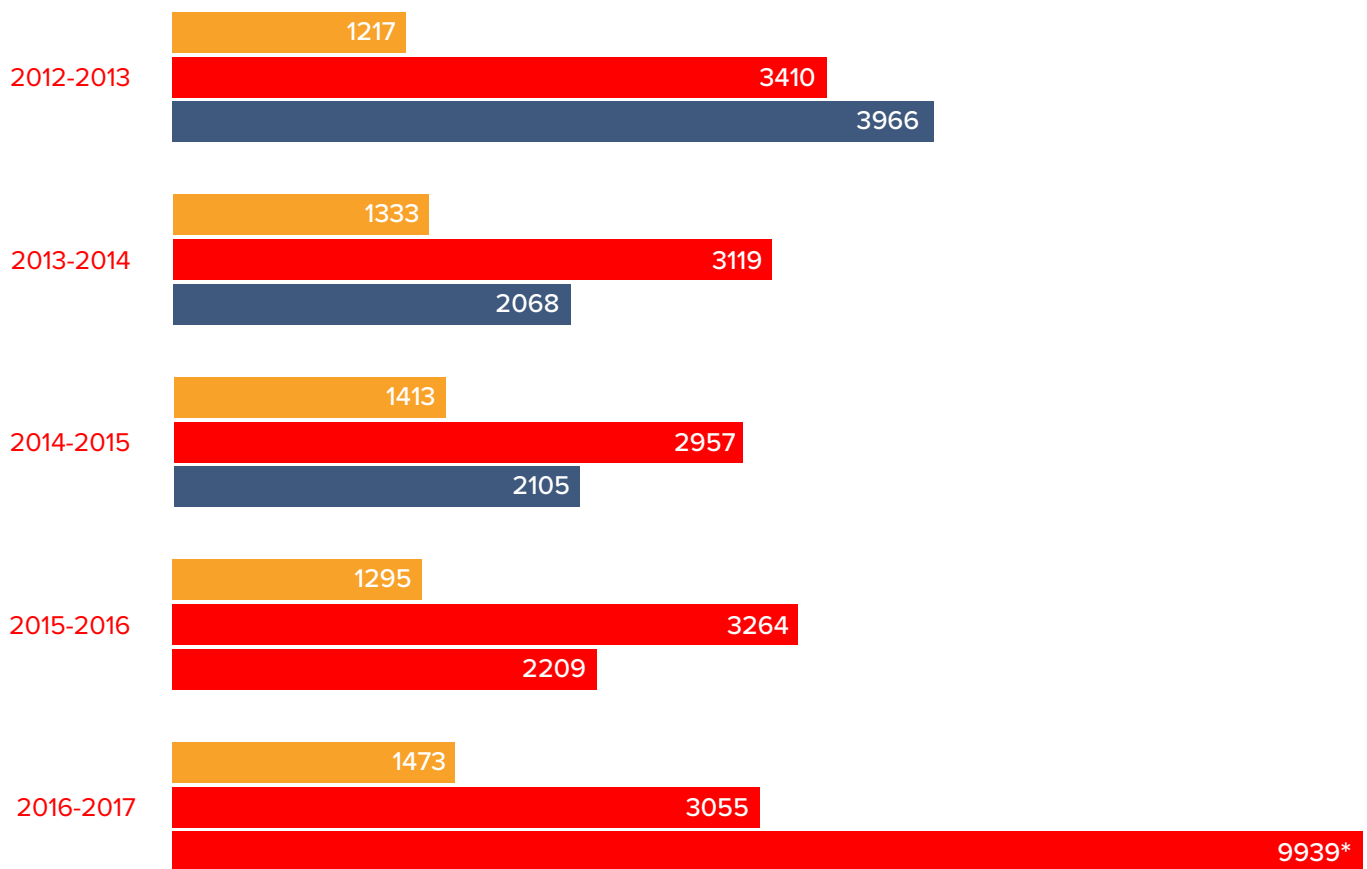
-ETHAN’S MOM



“
A new Rifton Shower chair would cost over \$900 and is not something we can afford. Our insurance was not willing to cover the cost. Project MEND’s Assistive Technology Financial Aid Program came to the rescue.
 ”

-TYLER’S DAD

GROWTH IN CUSTOMER SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT DONATIONS



● **Services Provided** ● **Equipment Distributed to Customers** ● **Equipment Donations Received**

*Due to new partnerships we have been able to take in much more equipment than in years past. We are able to use about 30% of donated equipment for our customers and many are used for parts.

THE SOLUTION

The staff and Board of Directors of Project MEND have unanimously agreed to move forward with a \$3.2 million capital campaign to build a headquarters that will combine program staff and our warehouse in one building in order to greatly enhance the experience of our customers and expand the numbers we serve.

For the first time in years our customers will be able to see their case worker again, tell them about their needs, fill out the needed paperwork and receive their equipment all in the same place, often in the same day, just like before.

Our new space will include:

- training/demonstration space for our customers to try out their new device in real world scenarios to ensure safety;
- adequate warehouse space to collect items that require special permitting including nebulizers, oxygen concentrators, and CPaP machines; and
- a repair center where we will be able to repair equipment for both our customers and the general public as an earned revenue stream.

We cannot do this without you. We need your help. Through this campaign, together we can:

- create a customer first experience for the 1,500 individuals we serve annually;
- meet the need of the expanding senior population;
- serve more veterans who desperately need our help;
- expand our services to include earned revenue streams to positively affect our bottom line;
- provide additional assistance to children who have outgrown their equipment before they are allotted another one through insurance.

Through our abilities we are able to reuse equipment time and time again, making it available to those in need. Help Project MEND continue to provide the highest level of self-sufficiency possible for San Antonio's residents of all ages.

