

COMMISSION ON AGING
ACCESS TO DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Commission on Aging (COA) wishes to advise Town of East Granby residents that small durable medical equipment is available at no cost to anyone through the Hospital for Special Care. The Hospital for Special Care is located at 2150 Corbin Avenue, New Britain, CT near the Farmington town line. There is a small house next door to the hospital, staffed by volunteers, that handles the Special Care Equipment Exchange. The telephone contact is (860) 612-6302. The Exchange makes available for loan such necessities as wheelchairs, canes, walkers, commodes and bath seats. Donations of such equipment are accepted and appreciated, and forms are provided to use as a basis for a charitable tax deduction. Please contact by telephone for further information. The equipment is left out on the back porch of the house, for pick up or drop off, at any time.

For larger durable medical equipment, such as hospital beds or lifts, the New England Assistive Technology (NEAT) Resource & Education Center program at Oak Hill, located at 33 Coventry Street in Hartford, will provide access to a wider range of used durable medical equipment at its Equipment Restoration Center (ERC) for purchase. The facility is open Mondays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. and the first and second Saturday of every month, at 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., except holiday weekends. The charge to purchase the restored equipment is at a savings of 50% to 80% of the original cost. Smaller durable medical equipment is also available, such as scooters, wheelchairs, walkers and canes. The NEAT center will also accept donations of disability equipment, which is then repaired, restored and sold. Donations may be dropped off at the 33 Coventry Street location or pick up can be scheduled. Presently, there is a three week wait for pick up. For more specific information, contact Don Hoerman, Manager, at (860) 286 3106 (860) 243-2869 or email info@neatmarketplace.org, or www.neatmarketplace.org.

Closer to home, the Town of Granby has a durable medical loaner closet at Holcomb Farm located at 113 Simsbury Road, West Granby. It is open from 9:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, by appointment only. The loaner closet provides commodes, canes, standard walkers, seat walkers, and shower chairs. It is staffed by volunteers. Donations of gently used equipment are also accepted, by appointment only. For more information, please contact Sandy Yost, at (860) 844-5352.

Additionally, at the Granby Pharmacy at 9 Hartford Avenue in the center of Granby, durable medical equipment is available for sale and rent. The rentals can be monthly, or weekly as needed. No donations of equipment are accepted. Among the inventory the pharmacy stocks are wheelchairs with standard or elevated foot rests, lightweight wheelchairs for easy transport, folding walkers and rolling walkers with seat, knee scooters, crutches, shower chairs with backs, elevated toilet seats, bathtub rails and solar shield eye glasses. What the store doesn't immediately have in stock, the store can order. For more information, please contact (860)653-2517.

