

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**DONOVAN, LOCAL NON-PROFIT PARTNER TO INSTALL STAIR LIFT FOR
ELDERLY SANDY VICTIM**

As Donovan focuses on legislative concepts to improve recovery, residents still reeling from Sandy may contact the Congressman's office for guidance and assistance

Staten Island, NY--August 27, 2015....Congressman Dan Donovan (NY-11) and representatives from the Staten Island Long-term Recovery Organization – which provided a generous grant – today joined Midland Beach resident Bill Owens at his newly constructed home to observe the new lift and discuss ongoing storm challenges.

“We heard today how complicated Bill’s recovery has been,” **Congressman Donovan** said. “I’d like to say I have a great staff, but really *you* have a great staff – they’re here to serve you. Instead of making calls to all sorts of agencies and programs, you only need to make one call: to my office. We’ll do the rest for you.”

Mr. Owens lived at his Olympia Boulevard home with his family and elderly mother, Kathleen, before Hurricane Sandy. After scraping together SBA loans, flood insurance proceeds, and his own savings, he rebuilt a new, elevated home in compliance with FEMA regulations and City code. Still, Kathleen could not return home because she could not make it up the new stairs. Congressman Donovan’s office worked with the Long-term Recovery Organization, which provided a \$3,000 grant for a stair lift installed on August 26.

Donovan concluded, “Disaster recovery is a top focus for me in Washington. As we speak, my staff is working through legislative ideas to improve the process. This mess has been decades in the making, and we’re not going to solve it overnight. Still, piece by piece, we can work to make life a little easier for those who went through this horrible tragedy, and to make sure the process works better for people like Bill and Kathleen the next time a storm comes.”

Congressman Donovan was joined by Cassandra Missall, Tom Cunsolo, and Bob Dennis from the Staten Island Long-term Recovery Organization.

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