

Frequently Asked Questions

Why home repairs?

Many older adults and people with disabilities have nowhere to turn for help with small home repairs or accessibility modifications. We focus on repairs that support safety, independence and home health care. Our repairs help reduce accidents, caregiving needs, hospitalizations and moves to expensive housing with care services.

Is this for low-income households only?

No. We just need to know that we are working on the homes of seniors and people with disabilities. Some households are eligible for grants or Medicaid waivers and we can refer them to those programs.

How much will it cost?

Our volunteers provide their labor at no charge but most repairs cost something. We will estimate the cost of parts or materials for your project and appreciate any financial contribution you can make.

Support Helping Hands

There is no charge for home repairs, but some households cannot afford to pay for the building materials and parts they need. To cover these costs, we rely on contributions from households that are able to pay a bit more than the cost of their own repairs. Even small donations can buy a light bulb, outlet cover or fasteners. All contributions help us make a big difference in the homes and lives of many seniors and people with disabilities. Individuals, groups and businesses can donate by:

- Credit card online at www.fairbanksseniorcenter.org
- Check payable to "North Star Council on Aging"

In-kind contributions of tools, safety gear and common home repair parts help stretch our dollars. Contact us about items on our "wish list".

**A program of the
North Star Council on Aging
Fairbanks Senior Center
1424 Moore Street
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701**



Helping Hands Home Repairs

Helping older adults and people with disabilities to live in the familiarity, comfort and safety of their own home

A service of



(907) 457-4263 [457-HAND]
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www.fairbanksseniorcenter.org

Need a Helping Hand?

If you are a senior or someone with a disability who needs help with small but necessary home repairs that you cannot do yourself and cannot find anyone else to do, contact us.

Tell us what you need. Keep in mind that we focus on small, simple projects that improve health, safety and security and help keep you living at home. See listed "Home repair examples" →

Provide us with some basic information about yourself and your home. Let us know the most convenient days and times for us to look at your project to see if we have volunteers who can help. We will give you a cost estimate for the parts and materials, if needed, and schedule a crew to do the work. If you rent your house or apartment, we may require your landlord's permission before we begin.

Home repair examples

Carpentry

- Handrails
- Stairs & steps
- Grab bar installation
- Floor repairs for health & safety
- Ramps-simple interior & exterior
- Door handles, locks & deadbolts
- Wall repairs for health & safety
- Entrance access & egress
- Windows

Electrical

- Outlets
- Switches
- Thermostats
- Doorbells

Plumbing

- Faucets
- Hand-held showerheads
- Toilets

Lighting

- Light bulb & tube replacements
- Health, safety & security lighting
- Light fixtures and switches

Safety repairs / replacements

- Smoke & Carbon monoxide detectors

Excluded projects

- Cosmetic repairs
- Appliance repairs
- Emergency projects
- Work requiring a building permit
- Work requiring high ladders or heavy lifting
- Work requiring licensed electricians or plumbers

Lend a Helping Hand?

Individual volunteers are men and women with basic home repair skills. Some are retired from the building trades and others pick up a tool for the first time at our training sessions. Groups of volunteers come from churches, civic clubs, local businesses, active military, veterans' organizations, unions and apprentice programs. Some volunteers work on home repair projects and others help by taking requests for repairs and scheduling projects. All enjoy being part of a collaborative team working together to provide a vital community service that improves the lives of others.

To see if Helping Hands Home Repairs meets your volunteer expectations just contact us or attend one of our group meetings where we share expertise, offer training, provide parts and assign projects to work crews.