## The Home Access Program

The Home Access Program (HAP), administered by the Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia (SILCGA) and funded by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), is dedicated to making home modifications for individuals with disabilities. These modifications, including ramps, bathroom remodels, and other accessibility features, are crucial for enabling safe and independent living. With a budget of \$100,000 for this current fiscal year, the funding has already been fully utilized, having assisted 13 households with essential home modifications. If awarded more funds next year, we could assist more of the 533 Georgia households currently on our waitlist.



## <u>The Issue</u>

Home modifications are critical for enabling individuals with disabilities to safely and independently navigate their homes. However, the cost of living, along with the rising prices of labor and materials for these modifications, has significantly increased. This growing expense means that the current budget no longer stretches as far as it used to, leaving many on our long waiting list without the help they urgently need. The rising costs are making it increasingly challenging to meet the demand for these essential modifications.



## The Request

We are seeking an increase in funding to the total amount of \$500,000 for the Home Access Program to better serve the constituents of Georgia. This support will ensure that we can continue to provide vital modifications, such as ramps and bathroom adaptations, to those in need.

## <u>The Goal</u>



By securing additional funding, we can make a transformative impact for over 40 families that have individuals with disabilities. This funding will enable them to navigate or return to their homes with confidence. Moreover, this investment will help Georgia avoid the considerable costs associated with nursing facility placements, fostering a more inclusive and cost-effective approach to disability support. Investing in the Home Access Program is not just a step towards greater accessibility—it's a commitment to enhancing quality of life and reducing long-term expenses.