



Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020



REquipment DME & AT Reuse Program, Inc. operates the MassMATCH REquipment DME reuse program through a contract with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. Visit us at dmereuse.org

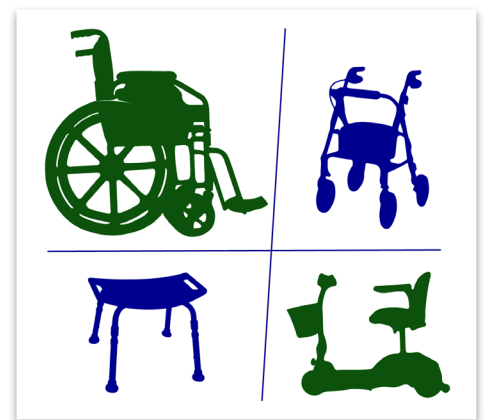
About Our Program

REquipment collects and refurbishes gently-used durable medical equipment (DME) for distribution, free of charge, to seniors, veterans and people with disabilities of all ages. First piloted in Greater Boston in 2014, the program has since reassigned over 5,000 pieces of DME statewide, representing significant savings to Medicaid and other insurance programs. Nearly \$10 million worth of devices—ranging from power wheelchairs to shower benches—have gone to residents to assist with their activities of daily living. People who request our equipment come from all over the state and use it to maintain their independence, keep their jobs, and stay safe in their homes and out of facilities.



Program Impact

Fiscal Year	# DME Items Reassigned	Value of Items Reassigned
2020	1,156	\$2,068,691
Since Launch (Jan. 2014)	5,294	\$9,724,979



Program Highlights

REquipment is statewide! People browse and request available DME from our online inventory at dmereuse.org.

Refurbished equipment includes manual and power wheelchairs, scooters, sling lifts, rollator walkers, shower chairs, portable ramps and other adapted devices.

Equipment is provided at no cost to individuals and families in Massachusetts who request devices.

Pickup and delivery—a vital service to our program users—is available.

REquipment is also reachable by phone. People who don't use computers can call us to arrange donations or to ask questions. Call us toll-free at 1-800-261-9841

President's Message

I am proud to say that despite a very rocky road this past fiscal year, REquipment continued to support the independence and safety of Massachusetts residents by providing the refurbished DME they requested and, often, could not otherwise acquire. We started the year with a budget cut resulting in layoffs and reduced services; then in February we received supplemental funds to restore services; and then the pandemic arrived and we had to close shop to revise our safety protocols and procure personal protective equipment. This “stop and go” of operations did nothing to dampen our enthusiasm for collecting gently used equipment, refurbishing it and getting it out to the people who need it.



Under our new pandemic protocols, we prioritize requests from individuals who need DME to get out or stay out of a hospital or nursing home. ***We know that seniors and people with disabilities are at a higher risk of catching and succumbing to COVID-19. We are doing our part to keep them in the community.***

During FY 2020, we had an adult son call us desperate to help his elderly mother leave her long-term care facility. He had found her housing and home care but needed a wheelchair. We provided it within 24 hours. We are not an “emergency service,” but in times like these we go the extra mile. We also played a role in assisting MEMA (the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) and FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) in getting durable medical equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, canes etc. to “recovery sites” in Lexington, Worcester and Pittsfield; and we worked with another reuse program to get equipment we don’t have to tribe members on Martha’s Vineyard.

As we enter FY 2021, we are still faced with the uncertainty of funding as the state grapples with reduced revenues, increased pandemic-related costs and the need for unemployment benefits for a significant portion to the workforce. We are grateful to our equipment and financial donors, and to our employees. We are also grateful to our reuse partners at UCP of Western MA, Stavros Center for Independent Living, the Department of Developmental Services, the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, and of course, our volunteer board of directors who devote their valuable time to help us fulfill our mission.

Thank you for the role that you each play to make possible this essential service.

Who Benefits?

- Adults and children with disabilities, including veterans.
- Elders who need increased safety at home and to get to community appointments and events.
- People with chronic and newly acquired mobility challenges
- People with limited insurance coverage for DME.
- People with a temporary equipment need due to accident or illness.
- People whose primary wheelchairs are under repair and need to get to work, school or medical appointments.
- People newly discharged from hospitals or rehabilitation anxious to return home after costly stays in institutions.
- Families eager to see a deceased loved-one's equipment put to good use.
- Taxpayers and insurers, as the equipment gets a second life saving money, resources and landfills!



Adults with disabilities



Children with disabilities



Veterans



Seniors



"Here is Jaycee trying out, for the first time, her adapted stroller at her sister's birthday last weekend. Looks like it's a hit!"

During 2020

- 855 devices were donated from 488 individual and organizational donors.
- 1,746 online device requests were received.
- 1,156 devices were reassigned.



"My dad is so happy seeing the power wheelchair. I haven't seen him this happy for a long time. Immediately, he wants to learn how to drive it to the bathroom independently. He really appreciates it. Thank you so much." - Elizabeth, Quincy

Thank You to Our Donors of Bulk DME (4 or More Devices)

H.E.L.P., National Seating and Mobility, North Shore Education Consortium, Pappas Center, Mount Carmel Apartments, Traditions of Wayland, Team Bonding/Dalkia Solutions.



"Thank you so much for my rollator, I'm so grateful. I can't mobilize good because of health issues ... and so grateful this will help me get around. My husband is also so grateful for the help you gave me and thanks so much. I'm excited about it!" - Kelly

DME Assigned by Region in 2020

Greater Boston	155
Northeast/No. Shore	241
Southeast/So. Shore	124
Central	392
Western	232
Cape and Islands	12

REquipment Fiscal Year Comparisons

Donations Data

Donation Measures	2018	2019	2020
Device Donors	636	548	488
Devices Donated	1,176	1,046	855

Funding Sources

Fiscal Year	Total	MRC	DDS & DPH	Private Grant(s)	Individuals
2020	\$493,716	\$478,716	In-kind	\$0	\$9,721
2019	\$488,379	\$478,085	In-kind	\$2,000	\$8,294
2018	\$261,930	\$249,295	In-kind	\$9,043	\$3,592



Roger Lajuennesse from Mobility Works passes the keys of our new delivery van to Jim Smith, Worcester Site Coordinator. The Ford Transit is larger and means more equipment can get where it needs to go in one trip.

Thank you to the 130 employees of Dalkia Solutions. They ended their regional training with a team bonding event and built 13 brand new wheelchairs to donate to the REquipment program inventory.

