



NARI MILWAUKEE, INC.
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
NARI MILWAUKEE FOUNDATION, INC.

**CHAPTER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD** 

The NARI Milwaukee Foundation, Inc. was established in 1993 as a 501(c)3 charitable arm of NARI Milwaukee, Inc. The Foundation supports NARI Milwaukee and the local remodeling market through an extensive network of donors and volunteers that advocate for the professionalism of the remodeling and construction trades, supports the advancement of industry education and supports the quality of life through remodeling improvements for the community. The foundation typically assists with two community projects in the year.

NARI member and secretary on the NARI Milwaukee Foundation board of directors, Tracy Grosspietsch, CKBR, UDCP, of AB&K Bath & Kitchen presented a community service opportunity to the Foundation board of directors in February 2019. Advocates of Ozaukee County is local non-profit organization working to end domestic and sexual violence. They provide temporary housing, food, counseling and many outreach services in addition to a 24-hour crisis line.

The Advocates shelter is an older farmhouse located in rural Wisconsin in a non-disclosed location. The house sleeps 16, and currently they are providing shelter to seven women and six children. The kitchen is the most used room in the house and gets a great deal of use. While it is serviceable, it is not efficient or attractive. The Advocates were hoping to create a kitchen space without barriers, where families can gather to celebrate their freedom and support for each other.

The challenge was their kitchen is small, outdated and inadequate for serving the families staying there. It had some renovations done to partially open up a wall and make an 'island' for much needed surface space. Advocates had raised \$7,500 for a kitchen renovation, but a long way away from being able to afford even a minor renovation.

Plus, with the nature of the Advocates services, trusted contractors had to be used as the location is not public for the safety of the families staying there. Further, the renovation would need to be as efficient as possible as the families would need to stay in hotels during the construction for safety and privacy.





The request by Tracy was to bring NARI Milwaukee members together to execute a kitchen renovation for the Advocates through as much donated products and services as reasonable and additional financial support from the Foundation to cover remaining expenses.

This project fit into the goals of the Foundation by supporting the quality of life through remodeling improvements for the community. The Foundation agreed to assist in covering costs once it was known what the remaining costs would be after donations.

Tracy and her company AB&K agreed to be the general contractors overseeing the project.

## PROJECT GOALS

Inspiring family space

THOSE OF COMES	
	Solicit and secure labor and material donations for the
	domestic abuse shelter from NARI Milwaukee
	members
	Location confidentiality
	Quick as possible execution
	Update the finishes
	Remove knee wall – accessible for all client mobility
	Upgrade the mechanical systems
FRIGIT	Keep the range, but all new appliances
	Easy to clean surfaces
	Classic design nothing fancy or flashy

Tracy provided the kitchen design and material selection keeping the project modest but functional and beautiful. The plan was keeping the overall same footprint and layout less the knee wall / 'island'. A moveable island was planned to keep the needed surface space and make the space accessible.

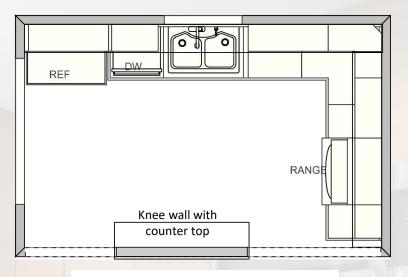
The soffits would be removed taking the cabinets to the ceiling for additional storage space. Luxury vinyl plank flooring and laminate countertops would be used to keep the budget modest.

The final project cost was estimated to be \$17,000 with a value of \$25,000 to \$30,000.

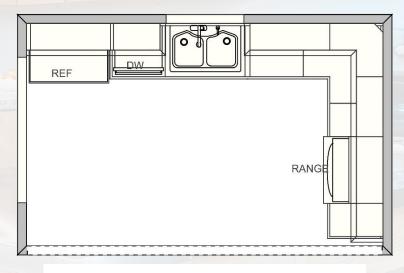
## KITCHEN FLOOR PLANS

The original farmhouse kitchen was modified over time as funds became available to better support its clients'. A full-height wall was cut back to accommodate walkers and wheelchairs and provide more surface space.

The remodeled plan keeps the same appliance configuration. The knee wall was removed to create more space for clients with disabilities. A movable island was planned to keep the much needed surface space.



**ORIGINAL FLOOR PLAN** 



REMODELED FLOOR PLAN

The call for help to NARI Milwaukee members went out with immediate support. Besides AB&K, these NARI Milwaukee members participated in the project donating labor and/or materials.

- Able Kitchen and Bath Showplace
- Carmel Builders, Inc.
- Colorwheel Painting, LLC
- Creative Construction of Wisconsin, Inc.
- Current Electric Company
- Grand Appliance and TV
- Kohler
- Midwest Tops, Inc.
- Premier Floors





Removing the soffits, installing recessed down lights and the laminate top combine to create a classic, easy-to-maintain space.

The taller wall cabinets provide additional storage space. Removing the center hanging fixture opens up the space.



The knee wall was an obstruction in the kitchen, limiting access for clients with mobility impairment.

A new mobile kitchen cart provides additional countertop space, while keeping with the clean, classic look of the kitchen.

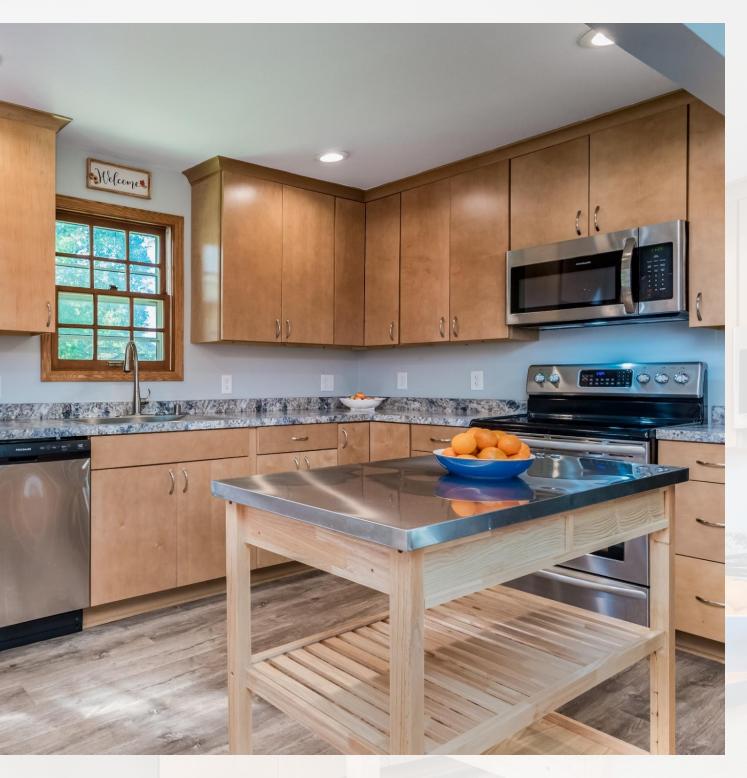


Between the kitchen and the other rooms, the existing dropped header remained in place. It's holding up the second floor of the old farmhouse.

The room slants 1/2" of an inch to the outside walls by the refrigerator. The cove molding at the top of the cabinet is modified and cut down to conceal the change in height.

The design and material selection as well as all of the labor on this project was donated by NARI Milwaukee members. This includes, but not limited to:

- Removing the galvanized pipes
- Outlets and circuits to code
- Insulation in all outside walls
- New drywall throughout the kitchen
- LVP wood-look flooring installation
- Appliances and fixtures



Since the kitchen remodel, the shelter board of directors was inspired to fundraise for a complete redesign / redecoration of the main living areas of the house.

The old mis-matched tired looking kitchen was safe, but did not inspire a "fresh start" for the clients.

The new kitchen is an attractive space without barriers, where families can gather to celebrate their freedom and support for each other.

The project began mid July and was completed first of September.

## **PROJECT GOALS**

- Solicit and secure labor and material donations for the domestic abuse shelter from NARI Milwaukee members
- Location confidentiality
- Quick as possible execution
- ☑ Update the finishes
- Remove knee wall accessible for all client mobility
- ☑ Upgrade the mechanical systems
- M Keep the range, but all new appliances
- Easy to clean surfaces
- Classic design nothing fancy or flashy
- ✓ Inspiring space



The NARI Milwaukee Foundation, NARI Milwaukee members, shelter board of directors and staff attended a ribbon cutting at the shelter to celebrate the new kitchen.









The NARI Milwaukee Foundation presented the Advocates of Ozaukee County a check for \$3,000 to cover miscellaneous project costs at their annual Holiday Party.



We ask that you consider honoring NARI Milwaukee, Inc. in partnership with the NARI Milwaukee Foundation, Inc. for the 2020 Chapter Community Service Award.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

The NARI Milwaukee Executive Committee



