Dear Deacons,

Thank you for your consideration of putting a universal changing table in a family bathroom. For those in wheelchairs who are unable to use a toilet, it can be difficult to go out in public; often, they decide to stay home or have to choose getting assistance on the unsanitary floor of a bathroom. I believe this small project is true to our vision of becoming a diverse, growing church family and especially furthers our ministry commitment to welcoming fellowship.

I propose we install a universal changing table in the family bathroom on the lower level that is closest to the main stairwell. While a fully adjustable, powered model would be ideal, for cost and space reasons I propose building one out of wood with a vinyl-covered foam topper; this will allow it to be customized to our exact space needs and provide the best possible and most cost-effective option, while purchasing a prefabricated wood table may not fit and would cost more (see <u>this example</u>). It will also provide the benefit of extra storage space underneath.

Design (see pictures below)

- 24.5" wide x 61" long x 24" high
- Constructed of 2x4s and ¹/₂" plywood
- Two open storage areas accessible from the front could hold bins or baskets that would contain supplies (i.e. wipes, disposable pads, scent-containing bags, clorox wipes)
- Top plywood piece would be topped with high density foam and covered by vinyl, which would be stapled to the underside of the plywood; this top would secured to the base with t-nuts and short screws to make it removable to replace vinyl or foam
- Wood joints would be secured with dowel pins and glue

Cost & Funding

- Material cost total (estimated at time of proposal): \$250
 - Pine 2x4s (6)
 - ¹/₂" birch plywood, 4'x8' sheet
 - Fasteners (¼" dowel pins, wood glue, t nuts, screws)
 - High density 3" foam, 1.67 yds
 - Heavy duty marine vinyl, 2 yds
 - Polyurethane
- Labor would be volunteered by me and my dad
- Funding sources:
 - Potential \$100 grant from <u>The Shrinking Toilets Initiative</u> through Ability Ministry
 - Conditions: provide receipts for supplies and photos of installed table, create social media post of table tagging Ability Ministry
 - Budget line item 4221 Restricted Fund, Children's Ministry can cover it, grant or no grant

Execution and Considerations

- The bathroom closer to the main stairs is the bigger of the two and has an alcove near the door more conducive to fitting a table.
- Installing a 24.5"x61" table in that alcove allows 37.5" from the door to the closest end of the table and 35" from the corner of the table to the opened door, which allows for a wheelchair to enter the bathroom and pass by it without issue; there is space for an appropriate turning radius just past the sink.

- It would be best if we adjusted the doors to the family bathrooms so that they aren't self-closing to make it easier for wheelchair access.
- The design is intended to create a table that is ruggedly durable, able to be sanitized, and still aesthetically pleasing. The lower height accommodates someone transferring directly to/from a wheelchair; providing a knee pad or mat for the floor could prevent a caregiver from having to bend over to reach this lower height.
- Prior to building and installing, we should get in contact with Heritage to ensure this won't impact their use of the bathroom.
- Safety signage should be posted above the table reminding caregivers to prevent falls; a sign on the door indicating the presence of the table in that bathroom would also be appropriate.
- Purchase of supplies and construction can begin upon approval.

Please let me know what questions you have. Thanks again for your consideration!

Abigail Cajiga

P.S. Drawings are NOT to scale!





