



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on October 24, 2016

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## **The Goodness of America**

### **Shirts Galore**

When mom Deborah Skouson of St. George, Utah, discovered that her daughter's favorite shirt was no longer wearable, she took to the Internet for help and, boy, did she get it.

Skouson's 10-year-old autistic daughter, Cami, became "fixated" on a particular shirt purchased from Target five years ago, according to Skouson. It is a simple pink shirt with flowers, but nevertheless was Cami's favorite. It is no longer in production.

Skouson knew her daughter would be devastated to learn that she would no longer be able to wear it, and turned to social media for help.

On August 7, she posted the following on Facebook:

I need your help! As most of you know, my daughter Cami has autism. For the past 4-5 years, she has been fixated on THIS shirt. She got her first one in kindergarten 5 years ago, and we have found 4 more since then, mostly on eBay. Her current one is almost unwearable, and eBay has gone dry. This shirt is a CIRCO brand from TARGET. They were sold in 2011-2012. This is where you come in. We need another "pink flower shirt", so will you please share this post or even just the photo? We will pay for the shirt and the shipping if someone would be kind enough to sell it to us. It has to be this exact shirt! We've tried similar shirts, and they don't cut it with Cami!

Incredibly, what started out as a plea to family and friends went viral after being shared by Oakland, California, news anchor Frank Somerville.

Before Skouson knew it, people from all over the nation, and the world, reached out to her and offered similar items from their very own closets. She received more than 150 shirts in the mail, including from people in the United Kingdom and Germany.

What's more, Target contacted Skouson and offered to make the same exact shirt in adult sizes so that Cami can continue to wear her favorite shirt for years to come.

For Skouson, the response has been overwhelming. "Apparently this struck a chord in people," she said. "It's been beautiful to see. The kindness that has been offered to us is overwhelming."

### **Home Depot-made Custom Walker**

Employees at a Home Depot in Richland Hills, Texas, showcased their creativity and engineering skills in an act of kindness that was surely appreciated by a disabled toddler and his family.

Two-year-old Silus Johnson has Norrie disease — a rare disease that affects his ability to walk independently. His condition renders it impossible for him to use traditional walkers sold in stores, so his grandfather decided that he would build a custom one for him to enable him to get around.

Silus' grandfather arrived at Home Depot in August to purchase the parts necessary to build the walker, and when he informed the store workers of his intent, they immediately volunteered their services.

Assistant store manager Matthew Spencer and workers Eric Bindel and Chris Wright were happy to offer their assistance.



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Bindel told Fox 4 News, “I have a 2-year-old of my own. I just dove right in and said ‘just drop it right there, give us his dimensions and we’ll get everything going for you and just build it for you for free.’”

Spencer, Bindel, and Wright reportedly worked on the project on their days off. Using PVC pipe, foam guards, and adjustable broom handles, they created a walker that can be adjusted as Silus grows.

Silus’ mother, Jessica Johnson, states that the walker has given her son a sense of independence that he had not been able to fully experience prior to the walker. “It helps him know that he can extend his legs and push off and do things by himself and be independent,” Johnson said.

For that, she is beyond grateful for the three men who made it happen. “I prayed for them and I prayed God would bless their families because they definitely blessed ours,” she said.

For Bindel, Wright, and Spencer, seeing Silus enjoy his newfound freedom was a reward of its own. “As soon as we put him in there, it was just really cool. He started feeling around on it. You could tell he was happy. He was excited,” said Bindel. “He started laughing and then started using his little feet to push himself backwards. I had a big smile. Everybody had a big smile, maybe a couple little tears here and there.”

## **Out of Sight**

While the Phillips family of Tenino, Washington, was on vacation, their neighbors acted quickly so that they did not return to a very unpleasant sight.

King 5 News reported that the Phillips’ home and truck were vandalized while they were away, with vulgar and racist messages spray-painted on the exteriors.

Neighbor Heidi Russell spotted it and enlisted the help of her fellow neighbors to throw a painting party so that they could cover up the obscene language. “Our biggest concern was getting this done before the family came home because they have small children and we didn’t want them to see their truck or their home vandalized,” said Russell.

The police officer who took the vandalism report even stayed to help paint. “I’m here to protect and serve,” said Police Officer Wilson. “It aggravates me when this happens. I’m here to make it right.”

CNN reported that by the time the Phillips family returned from their vacation on August 20, all the evidence of vandalism was gone. They were reportedly “overwhelmed and shocked” by the neighbors’ actions, and were very happy that their young children did not have to see the messages left on both their home and vehicle.

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