

Home Modifications for Older Adults Living in Recreational Vehicles

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Project Description & Sites

SITE

- Koremen, LLC – Company located in Indianapolis, Indiana that is a home modification assessment and inspection provider for the Medicaid Aged and Disabled Waiver.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Focused on developing advanced skillset and knowledge base on best practices for home modifications in traditional home environments.
- Developing home modification services and processes that could be utilized in assessing accessibility, safety, and barriers to occupational performance within recreational vehicle home environments.
- Emphasis was placed upon identifying aspects of processes and products currently available in the home modification and vehicle conversion industries that could be applied to home modification processes in recreational vehicle home environments.
- Development of Elite RV Access was completed with various input from educational resources, interdisciplinary professionals, and market research.

Project Completion and Outcomes

- Completed (2) AOTA CEU Certifications within the AOTA Home Modification Digital Badge Program.
- Observed Jeff Hughes, expert mentor, on 25 home modification visits that included modification requests for bathrooms, accessible entries, stairlifts, and vertical platform lifts.
- Completed 12 independent home modification visits in the state of Indiana.
- Completed 15 interdisciplinary collaborations with professionals in driver rehabilitation industry, assistive technology industry, home modification industry, camping industry, vehicle conversion industry, banking industry, marketing industry, and advertising industry.
- Created Elite RV Access business and strategic plan; a company providing mobile recreational vehicle evaluations, comprehensive consultations, installation services, training services, and educational services to both consumers and companies within recreational vehicle industry. The Elite RV Access business plan also includes sites for product recommendation, a referral list, and an annual budget for a company providing services within the niche market of recreational vehicle home modifications.
- Completed market research on the occupational therapy industry, recreational vehicle industry, and the older adult population.
- Created recreational vehicle home modification evaluation tool that can be utilized when completing home evaluations on any kind of recreational vehicle.
- Recreational vehicle home modification educational sheet to increase the awareness of home modification benefits and services within recreational vehicles.

Needs Assessment | Literature Review

LACK OF RESEARCH

- Significant lack of research on the prevalence and benefits of home modifications in recreational vehicle home environments. Additionally, there is limited research on home modifications services, processes, and products.

HOME MODIFICATIONS

- Home modifications benefits include (a) improving daily performance, (b) decreasing fall risk, (c) decreasing fear of falling, (d) decreasing healthcare costs, (e) reducing care from others, and (f) increasing perceived quality of life.

OLDER ADULTS

- The current older adult population is growing at a significant rate and are experiencing increased levels of functional limitations, disabilities, and chronic illnesses.
- Despite facing health-related issues, most older adults desire to age in place and remain independent for as long as possible.

RESIDENTS OF RV's

- Individuals 55 years and older account for 56% of the total recreational vehicle industry consumer market.
- Older adults in the baby boomer generation value an active lifestyle, healthier eating habits, the ability to age in place, and a sense of independence.

Mission & Vision Statements

MISSION STATEMENT

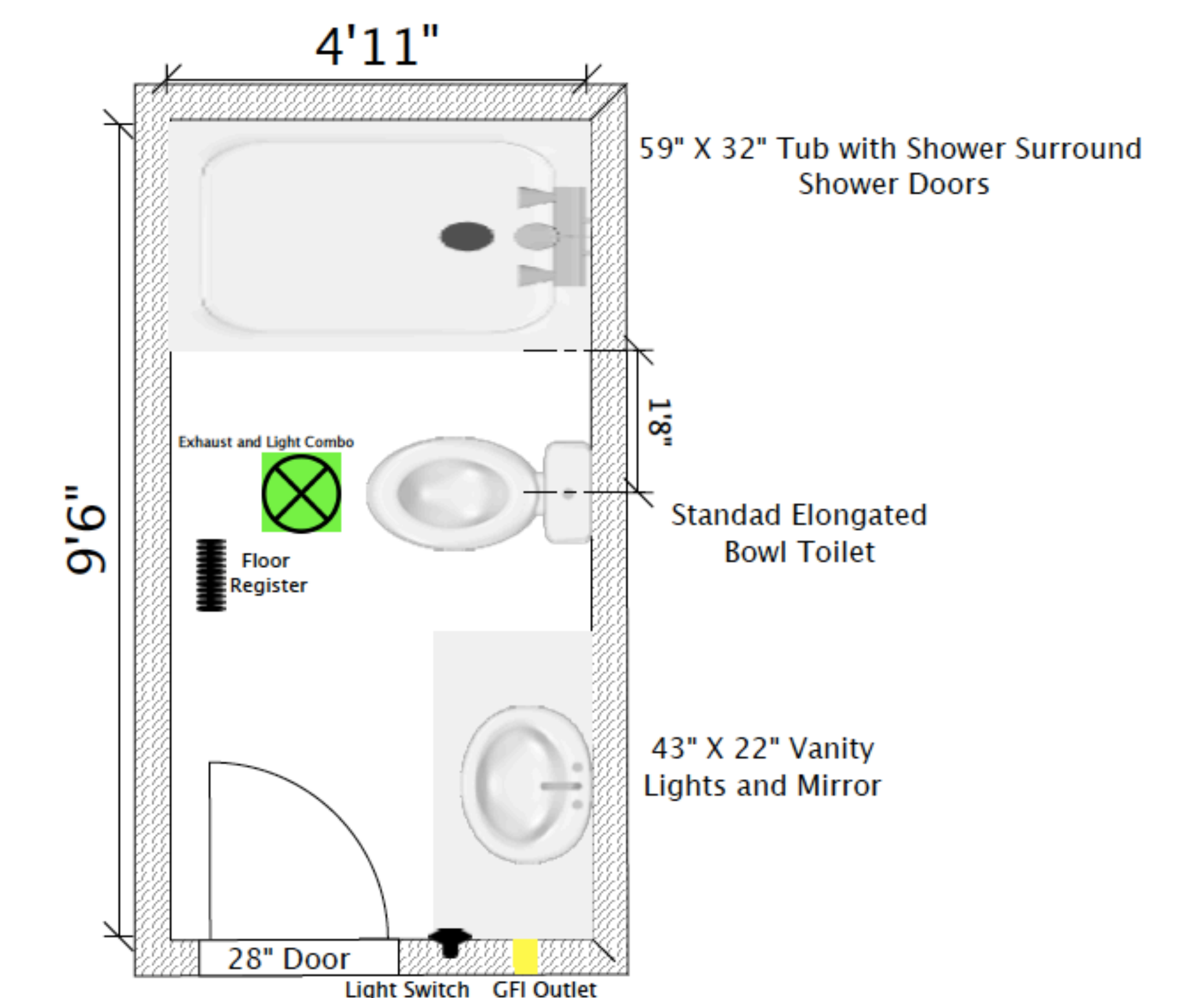
- To identify the needs and provide a full range of home modifications and safety solutions for older adults living in recreational vehicles to enhance independence, safety, and quality of life.

VISION STATEMENT

- To enhance awareness and lead the efforts of contributions promoting independence, safety, and quality of life for older adults dwelling in recreational vehicles.

Deliverables

- AOTA Digital Badge CEU Certifications
- Home Modification Observational Documentation
- Independent Home Modification Visit Documentation
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration Documentation
- Elite RV Access Business Plan
 - Market Research
 - Referral Lists
 - Annual Budget
 - Strategic Plan
- Recreational Vehicle Home Modification Evaluation Tool
- Recreational Vehicle Home Modification Educational Sheet



Future Implications for OT

- Based upon the literature review and the needs assessment, occupational therapists can play a crucial role in developing and providing home modification services for older adults living in recreational vehicles. Currently, the research on home modifications in recreational vehicles is extremely limited. Additionally, home modification products and services for older adults living in recreational vehicles is extremely scarce within the recreational vehicle industry.

KEY REFERENCES

*Full reference list and image reference list available upon request

