

Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living

Success Stories

Chandra



Chandra is a Nepalese refugee who was hospitalized for two months. Not only was he without a home because his family could no longer manage his care, but it was very hard to find a provider due to the language barrier combined with his complex care needs. Most people believed that a nursing facility was his only option. However, after the ASD transition team met with Chandra, they referred him to the Adult Family Care (AFC) home provider network which offers a matching service and contracted care arrangements through private homes. All the providers met Chandra, but without finding a match. Each time Chandra's translator, Megnath, explained to Chandra who the provider was, a description of what an AFC home is, and how it might be an option for him.

One day, Chandra's interpreter asked if he could talk in private with the ASD transition coordinator. Amazingly, Megnath volunteered to be Chandra's AFC home provider! This was a great match, since he could speak Chandra's language and they had developed a good relationship. Megnath went to work getting his home ready for a safety and accessibility inspection. Since Megnath was doing the renovations himself, it was a slow process. During this time, Chandra was admitted to a nursing facility. While he was at the nursing facility, Chandra sat in his wheelchair with his head down, eyes closed, and did not interact...he appeared very depressed.

After several hurdles, Chandra's discharge team pushed through, and Chandra was discharged from the nursing facility in October 2017. There was one last hurdle...during Chandra's 3-hour trip from Bennington to Winooski they discovered that his durable medical equipment was going to the wrong place! But no worries, the equipment was re-routed and both Chandra and the equipment he needs made it to his new home. Upon Chandra's arrival, Megnath stated that he knew Chandra recognized him while putting his hand to his chest. Now Chandra sits with his head up and a big smile on his face. It's amazing what a difference one person can make in another person's life.