

PSEG's Power's Central Maintenance Shop Partners with Rehabilitation Technology to Upgrade Patient Equipment

PSEG Power's Central Maintenance Shop (CMS) has been devoted to supporting the kids of Children's Specialized Hospital and the programs of Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation over the last five years. They support our patients by helping to fund the inpatient prom held annually at PSE&G Children's Specialized Hospital in New Brunswick, and during a recent tour of the hospital's New Brunswick site, they were inspired to help fulfill another need that they observed.

Theresa Defosse of Rehabilitation Technology explained during the tour that the footrests on wheelchairs and other pieces on patient equipment get worn out rather quickly due to normal wear and tear. The Rehab Technology team needs to find creative ways to fix the parts, or to adapt the parts to the needs of the patients. That's when Lynn Warner, Tom Vandermark and Gill Furtado of PSEG came up with the idea to build the parts themselves.

As the maintenance facility for PSEG Power sites across multiple states, PSEG's CMS has access to durable materials that when combined with our patient's needs, allows for highly-specialized alterations to patient equipment. Adaptations are not always possible otherwise, because companies simply do not sell parts in sizes most favorable for our patients. **"It's amazing what PSEG is doing for us. Their help significantly improves the day-to-day lives of our kids because they are creating pieces that aren't typically manufactured in the way patients need them,"** expressed Theresa Defosse, Rehabilitation Technology Coordinator at Children's Specialized Hospital.

PSEG has not only built small pieces to repair equipment throughout this partnership but has also crafted metal templates that are much more durable than the original wood structures. These templates allow for efficient, consistent construction and are much more suited for patients' needs. One of the most common issues, for instance, is the size of patient arm braces, which are typically manufactured only for full-size adults. PSEG was able to scale-down the size of the brace, therefore making it better suited for a child's use. **"All I have to do is mention Children's Specialized and it's 'what can we do for you?'"** expressed Tom Vandermark, a Machinist at PSEG Central Maintenance Shop about his colleagues.



Sara Mapes, Director of Sponsorships and Engagement at Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation, presents a thank you from the kids to the employees of PSEG Power's Central Maintenance Shop.

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We are so grateful for our corporate partners like PSEG, who take the time to truly understand the needs of our patients and families and help us to find ways to continue to deliver the best care possible. This new partnership with PSEG's CMS is one example of a dedicated group of individuals who work with us to find creative solutions that utilize their staff's expertise in an area where we desperately needed help.

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SARA MAPES

Director of Sponsorships and Engagement
Children's Specialized Hospital Foundation