

Project P.H.A.

Project P.H.A., **Practical Housing for All**, is an effort by the City of Fort Collins Commission on Disability subcommittee to educate home builders and their consumers on simple ways to build *practical* homes for residents of all ability and encourage builders and designers to offer P.H.A. features in floor plans presented to new-home buyers.

The five basic P.H.A. features include:

- ◆ At least one level entrance into the home
- ◆ Minimum 32-inch wide doorways
- ◆ A minimum 36-inch wide clear passage throughout the main floor of the home
- ◆ A usable bathroom on the main floor with reinforced walls to support grab bars
- ◆ Reachable electrical plugs and switches

The five basic features added to a newly constructed home will provide livable homes with barrier-free access to everyone. By building houses with these features, all individuals, residents and visitors alike, are able to easily use the home. It is estimated one in six people will have physical limitations of some form within their life, whether temporary or permanent. Homes built with P.H.A. features allow the disabled person to visit more freely in a friend or relative's home - and to reside more safely in their own home. Including these features in the design and construction adds little to the cost of a new home, as opposed to retrofitting an existing home.

Project P.H.A. is seeking builders in Northern Colorado to participate in this endeavor by offering these five basic P.H.A. features as an optional floor plan to new-home buyers.