

January 28, 2020

Good afternoon,

My name Rhys Greenlee, I am a Community Resource Coordinator at New Horizons Supported Services. My main duties involve finding opportunities in the community for individuals to participate and/or volunteer in. One of the main issues I have constantly ran into, since being a DSP myself, are restrooms/changing stations for our individuals while being out in the community. This has become a major concern because it creates limitations for our individuals while they are participating in outings in the community. There have even been times where individuals would prefer to pass up the opportunity to go out into the community out of fear that there would be no place for he/or she to change in case a accident occurred.

As a DSP, I have personally come across situations in the community where individuals could have benefitted from having a changing station at our location. One example, I was scheduled to take my group of 5 individuals to the movies one mornings after stopping by a local library. While at the library, one of my individuals who had mobility issues had an accident on himself, & despite having a change of clothes for this gentlemen, there was nowhere available to have him cleaned & changed. As a result, our movie outing had to be cancelled for that day which was very unfortunate for the remaining individuals. My individuals were able to express their disappointment to me which at the moment became discouraging. There was another incident at a local Wegmans, where some of our individuals stopped to purchase. Unfortunately again, one of the individuals had an accident right there on site. This caused a major issue because once again, there was no place to get this individual properly cleaned up. Our lunch outing was cut short, & although we were able to clean him to the best of our ability, this gentlemen still had to be transported back to the building without being 100 percent without a doubt cleaned.

I believe adding changing stations for our adults around our community should not only be a standard, but morally, it is absolutely the right thing to do.