The blueprints for a house are precise, technical—a literal map for success. The building is executed according to plan. A decade ago, a different kind of plan was drawn up for Lane, David, Brad, and Greg to become roommates. Sometimes when you build a house the right elements come together to make it a home. Similarly, the plan for Lane, Greg, Brad and David brought them together and they became not just roommates, but family.

Ten years later, this family is faced with the possibility of going separate ways. Aging is affecting their mobility and our ability to keep the four guys together is at risk in their current home.

While their home did work for them, it is no longer meeting their needs. Rather than looking at options where they would have to split up, in true CCRI fashion we decided to find a way to keep them together. There is a lack of accessible housing available in our community. To accommodate their changing needs, we are building them a new, accessible home to live in, as a family.

Change is hard, it's hard to watch your body age and hard to leave the house where you have put your roots down as a family. It would be even harder to be separated from someone you care so deeply about. This family has supported each other through losing beloved family, friends, and caregivers. They stand up for each other when someone has been treated unfairly and will support each other with the change of moving into a new house, and because they will remain together—their foundation will be stronger than before.

Join us to ensure Lane, Brad, David and Greg can stay together. Your gift of $200 will help provide a new accessible home for these wonderful friends! This is a $360,000 project and thanks to generous supporters our funding gap to keep this family together is $325,000.
Meet The Guys
by Amber Lobdell, their caregiver of more than six years.

Greg is so many things all at once in the best way. He is good-hearted and kind. Greg will saunter through a parking lot on a 20 below zero day while breathing deep and saying, “ahhhh nice and fresh air.” But, despite his slow paced walks through parking lots, he is the fastest and best dancer I know. Greg has his own version of breakdancing, loves to try to get people out of their seat to dance, and has stamina like no other. Greg loves drinking very hot coffee, all veggies, hot peppers, and Butterfinger Blizzards. His love for his family is always evident as he loves to visit and attend church with them most every weekend. When his family sends him cards he excitedly shows me what they wrote. Greg smiles for days after spending a holiday with his family. Greg loves to share—he shares all of his candy, he even passes out the croutons from his salad at restaurants. Greg is a hard worker with the best attitude. He never complains about going to work and wakes up with a smile on his face and then asks, “coffee?” To Greg, every day is a “great day”.

Lane is a natural born leader and rule follower. When he was younger he would scribble speeding tickets in his notebook for cars on a gravel road near his home. He loves office work, sitting at his desk and making “very important phone calls” to former President Obama and Bruce Wayne. Lane is fiercely protective of his roommates and caregivers. He is known for giving frequent long speeches at events full of love for those he is there to support. His protectiveness often comes out in fatherly advice, “that bite is too big, buddy” or “please take a shower before you go, ok.” But Lane’s not all business—he is often the instigator of sword fights with wooden kitchen spoons, pillow fights, and belting out Beach Boys at the top of his lungs.
David is colorful in every sense. David lives his life in color figuratively—that twinkle in his eye when he calls every lady he meets "girlfriend." The glee on his face when he pushes his roommate's buttons (which is totally his way of showing love) as he nonchalantly says "hey you're weird lookin'" or "you're very, very crazy." David will do this especially often to Lane. Lane and David have known each other since they went to school together as children, and David's love and admiration of Lane is apparent in the amount of times he teases him throughout the day. His joy and passion for all things youthful and fun or chocolatey is contagious. Whether David is getting dressed or drawing a picture, his positive self talk is inspiring. He frequently says things like "that looks beautiful David." "You are the best artist." or "That color really shows up on you."

He is colorful literally—he loves bright colors and makes beautiful art in every color. His subjects of choice are usually houses and bikes. He will draw cities that will make you smile every time. He makes art because he loves it, and because it makes him feel good. David's art always evokes joy in people. His perspective shows the endless joy and possibility he sees in the world. Their dining room table has slowly become David's art station, which his roommates are okay with because they don't want David to be in his room in the basement making art—they like it when he's around.

Brad is a local celebrity. Everywhere he goes, people know him. He probably should be in politics—he is all about networking, giving speeches, and convincing others to give him free shirts and Diet Coke. Brad likes to make friends with EVERYONE. He is friendly and outgoing, and his emotional intelligence is off the charts. Brad always asks about your family. He loves to take on titles as honorary uncle and would love to be your dog's godfather. He feels joy alongside others and always seems to notice when others need a friend, or are a little off. Brad shows genuine kindness to his roommates. He tells them he cares about and loves them daily, invites them on his adventures, and always buys his roommates thoughtful birthday gifts (oftentimes he can’t wait until their birthday to tell them what it is).
Check out more opportunities for the house on Target and Amazon registry.
TableScapes is an annual event that celebrates creativity. Local designers create unique table designs that are truly a work of art. The event is a perfect metaphor for the people we support. Just like our table designs, everyone we serve has a unique personality and their own unique needs, unlike anyone else. CCRI has made our reputation on providing services that are customized for each individual, regardless of their needs. Similar to our table designers, our teams come up with creative ideas, which are often unconventional, with one goal in mind—to enhance people’s lives.

Enjoy a night of food, fellowship and celebration as we highlight the accomplishments of the people we support. The evening consists of a happy hour, short program and dinner. Proceeds from the event will support Lane, Brad, David and Greg’s new home.

Let’s keep this family together and build a home that will meet the changing needs of four fantastic friends today and into the future.

Join us October 9 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Moorhead.
The mission of CCRI is to enhance and enrich the lives and learning of people with disabilities.

The vision of CCRI is to provide an environment where people of all abilities may experience life’s possibilities.