

Home Modification
and Repairs for
Older Adults and
Persons with
Disabilities

A SELECT
INVENTORY OF
HOME
MODIFICATION AND
REPAIR PROGRAMS
SERVING NATIVE
AMERICAN ELDERS

2022



This inventory was developed by the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology for the project, “Promoting Aging in Place by Enhancing Access to Home Modifications,” funded by the Administration for Community Living. For more information on this project, visit: www.homemods.org/acl

Designed to illuminate the range of home modification and repair activities conducted by agencies serving Native American elders, this compilation may be used to inform professionals, providers, and policymakers of programs in their state, and the activities of communities for possible replication. Each state listing contains descriptions and web site information for select home modification and repair programs of Older Americans Act Title VI grantees and other agencies serving Native American elders.

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Links often change. Please visit the main page of the agencies identified if a link is no longer working.

Please contact us if you have any updates to this document.

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Background

The home environment plays a critical role in adults' ability to stay in their homes and communities as they age, commonly referred to as aging in place. However, numerous barriers challenge older adults' and caregivers' ability to access home assessment, modification, and repair services. In response, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) funded the University of Southern California (USC) Leonard Davis School of Gerontology to implement the project, "Promoting Aging in Place by Enhancing Access to Home Modifications." With a focus on the aging network, its goal is to address barriers to home modification service delivery by increasing the availability and awareness of home modification at the national, state, and local levels to support aging in place.

In the last decade, home modification and repairs have risen on the public agenda. The home environment is increasingly included in discussions about health in later life, underscoring its importance in aging in place. By 2060, the 65+ population is projected to nearly double from 49 million in 2016 to 98 million (Administration for Community Living, 2018). The overwhelming preference of older adults is to stay in their homes for as long as possible (AARP, 2012). Aging in place maintains access to resources, social connections, and supports independence (Pynoos et al., 2006).

With aging populations and cost constraints, state home and community-based care systems are challenged to provide home modification and repairs that support older adults at home. These services are funded and administered at local, state, and national levels by disparate government agencies, yet agencies' roles in maximizing access to home modifications and repairs have not been well understood. This document compiles select results from an environmental scan which sought to develop a knowledge base of Aging Network agencies' efforts in home modifications. .

Primary and secondary data were collected about state and local home modification and repair activities, including types of services provided, eligibility criteria, funding sources, and policies. Examples of data sources include, but are not limited to: surveys of State Units on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, and Title VI grantees to ascertain efforts in home modification and repair (reports: [State Units on Aging Efforts in Home Modification](#) and [Area Agencies on Aging Efforts in Home Modification and Repair](#) and [Home Modification and Repair Services and Needs in Indian Country: A Data Brief of the Title VI Native American Aging Programs Survey](#)); and reviews of local home modification providers.

This report was compiled by the University of Southern California Leonard Davis School of Gerontology and funded by The Administration for Community Living. All content was accurate at the time of publication. Refer to the agency website to confirm program details.

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ALABAMA

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

Atmore, Alabama

Health & Elder Services

<https://pci-nsn.gov/wordpress/services/health-elder-services/>

Program Description: The Poarch Band Health and Elder Services focuses on diseases prevention and wellbeing enhancement through their medical and educational programs. It refers to support services including home modification for older adults as needed.

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ALASKA

CHICALOON NATIVE VILLAGE

Sutton, Alaska

Health & Social Services

<https://www.chickaloon-nsn.gov/health-social-services/>

Program Description: The Chickaloon Village Health and Social Services offers services to support tribal elders in remaining active and valued in the community. Elders can use the resource referrals service to get information on service providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources).

FAIRBANKS NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Fairbanks, Alaska

Elder Services

<https://www.fairbanksnative.org/our-services/community-services/>

Program Description: The Fairbanks Native Association Elder Services refers to providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources). It also provides assistance with applications for housing and energy assistance programs.

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ARIZONA

QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE

Yuma, Arizona

Elder/Family Services

<https://www.quechantribe.com/departments-elder-family-services.html>

Program Description: The Gila River Indian Elder/Family Services Department supports services for the tribal elders and their families through resource referrals, advocacy, client transportation, case management, and family counseling. Elders and families may request information referrals as needed (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources).

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

Scottsdale, Arizona

Environmental Health and Injury Prevention

<https://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/hhs/eh/#IPProgram>

Program Description: As a program provided by the Health and Human Services Department of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Environmental Health and Injury Prevention program offers fall prevention services to older people who are 55 years and older and clients who have fall risk factors identified. Home assessments and fall risk testing are among the services.

THE HOPI TRIBE

Kykotsmovi, Arizona

Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS)

<https://www.hopi-nsn.gov/tribal-services/department-of-community-health-services/office-of-aging-adult-services/>

Program Description: Older adults living in the Hopi tribe with chronic health conditions or disabilities may qualify for using services within the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS). Home modification is included in ALTCS. Eligibility criteria are based on medical and financial information. The Hopi Tribe Office of Aging & Adult Services refers residents to ALTCS.

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ARKANSAS

COPPER REIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION

Glennallen, Arkansas

Elder Services

<https://crnative.org/what-we-do/elder-services/>

Program Description: The Elder Services Network in Cooper River Native Association serves older residents who age 62 and older. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed. Through the maintenance department, elders have access to water haul, snowplowing and chimney cleaning.

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CALIFORNIA

KARUK TRIBE

Happy Camp, California and Yreka, California

Rehabilitation and Weatherization Home Improvement Grant/Loan Program

<https://www.karuk.us/index.php/departments/housing-authority>

Program Description: The Rehabilitation & Weatherization Home Improvement Grant/Loan Program provides assistance to Karuk Tribal Members who are at least 62 years of age or who have a disability and own a single-family home that needs repairs and improvements to address health and safety hazards in the home.

PICAYUNE RANCHERIA OF CHUKCHANSI INDIANS

Oakhurst, California

Services for the Elders

<https://chukchansitribe.net/tribal-government/aoa/>

Program Description: Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians Elder's Program Department offers assistance for Chukchansi elders who are 55 and older. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed.

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COLORADO

SOUTHERN UTE INIAN TRIBE

Ignacio, Colorado

Housing Department

<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/tribal-housing/>

Program Description: The tribal housing department provides environmental assessment, conducts basic home repairs, refers to qualified contractors, and offers assistance in getting quotes from outside contractors for home repairs. Tribal members in need can use the services.

UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE

Towaoc, Colorado

Elder Assistant Program

<https://www.utemountainutetribe.com/elder%20care%20program.HTML>

Program Description: The Elder Assistant Program is delivered by the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Elder Care & Wellness Center. The program serves tribal members aging 55 and up. It provides assistance for tribal elders who need home furnishings and minor home repairs. This program works with other departments to coordinate services to meet elder's needs.

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FLORIDA

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

Hollywood, Florida

Elder Service Department

<https://www.semtribe.com/stof/services/health-and-human-services/elder-services>

Program Description: The Elder Service Department of Seminole Tribe of Florida provides tribal elders with services to help them be self-sufficient and live long healthy lives. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed.

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MAINE

PENOBSCOT NATION

Indian Island, Maine

Elder Services

<https://www.penobscotnation.org/social-services/>

Program Description: The Elder Services at Penobscot Nation serves tribal members ages 55 and older. Information and referral, such as to heating assistance and home modifications, is offered.

PLEASANT POINT PASSAMAQUODDY TRIBE

Pleasant Point, Maine

Elderly Program

http://www.wabanaki.com/wabanaki_new/Elderly_Program.html

Program Description: The Elder Services at Penobscot Nation serves tribal members ages 55 and older. Information/referral, outreach, homemaker, chore, visiting, etc. are provided by under the supportive services. Elders may use homemaker and chore services to help with housing maintenance and request information/referral for home modification programs.

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MICHIGAN

BAY MILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY

Brimley, Michigan

Elder's Services

<https://www.baymills.org/elder-services>

Program Description: The program provides assistance in navigating resources and information. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed. Elders may fill out a service referral form to request supportive services including home repair, health needs, home care, or more information about a service of interest or need.

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Peshawbestown, Michigan

Handicap Accessibility Program

http://www.gtbindians.org/housing_dept.asp

Program Description: The program serves older and certified disabled tribal members. Home modification activities covered by the program include ramps, bathroom renovations (e.g., grab bars, handicap toilet, walk in showers, walk in tubs, sinks), kitchen renovations (counter and cupboard lowering, roll up sinks), entrance doorways and clearance. Minimum Americans with Disabilities Act standards for accessible design are met through home modification.

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POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

Dowagiac, Michigan

Elders Council

<https://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government/elders-council>

Program Description: The Elders Council coordinates available funding, disseminates information, and oversees programs related to tribal elder. Some programs to improve living environment that older residents can use include snow removal reimbursement for elders, lawn mowing reimbursement for elders, repair and rehabilitation program.

SAULT SAINTE MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan

Elder Service Division

<https://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/elder-services>

Program Description: This Elder Service Division provides and coordinates services for homebound elders to support aging in place. Services such as housekeeping, home rehabilitation and improvement can help older individuals with functional limitations to maintain a safe and clean living environment.

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MINNESOTA

BOIS FORTE BAND OF CHIPPEWA

Tower, Minnesota

Elderly Needs Program

<https://boisforte.com/services/assistance-services/elderly-needs-program/>

Program Description: The Bois Forte Elderly Needs Program assists tribal elders or adults with disabilities who have needs that cannot be met by other programs and resources. It is intended to be a “last resort” program and requires applicants to have applied to other agencies and been denied. Through the program, older people or people with disabilities may request ramps and handicap accessibility devices.

LEECH LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA

Cass Lake, Minnesota

Elder Services

<http://www.llojibwe.org/services/elders.html>

Program Description: The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe provides a range of services to older residents. Home environment improvement services include installing medical equipment for elders and disabled band members and providing home modifications at no charge for elders and people with disabilities through the long-term care consultation program.

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MISSISSIPI

MISSISSIPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

Choctaw, Mississippi

Assistance Services

<https://www.choctaw.org/government/tribalServices/facs/as.html>

Program Description: The assistance services are delivered by the Department of Family and Community Services. This program provides counseling and support to older adults. Home environment related assistance include weatherization assistance, heating and cooling assistance.

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MONTANA

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES

Pablo, Montana

Elder Services

<https://www.csktdhrd.org/elder-services>

Program Description: The elder services delivered through the tribal Department of Human Resources and Development provide support to eligible tribal elders through minor home improvement projects, appliance repair or replacement, emergency energy assistance, snowplowing services, and assisting with other needs that cannot be met through any other means.

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NEVADA

FALLON PAIUTE-SHOSHONE TRIBE

Fallon, Nevada

Elders and Disabled Accessibility Program Through Housing Department

<http://www.fpst.org/currently-available-housing-programs/>

Program Description: This program provides assistance to low-income older adults and people with disabilities through repairs and rehabilitation of homes to ensure access to homes and barrier free bathrooms and provide safe and sanitary conditions. Up to \$3000 annually is awarded as a grant for home modifications such as ramps, grab bars, or widening of doors for wheelchair access.

RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY

Reno, Nevada

Senior Program

<https://www.rsic.org/rsic-services/senior-program/>

Program Description: The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Senior Program promotes and improves the quality of life for seniors ages 55 and older. It provides information on assistance services and programs, such as home modification, and refers to service providers for older people as needed. Senior citizens and disabled residents are also provided special assistance for home repairs through the Housing Department as funding is available.

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WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE

Schurz, Nevada

Elderly/Disabled Assistance Program Through Housing Department

<https://www.wrpthousing.com/services.html>

Program Description: Several aging services are administered through the Housing Department of the Walker River Paiute Tribe, including Homeownership, Low Rental, Elderly/Disabled Assistance, Elderly/Disabled Utility Assistance, Elders Home Protection Plan and Renovation Program. The Elderly/Disabled Assistance Program assists in home repairs and home modifications to ensure bathroom accessibility and safe living conditions.

WASHOE TRIBE OF NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA

Gardnerville, Nevada

Injury Prevention Program

<https://washoetribalhealth.com/injury-prevention-program/>

Program Description: As a program provided by the Washoe Tribal Health Center, the Injury Prevention program offers fall prevention services to older people who are 50 years and older and individuals with disabilities. Home risk and safety assessments, injury prevention education, ramps and grab bars installation, referrals to healthcare providers, and community outreach are among the services.

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NEW MEXICO

LAGUNA RAINBOW CORPORATION

Casa Blanca, New Mexico

Homemaker's Services

<http://mylagunarainbow.org/senior-center.html>

Program Description: The Laguna Rainbow Corporation Senior Center provides assistance in eliminating tripping hazards and safe proofing the home, cleaning and organizing bathrooms and kitchens, and contacting medical providers through the Homemaker's Services to support residents live safely at home. Elders 50 and older and disabled individuals are eligible to use the services.

OHKAY OWINGEH

Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico

Senior Citizens Program

<https://ohkay.org/senior-citizens-program/>

Program Description: The Ohkay Owingeh Senior Citizens program serves tribal members who are 50 and older. Home repair and maintenance is one of the services the program offers. It also provides information assistance for older citizens to find service providers.

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PUEBLO OF JEMEZ

Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico

Injury Prevention Program

<https://www.jemezpuablo.org/government/emergency-management/emergency-medical-services/injury-prevention-program/>

Program Description: Fall prevention and home safety education, home safety assessments, and environmental modifications (e.g., grabs bars, safety rails, night lights, and smoke detectors) are provided by the Jemez Pueblo Injury Prevention Program. Elders who are 55 and older can use the services via referral from the Jemez Pueblo Senior Center.

PUEBLO OF ISLETA

Isleta, New Mexico

Home Chores and Minor Repair Program

<https://www.isletapueblo.com/home-chores-minor-repair/>

Program Description: The Pueblo of Isleta Elder Center offers the Home Chores and Minor Repair Program which provides a part-time handyman who conducts minor home repair services for individuals 60 years of age or older. Services include replacements to windows, doors, screens, glass and doorknobs/handles.

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NEW YORK

SAINT REGIS MOHAWK TRIBE

Akwesasne, New York

Office for the Aging

https://www.srmt-nsn.gov/office_for_the_aging

Program Description: The Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Office of the Aging receives funding and support from the New York State Office for the Aging, OAA Title VI Native American Programs, Saint Regis Mohawk Seniors Club, the Tribal General Fund to provide services to the elders of Akwesasne. Housing maintenance and repair is delivered to eligible elders. The maintenance staff can assist tribal elders with minor home repairs, lawn care, and snow removal. The maintenance staff can also help tribal elders to find appropriate service providers if the repair request is beyond their capacity.

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NORTH CAROLINA

EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

Cherokee, North Carolina

Home Health/Tribal In-Home Care Services

<https://phhs.ebci-nsn.gov/home-health-tribal-care-services/>

Program Description: This program provides health services to clients that are permanently or temporarily homebound to allow people to remain in their own homes and actively participate in their plans of care. Occupational therapy and physical therapy are among the services. The program also provides referrals to other community resources. Homebound elders who need home modifications may request information assistance through this program.

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NORTH DAKOTA

SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE

Fort Totten, North Dakota

Housing Management Program

<http://www.spiritlakenation.com/programs/spirit-lake-housing-management/>

Program Description: Spirit Lake Housing Management is a program that helps with home repairs for tribal elders. Every year this program rehabilitates three homes for eligible elders.

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OKLAHOMA

CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Durant, Oklahoma

Healthy Aging Program

<https://www.choctawnation.com/services/>

Program Description: The Healthy Aging Program offers wellness, social services, behavioral health services, case management and geriatric-specific care to assist tribal elders to maintain good quality of life. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed.

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

Shawnee, Oklahoma

Elder Program

<https://www.potawatomi.org/blog/service/elder-program/>

Program Description: The Elder Program funded by the OAA Title VI serves Native Americans aged 55 and older living in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation jurisdiction. In addition, the Elder Home Repair Program operated by the Housing Department is a service that tribal elders can use to improve their living environment through which older homeowners can apply for a mortgage to cover repair costs.

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KIOWA TRIBE

Carnegie, Oklahoma

Administration on Aging (AOA)

<https://kiowatribe.org/administration-on-aging>

Program Description: The Kiowa AOA serves tribal elders aging 60 and older. Elders and individuals with disabilities can loan handicapped assistant devices such as portable handicap ramp, grab bars, shower chairs, walkers, crutches, wheelchairs. The AOA supportive services help to improve the quality of life for qualified elders and lengthen their stay at home as long as possible by providing assistance, such as home modification, pending on funding availability. To be eligible to use the AOA supportive services, elders are required to have inquired or applied with other entities or agencies for their services. Tribal elders may also ask AOA for service providers referral (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed.

QUAPAW NATION

Quapaw, Oklahoma

Title VI Caregiver Program

<https://www.quapawtribe.com/177/Caregiver-Program>

Program Description: The Caregiver Program provides referral and services for family members who are caregivers to federally recognized Tribal members 55 years old and older. It refers to supportive services such as home modification as needed.

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OREGON

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS

Warm Springs, Oregon

Senior Wellness Center

<https://warmsprings-nsn.gov/program/senior-wellness-center/>

Program Description: The Warm Springs Senior Wellness Center offers services that honor and help the tribal elders. It provides information and referral (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) to older residents and their families. It also cooperates with Housing and Utilities Departments to conduct housing maintenance for elder homeowners.

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SOUTH CAROLINA

CATAWBA INDIAN NATION

Rock Hill, South Carolina

Senior Program

<https://www.catawba.com/senior-center>

Program Description: The Senior Program is responsible for promoting healthy lifestyle, safe environment, and aging in place. It serves tribal citizens 55 and older. Elder citizens, their spouses, and widow/widowers have access to nutritional services, caregiver support, case management, home visits, and information, outreach, and referrals to community providers. Eligible tribal citizens who need home modification may request referrals.

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WASHINGTON

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COLVILLE RESERVATION

Nespelem, Washington

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

<https://www.cct-aaa.com/>

Program Description: The AAA of the Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation serves elders 55 and older. It refers to services providers (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources) as needed.

THE TULALIP TRIBES

Tulalip, Washington

Elder Services

<https://www.tulaliptribes-nsn.gov/Dept/ElderServices>

Program Description: The Elder Services Department of the Tulalip Tribes covers up to \$6,000 for elder homeowners who are 62 and older to do minor home repairs.

YAKAMA NATION

Toppenish, Washington

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

<https://www.yakama.com/about/tribal-elders/>

Program Description: The Yakama Nation AAA serves elders who are 60 and older. It provides comprehensive needs assessments to evaluate older residents' health related care needs. It also provides durable medical equipment (e.g., wheelchair, grab bar) to low-income elders or individuals with disabilities.

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WISCONSIN

HO-CHUNK NATION

Black River Falls, Wisconsin

Tribal Aging Unit

<https://ho-chunknation.com/government/executive-branch/social-services/>

Program Description: The Tribal Aging Unit offers Minor Home Repairs Program to elder homeowners. Emergency major home repairs can also be taken care of, and reimbursement will be requested from the Elder Assistance Program through the Tribal Aging Unit Board. In addition, tribal elders can apply to the Elder Roof Repair/Replacement Program through the Department of Housing to improve their living environment.

LAC DU FLAMBEAU TRIBE

Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin

Elder Services

https://www.lacftribe.com/departments/36/Tribal_Operations/Elder_Services.html

Program Description: The Lac Du Flambeau Tribe Elder Services program provides home maintenance and repair services and elderly/disability home improvement services to tribal elders.

ONEIDA NATION

Oneida, Wisconsin

Aging & Disability Services Program

<https://oneida-nsn.gov/resources/agingdisabilityservices/>

Program Description: Home Repair Assistance is offered by the Aging & Disability Services Program. It provides minor and major home repair assistance. Low-cost minor home repairs are offered to Oneida elder homeowners who are 70 and older. Elders who age 55-69 may also receive assistance in minor home repair,

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but they must purchase materials prior to any repairs. The major home repair program assists elders with a lifetime maximum of \$10,000. List of repairs within this service include roof, electrical, plumbing, floor, window, mold, well and septic. Elder homeowners who are 70 and older have the priority to receive major home repair pending on funding availability. The Aging & Disability Services Program also provides medical assistive equipment on a loan basis to elders and the disabled. In addition, tribal elders and individuals with disabilities can request information assistance from benefits service specialists (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources).

ST. CROIX CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF WISCONSIN

Webster, Wisconsin

Community Health

<https://stcroixojibwe-nsn.gov/health-family-services/community-healthcare/>

Program Description: The program can assist with loaning out medical equipment (e.g., wheelchairs, walkers, canes, handrails, detachable shower heads, commodes, shower chairs, medication boxes, urinals & grabbers), assessing home for safety needs, working with housing to install needed safety equipment, and finding any needed resources. Elders are eligible to use the services.

STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE COMMUNITY

Bowler, Wisconsin

Elderly Services

<https://www.mohican.com/elderly-center-old/>

Program Description: The program serves elders 55 and older. It provides information and assistance to maintain elder's independence through supportive services. Elders and families may request information referrals as needed (e.g., home modification programs, occupational/physical therapists, funding sources).

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