

Together, The Lord Leonard and Lady Estelle Wolfson Foundation and Mencap will give more people with a learning disability the chance to live independently in a safe, well equipped and happy home.

Organisation background

Royal Mencap Society (Mencap, charity no. 222377), founded in 1946, is the leading UK charity for people with a learning disability, their families and carers. Our mission is to transform society's attitudes to learning disability and improve the quality of life of people with a learning disability and their families.

Mencap works in partnership with people with a learning disability throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland, helping approximately 80,000 individuals every year to live their lives the way they choose. Mencap's work spans a wide range of support aimed at ensuring people with a learning disability can have access to the same rights and opportunities that most of us take for granted. Our high-quality personalised support & advice services include:

- **Personalised services** – for all aspects of life; education, employment, advocacy, leisure and housing
- **Campaigning** – challenging prejudice and influencing public policy on behalf of people with a learning disability
- **Help & Advice** – on all issues surrounding learning disability
- **Innovative Research & Development** – testing new services to improve the lives of people with a learning disability

Project description – the House to Home appeal

'Really and truly we couldn't have imagined it any better. A wonderful transformation both for us and for the boys.... we are safe in the knowledge that our sons are content in what we can only describe as a home from home.' Isobel, in her 70s and mother to Warren (38) and Bryan (40) reunited after 24 years apart in their new home supported by Mencap.

Over the next three years, Golden Lane Housing, Mencap's sister charity, is investing £30m in 85 houses for 300 people with a learning disability, like Warren and Bryan. Mencap's challenge, through the House to Home appeal, is to raise the £6m needed for vital adaptations, turning these ordinary houses in ordinary streets into permanent, cherished homes across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

How The Lord Leonard and Lady Estelle Wolfson Foundation will transform lives

The Lord Leonard and Lady Estelle Wolfson Foundation's gift of £100,000 over three years will fund vital adaptations to at least three properties, transforming them into accessible happy homes for people with a learning disability now and holding the homes in trust for future generations of people with a learning disability.

We have identified Yorkshire as a key area in which to direct your support, making a real, lasting impact to people with a learning disability in the area. In year one, your support will be focused on creating a happy home in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, for three people whose needs are becoming more complex with age. Their current accommodation is no longer appropriate, lacking both the adaptations and the space for the level of support they now need.

All three have multiple, co-occurring health conditions, suffer from anxiety and can become easily distressed. To keep their independence, they now need physical adaptations to help them get around their home and 24/7 support to keep them safe, provide support with many everyday tasks and their specific diet and medication.