

November 20, 2012

**-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --**

One of BAMSIø persons served will have a lot to be thankful for this year, thanks to Home Depot on Crescent Street in Brockton. Steven Aidonidis lives in a home in Brockton managed by BAMSI. He was unable to get in and out of his motherø home in Dedham due to his wheelchair, and was therefore unable to visit on Thanksgiving. The Program Manager of the Mercedes Road home where Steven lives, Renee Santos, called Home Depot to look into possible solutions. She was thrilled when the manager said that not only could they build a ramp for Steven, they would do it for free.

The manager at Home Depot, Joe Pratt, said, òAfter listening to the story, it just seemed like the right thing to do to help him out. A great thing about Home Depot is as a manager I can make decisions with our customers. I got together with a few associates to figure out how we could make this work.ö

Stevenø sister Maria called the donation very generous. òIt means a lot to us. I donø have the resources to build a deck with a ramp. It means a lot to my parents that Home Depot is willing to come over and build a ramp for free. Itø a relief to know there are people out there who care.ö

BAMSIø Chief Executive Officer Tony Simonelli says of the donation: òThis is an amazing gesture by the Home Depot. They recognized a need in our community and extended a tremendous act of kindness that has made a tremendous difference in the lives of this family. On behalf of Steven, his family, and our staff here at BAMSI, I want to express our extreme gratitude to the Home Depot.ö

Founded in 1975, BAMSI is one of the largest non-profit, human service organizations in Massachusetts. BAMSI delivers services that include day and residential services; housing and essential services; HIV/AIDS programs; elderly services; behavioral health services; and programs for children, youth, and families, designed to assist families and children to access critical resources. BAMSI supports nearly 20,000 individuals per year through more than 100 program locations throughout the Commonwealth.

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