

The Goldie Family

“Out of a Tight Place”

“It was so bad, Kyle hardly ever got a bath, before we did the renovations,” Lori Goldie says.

Her 18 year-old son has cerebral palsy and spastic quadriplegia, and is completely dependant on caregivers to meet all his physical needs. Lori sounds like a strong, determined woman who’s overcome many challenges. But Kyle’s mother simply wasn’t able to lift him out of his wheelchair and into the bathtub, or back out again.

“So I’d be sponge bathing him – and let me tell you, that’s not easy to do when someone can’t even hold up their own head,” Lori explains, on the phone from her home in Quesnel, British Columbia.

Bathing Kyle wasn’t the only problem. “Before, we couldn’t even get his wheelchair into his bedroom,” says Lori. “So I was packing my son from the living room to the bedroom



and back everyday. He’s only 85 pounds, but still, it was pretty hard for me. And where he could be in the house was very limited, because the wheelchair would only get into certain places.”

With the grant from Giving in Action’s Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund, Lori was able to put in a special lift, so she can now get Kyle in and out of the tub herself. She also expanded the bathroom and widened doorways in the

house, making it far easier to push get Kyle to the places he needs to go. Walls between the living room, kitchen and dining room were also removed.

“It’s all open now, so wherever we are, he can be involved in what we are doing. Family meals used to be so awkward, because we were all crammed in there. Now things are just so much easier,” Lori says.

“Honestly, without this grant, my son would be in a home, because I just wouldn’t be able to physically do it. I’m really grateful. It’s really made a world of difference,” Lori says.