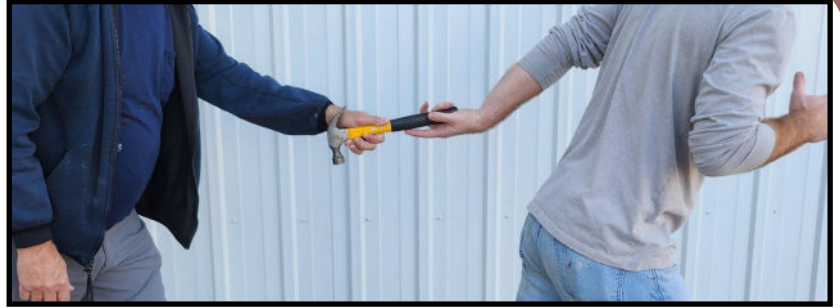




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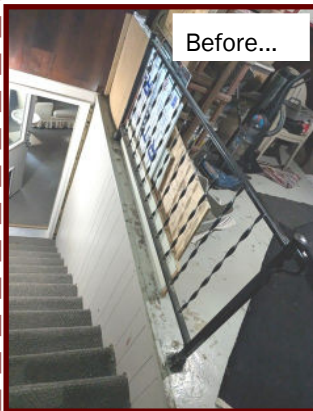
It's Nearly Time to "Pass the Baton"

After 20 years, SCCO is launching into an expansion of sorts. We've hired our first full-time employee, besides me! Christian Soll is now almost 6 months into his new position of Home Repair Specialist and Hero's Attic delivery driver. **Finally, some younger blood is being infused into the organization to ensure that we stick around and grow into the next 20 years!**

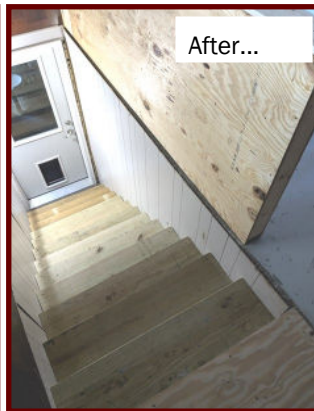
Most people know SCCO as the home to Hero's Attic, our used furniture store, but a lot still don't know about our founding and ongoing service of Home Repairs. Since I'm approaching retirement age, 64 in January, Christian is coming on at an ideal time to learn the ropes and take over the Home Repair portion of our ministry.

SCCO's Home Repair Ministry Testimonial:

I had Ron and Christian come in to look at my basement stairs and see if they could help me make them safer to use. My basement stairs are located in the garage, and they were very small cement stairs with carpet that wasn't even glued down to them.



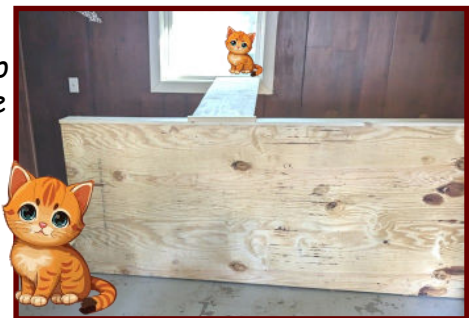
Before...



After...

The banister was an outside railing made out of black iron and was not sturdy at all. I was envisioning wooden stairs with a half wall that would be safe and would also provide my cats a place to perch to look out a window that none of us could reach.

*After inspecting and taking measurements, they came up with a lovely plan and I couldn't be happier with the results. They even added a walkway for the cats to get to the window and I must say, those kitties love it and spend hours there! The work and ministry of SCCO is amazing and greatly appreciated. Thank you so much!
S.D. Harlan, IA*



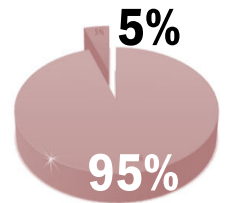
This is just one recent project which has been accomplished along with MANY more, both small and large, **through our SCCO Home Repair ministry.** Customers are responsible for material costs, while labor is provided on a donation basis for smaller jobs and at a reasonable hourly rate for more time-consuming projects. As prices for everything continue to rise, we strive to meet our clients needs the best way we can.

Some people, like the one previous, are able to cover labor costs while others, like the next example are struggling to just pay for basic materials, let alone hiring someone to do the work.

SCCO,
Thank you all so much for getting my bathroom
up and running! Be Blessed.
D.S. Hancock, IA

No matter the situation, **SCCO Home Repair is committed to providing solutions for area residents' home related problems and doing it in a cost-effective manner for everyone.** BUT... we can't do this alone! We need your help.

All non-profits rely on donations to stay in business, it's part of their DNA, and not something to be ashamed of. So, it should come as no surprise that SCCO continues to ask for money to operate with. I won't bore you with all the statistics and details, but suffice it to say, to expand our services, we need to expand our income. We send out **3,987 newsletters * 5% of those are regular givers * 95% give sporadically or not at all.**



Dilemma: Ask our current donors to give more OR ask the majority to give a little? **If that 95% began giving a base unit of support at just \$5 per month, our shortfall would become a surplus.** It sounds so ridiculous, but let's look at the figures: $95\% \text{ of } 3,987 = 3,788 \times \$5 = \$18,940 \times 12 \text{ months} = \$227,280$ annual increase. That is the simplest way I can demonstrate **how impactful your small, insignificant, monthly donation could be.** And yet, I still hear most of the time that you must ask for more than \$5 per month...that somehow, this is an insult to ask for so little, but the numbers don't lie.

It's a concept of relativity. For most people, \$5 is pocket change that won't be missed. For others, maybe that figure is \$25 or \$50 or \$100, that is a comfortable amount to part with each month. Some will never read this far, as it's already been thrown into the trash. But for those of you still reading, here it is... **the ask...**



Please consider becoming a sustaining member of at least \$5 per month to help SCCO survive and THRIVE! It really is that simple, but it does take a commitment from a large group of people to make it work. Will you be one of them?

Thank you to all our loyal partners of the present and the past, and please don't feel slighted that you weren't asked to increase your giving. You're always welcome to give more anytime you'd like!!

Blessings to all of you. **And regardless of your financial support, you are valued by SCCO, and it's our extreme privilege to work with and for you!**

Ron French, SCCO Executive Director

