

Forward to a Friend!



**AccessAbilities  
 Newsletter - November  
 2010**



**CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!**

Specialized Home Design, Inc. recently created a [blog](#). We will be periodically updating the blog on the day-to-day happenings of Specialized Home Design, Inc., new information about the **CHER®** (Comprehensive Home Evaluation Report), and much more!

**Happy Thanksgiving!**



Specialized Home Design, Inc. would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful for all of our loyal readers and hope to continue providing information on universal and accessible home design to all of you.

**A **CHER®** Announcement:**

Specialized Home Design, Inc. would like to bring forward the opportunity for all that are interested in universal and accessible home design, the ability to utilize the **CHER®** (Comprehensive Home

Be sure to follow us on Blogger and check often for updates!

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### **ATTENTION STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS!**

The CHER® makes an excellent teaching tool that can easily be incorporated into your program(s) curriculum. Many higher educational facilities are utilizing the CHER® to teach future professionals on universal and accessible home design, and the importance of a detailed and comprehensive home evaluation report. Both students and professors can utilize the CHER® as a reporting tool, reference guide, resource of information, and much more! Click [HERE](#) for more information!

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### **"Getting into Universal and Accessible Home Design"**

Specialized Home Design, Inc. (SHD) is excited to offer one-on-one training for those interested in becoming home modification coordinators and getting into universal and accessible home design. Scott Anderle, PT, CAPS, and owner of SHD, offers personal

Evaluation Report). With this in mind, we are proud to announce that as of December 1st, 2010, the CHER® will be **FREE** to all that wish to utilize this resourceful product.

It is our hope that the CHER® will become one of the national standards for home modification projects, and it is our intention that many will benefit from this innovative product. Specialized Home Design, Inc. has had a tremendous response from numerous organizations/agencies and educational facilities across the nation that are, and will be, utilizing the CHER® as a resource book, reporting tool, reference/educational guide, research project, and more!

Look for more information in next month's newsletter and you may also contact our office if you have any questions at (616) 887-8130 and/or [info@shdesigns.net](mailto:info@shdesigns.net) .

**Happy "CHER®ing"!**

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For our November newsletter, we would like to feature an article written by Scott Anderle, PT, CAPS. This article was written for [CyberPT® - Your Online Physical Therapy Resource™](#), and will be featured in an upcoming CyberPT® newsletter as an educational article. We would like to share this article with you, which details the importance of a quality report for a home modification project. Now onto Scott's article:

guidance and instruction on how to start and set up your own company, and/or set up a new division within your existing company. His years of practical work experience and knowledge in universal and accessible home design will allow you the information necessary to make informed business decisions and proceed down the pathway of success. Click [here](#) for the Objectives & Overview.

\*If you would like to work with Scott Anderle, PT, CAPS, please contact our office at (616) 887-8130 or [vicki@shdesigns.net](mailto:vicki@shdesigns.net) for further information regarding this course, "Getting into Universal and Accessible Home Design" and the training manual.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### Specialty Products for Home Accessibility & Independence \*

11/17/2010 - San Diego, CA  
 11/18/2010 - Anaheim, CA  
 11/19/2010 - Long Beach, CA  
[See Brochure](#)

12/8/2010 - Sherman Oaks, CA  
 12/9/2010 - San Bernardino, CA  
 12/10/2010 - Las Vegas, NV  
[See Brochure](#)

#### The ABC's of Home Modifications for Patients with Physical & Neurological Disabilities \*

## Comprehensive Home Evaluation Reports: The Components of a Quality Report

By: Scott Anderle, PT, CAPS

As a home modification specialist, I have come to understand that a good foundation is extremely important when building a quality home. The same can be said for those who perform and produce quality reports for home modification projects. The look and content put into a home modification report can make a tremendous difference on the outcome of a home modification project. The "needs" (and sometimes "wants") of the client must be identified and addressed within the report. If done correctly, the professional report will guide all interested parties to a result that will maximize the client's function within the home environment. In this process one will also enhance the possibility of acquiring the needed funding for the project. This is accomplished by identifying the client's needs and addressing them within the home modification report.

What should the home modification professional consider when producing a quality report for their client? First, there should be sufficient information to identify the client and the location of the home under consideration. Information such as: age, gender, claim #, name of

1/5/2011 - Ft. Smith, AR  
 1/6/2011 - Little Rock, AR  
 1/7/2011 - Tunica, MS

[See Brochure](#)

\*For Specialty Products for Home Accessibility and Independence & The ABC's of Home Modifications for Patients with Physical and Neurological Disabilities seminars, registration must be made with Cross Country Education.

**Cross Country Education's website:**  
[www.crosscountryeducation.com/cce](http://www.crosscountryeducation.com/cce)

Click [here](#) to learn more about the



**A UNIQUE MARKETING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR COMPANY:**

Click [here](#) to learn more about the RESOURCE DIRECTORY within the CHER®.

Click [here](#) to view directions to create your RESOURCE DIRECTORY account within the CHER®.

evaluator within the contact information should be placed on the first page of the report. It is also very helpful to include the pertinent parties involved in the project, such as: contractor, architect, medical personnel, etc. - along with their contact information. From this point forward it is recommended to have a tool that allows the evaluator the ability to have a standardized template to work from. The old adage "don't re-create the wheel" is very appropriate. One should consider using a standard template that will allow the evaluator to produce a quality customized report for all parties involved in the home modification project. I created the CHER® (Comprehensive Home Evaluation Report) as a standardized reporting tool for that very reason. All members within a facility can work from the same template. Thus, if various reports are being produced by multiple individuals, they all have a standardized format as a starting point. A quality customized report eliminates the problems of a report that is very vague in nature. A vague report can not only hurt the client from a functional aspect, it can also hurt them from a financial aspect. Many times there is enough money available to perform the necessary modifications, however, one can't necessarily go back and do it over again if it is not done correctly the first time.

Every report should have a "title" on the first page to alert the reader to what type of report is being presented. Example: "Full Home Evaluation Report", "Partial Home Evaluation Report",

## **NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE RESOURCE DIRECTORY:**

### **Freedom Innovations, Inc.**

The Freedom Wand® is a sanitary, easy to use, multipurpose, portable, personal toilet tissue aid. It's specifically designed for personal cleaning and hygiene for anyone with limited mobility. The four fingers easily grasp toilet tissue, a razor, loofah, or ointment applicator. The easy to use slide button releases tissue into the toilet with little effort. The Freedom Wand® is made from a polypropylene material, and easy to clean. It is also designed with a rinse hole in the head to aid in easy cleaning.

### **Spectrum Products**

Spectrum Products manufactures a broad array of affordable, state-of-the art, quality products; which are used in the construction, operation and maintenance of commercial swimming pools and spas. Spectrum's extensive line of products ranges from Assisted Access products, lifts, ladders and therapy steps, grab rails and hand rails, and much more! Spectrum Products is also the exclusive manufacturer of the ExerSwim™ Portable Swim Current Generator.

"Cursory Report", "Full Home Assessment Report", etc. Each report should follow a logical pathway. The CHER® allows the professional to enter in datum pertaining to the client's ADLs (Activities of Daily Living), physical status and utilization of assistive devices. Once this information has been entered one can proceed with a logical progression with their reports from the outside of the home to the inside area of the home environment - if performing a full home evaluation report. If however, one needs only to address one aspect of the home (i.e. - master bathroom) then the person producing the report would only address that area of the home. The other areas of the home that are not being evaluated would not be mentioned unless it is recognized as an issue for the client.

When producing a comprehensive report for the client, the person producing the report should always consider adding pictures of the element(s) under consideration, along with a brief description. Many times it is extremely hard to describe a home's structural issues, and a picture really is "worth a thousand words." It is important to identify problems within the home environment, but it is also equally as important to depict the problems and describe what space relationships are necessary for the client to effectively function within that region of the home. In virtually every section of the CHER®, the professional can upload images of specific solutions from the extensive image gallery. The image gallery shows both "products" as well as "projects" that

incorporate universal & accessible home design. The professional who has identified the problem, both within their text and with images, can then generate their recommendations and/or use ones that are provided within the CHER®, thus offering solutions to those problems.

The professionals who perform and produce reports need to do so in a timely and efficient manner. By incorporating all the important elements of the report and following a uniformed format, all team members involved in the project can produce a quality report in the appropriate time. The CHER® allows such reports to be generated in the appropriate manner, and can assist all parties involved in the home modification project. While the CHER® is a standardized reporting tool, it has many other features and benefits. It is a remarkable source of information for anyone interested in universal and accessible home design. It also contains a directory of companies that offer products and services that can enhance the home modification project for the benefit of the client. I believe that both medical practitioners and construction/design professionals will need to further their education and skills to meet the needs of their future clients. Being knowledgeable of ADA requirements, universal and accessible home design, specialty products, services, etc., can benefit the client and enhance the home modification project.

Currently, there is a wave building - and that wave is **Universal Home Design**. Just

as "green" or "energy efficient" has grown in our country, so too has universal home design. As previously mentioned, the look and content put into a report can make a tremendous difference on the outcome of a home modification project. Producing a quality report is done by having a good foundation to start from, and the CHER® provides that foundation for both the professionals and their clients. For more information on Scott A. Anderle, PT, CAPS, Specialized Home Design, Inc., and the CHER®, please click [here](#).

You are receiving this email newsletter because you opted to receive information on universal and accessible home design from Specialized Home Design, Inc.

#### ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Would you like to reach approximately 2000 people each month advertising your products and/or services? We are pleased to offer the opportunity to advertise in our monthly newsletter. For more information, please contact Vicki at [vicki@shdesigns.net](mailto:vicki@shdesigns.net) or 616-887-8130.

[Unsubscribe](#) <<Email Address>> from this list.

Our mailing address is:  
Specialized Home Design, Inc. 34 Applewood Dr. Sparta, MI 49345

Our telephone:  
616-887-8130

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