

Medical equipment available on loan at Interfaith Caregivers

GRAFTON — Starting today, Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County will be lending durable medical equipment, such as walkers, wheelchairs and canes, to those in need.

Whether someone is recovering from hip or knee replacement surgery, has had a stroke that makes them unsteady on their feet, has had an accident or is experiencing a disability, such equipment can help make life more manageable. But purchasing medical equipment can be expensive and prohibitive.

"That's where Interfaith Ozaukee comes into the picture," said Maureen Squire, ICO executive director. "We are Ozaukee County's mobility managers, and our mission also extends to people who need some help getting around."

Called the h.e.l.p. Corner, the health equipment lending program is patterned after successful programs in Washington and Waukesha counties. The program makes gently used equipment available to Ozaukee County seniors and other residents who might not otherwise be able to afford it.

The h.e.l.p. Corner is located at Interfaith Ozaukee's offices in the Family Enrichment Center of Ozaukee County, 885 Badger Circle, Grafton. It is open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment.

Members of the community will find a selection of gently used medical equipment that can be borrowed for a \$10 deposit. The deposit is refunded when the item is returned, checked over and put back into circulation.

Interfaith Ozaukee is accepting donations of walkers, wheelchairs and canes in good condition. It is unable to accept larger items because of space limitations.

To find out more about the h.e.l.p. Corner or to make an appointment, call 262-618-2191.

The program has been made possible through United Way Northern Ozaukee and other grants.