

Angelique and Mindy

Angelique is a young lady who was born with spina bifida and she requires the use of a wheelchair. Angelique is full of life and personality, but daily activities were a challenge for both Angelique and her family. Her mother would carry Angelique and her wheelchair outside and down the stairs and back up everyday so that she could get out of the house. Angelique does not receive a waiver service and the only funding available to her was a small FDSS grant.



Angelique

Mindy Bird, Angelique's Supports Coordinator shared the need for accessibility in and out the home. A request was made to Philadelphia IDS to approve base funding for an outdoor lift. Although it was a long process, Angelique and Mindy stayed positive and hopeful that the lift would be funded. It was worth the wait! The lift was installed in the front of the family's Philadelphia home. Since the lift was installed Angelique's mother says that life is better now and it has made daily living a lot safer for Angelique and easier for her and the family. She no longer has to carry Angelique outside whenever they need to go anywhere.

Angelique shared that she likes having the lift *"because I can go outside whenever I want to even though I still have to ask my mom."* The lift has given Angelique independence. She can operate the lift on her own by the push of a button. The entire family is grateful that they were able to receive this lift for Angelique.