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YTI York students honored for work on home renovations for child with cerebral palsy

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The 12 YTI Career Institute students who installed electricity in a home addition for a child with cerebral palsy received a community service award last month.

The students, enrolled in the electricity technology program at the institute's York campus, worked for several frigid days in January to install electricity in an addition to Sue Bozart's York Township home.

Bozart adopted her two grandsons, including Raequan Singleton, 8, who was diagnosed at birth with cerebral palsy, a disorder that affects muscle tone, movement and motor skills.

New room: The renovations give more space for Rae's wheelchair and provide space for a lift system that helps Bozart and Rae's nurses move him from his bed, around the room and into the bathroom.



Nurse Donna Oerman, left, and grandmother Sue Bozart work with Rae Singleton, 8, in his room on Wednesday. The room, part of an addition on Bozart's York Township home, was built by York Technical Institute students to help provide the best care possible for Rae. (John A. Pavoncello — jpavoncello@yorkdispatch.com)



Jake Waltmyer, right, and other YTI electronic students wiring the Suzanne Bozart's house addition in York Township in Jan. 29, 2014. Bozart's grandson Raequan 'Rae' Singleton has cerebral palsy and the home is being redesigned around his needs. The YTI students went out to the community gathering donated items that our for the construction. And they are donating their time wiring too. York Dispatch file

Bozart said Rae moved into his new room during the third week in June, following the completion of the project overseen by Jeff L. Henry Inc.

"It has been wonderful," she said. "It makes caring for Rae so much easier."

At the end of July, the Pennsylvania Association for Private School Administrators presented the community service award to the York campus president Carla Horn, YTI electrical instructor Allen Stonebraker and trades program director James Vergos, recognizing the students' work.

Stonebraker, who supervised the project at Bozart's home, said the work wasn't about awards, and it was a surprise to receive it.

"We were doing it for the little boy," Stonebraker said. "We got to do this for him."

Team member: Stonebraker said Bozart and Rae attended the campus's graduation earlier this

year when the electrical students finished their program.

"We adopted him as a team member," Stonebraker said. "He was there to see his fellow classmates graduate."

Horn said the electrical students were one of many classes to volunteer their time and skills to help with community projects. But the connection with Rae was a unique benefit, she said.

"This became very personal," Horn said.

Horn and Stonebraker said one of the most remarkable aspects of the project was seeing the students go out into the community and secure more than \$3,800 in donations or cash to help cover the cost of the project.

The campus received a plaque honoring the students' work this year. In addition, the electrical department received \$500 from the association to put toward similar future projects, Stonebraker said.

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