



Eben Ezer lift a first in long-term care

Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center has incorporated state-of-the-art technology as part of their daily rehabilitation treatment.

The same lift technology used at Craig Hospital is now available to individuals receiving physical therapy at Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center. The multifunctional ceiling lift was installed in the Eben Ezer therapy gym in fall 2016, making Eben Ezer the first long-term care facility in Colorado to utilize the Guldmann Ceiling Based GH3 lift system.

A company based out of Denmark, Guldmann Inc. is known around the world for its leading lift technology.

“Eben Ezer shares a rich Danish heritage and it has been a privilege to work with a company which not only has an excellent reputation in the healthcare community, but also understands first-hand the history and tradition on which Eben Ezer was founded,” said Shelly Griffith, CEO of Eben Ezer.

Watching the Guldmann lift in action is just as impressive as it sounds. The flexibility and mobility this system provides has enhanced Eben Ezer neighbor’s therapeutic process and recovery. Compared to popular single unit anti-gravity treadmills which are limited in functionality, the Guldmann GH3 allows therapy patients at Eben Ezer to receive the benefit of weightless technology throughout the entire gym.

With a simple harness this system maneuvers throughout the gym, allowing the therapists to work with patients on the treadmill, in the parallel bars, transferring to the NuStep or



Katharina Nichols, a patient at Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center, participates in rehabilitation with the help of Yolanda Azimi. (News-Tribune/Courtesy Photo).

free walking. The system also has the ability to adjust how much weight the patient bears.

“The lift gives added confidence to the patient and therapist,” said Yolanda Azimi, director of rehabilitative services at Eben Ezer. “A patient can build endurance while maintaining medical restrictions such as weight limits. For example, a patient with a new hip fracture may be limited to bearing 25

percent of their body weight when walking.

“Traditionally this puts undue strain on their arms when using a walker or assistive device. Many times therapy is limited when working with such a weight restriction but with the use of the Guldmann lift a patient can walk to increase movement and endurance while the lift bears the other 75 percent of their weight.”



Edith Berndt, a current rehab patient at Eben Ezer, described the lift system as a personal 'space walk'.

"I was injured from a fall and without the lift walking is painful. I can't go more than 10 feet on my own because it hurts. This allows me to walk further and without pain."

Orthopedic patients are not the only people who may benefit from the lift system.

"Using the lift with therapy can also increase aerobic capacity of high functioning individuals who are otherwise limited by every day pain." Azimi explained.

Katharina Nichols has returned to Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center for rehabilitation on several occasions. During her most recent stay she was pleasantly surprised by the addition of the new lift system. "I love to walk. I like to walk around the hallways at Eben Ezer, but it takes time because I have to stop and rest. In this, I walk faster and I feel secure," Nichols said.

The purchase of the Guldmann GH3 lift system was made possible to Eben Ezer by funds from the Joslin-Needham Family Foundation. Joslin-Needham Family Foundation has faithfully supported Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center for many years. The foundation's generous support has purchased a variety of equipment over the years to benefit the neighbors and staff of Eben Ezer. The Joslin-Needham Family Foundation is administered by the Farmers State Bank of Brush.

Read the original article here on Brush News Tribune: http://www.brushnews-tribune.com/latestnews/ci_30884830/eben-ezer-lift-first-long-term-care



Edith Berndt, a neighbor at Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center, is shown using the Guldmann Ceiling Based GH3 lift system with the assistance of Yolanda Azimi. (News-Tribune/Courtesy Photo)