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GRANITE STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING TO ACQUIRE REFURBISHED EQUIPMENT MARKETPLACE

*Crotched Mountain Foundation Reaches Agreement to Transition Pre-Owned
Medical Equipment Vendor*

MANCHESTER – Granite State Living Independent Living (GSIL) has signed a grant agreement with Crotched Mountain Foundation to transfer ownership of the Refurbished Equipment Marketplace (REM) to GSIL. Located in Concord, New Hampshire, REM specializes in rehabilitating previously-owned donated medical equipment like wheelchairs, lifts, and standers and selling them at significantly reduced costs. For nearly 30 years, the Refurbished Equipment Marketplace has been helping people to remain active members of their families and communities through access to reasonably priced durable medical equipment. Granite State Independent Living (GSIL) is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote quality of life with independence for people with disabilities through advocacy, information, education, support and transition services. This agreement assures those with the greatest need for medical equipment of this type have continued access to it into the future.

"One of the greatest barriers to independence for GSIL consumers is the cost of the equipment needed to provide basic mobility and this partnership protects an affordable option for those who need specific medical equipment that can be incredibly expensive," explains Deborah Ritcey, CEO of Granite State Independent Living. "This is a critical asset that will benefit countless Granite Staters who need these supplies as a part of their day to day lives."

"GSIL is a perfect fit to take REM into the future," said Ned Olney, President and CEO of Crotched Mountain Foundation. "REM has helped so many people with disabilities over the years and by partnering with our good friends at GSIL, we can assure our clients that REM will continue to grow and to support all of those who have relied on its services. This agreement made all the sense in the world. As one of the largest providers of services for adults with disabilities in New Hampshire, GSIL's management of REM, the state's largest provider of refurbished medical equipment, will add another dimension to GSIL's impressive suite of services. I am so excited to see REM expand and positively impact even more lives."

Crotched Mountain Foundation has operated REM for over a decade, but when the opportunity arose to expand REM's role in the state through a new partnership, GSIL was a natural and logical choice and the two organizations moved forward swiftly. REM will remain in its showroom at 57 Regional Drive in Concord, and will continue to take in donations, clean, fix, and update equipment, as well as sell to customers via the showroom or the REM website at shoprem.com. REM has NH's largest inventory of previously owned assistive technology equipment such as manual and power wheelchairs, scooters, bath equipment, patient lifts, pediatric equipment, walking aids, hospital beds and so much more. Each piece of equipment is

thoroughly reconditioned and sanitized by trained technicians and then made available to purchase at a huge discount.

“REM is such a unique, important service that makes needed, often expensive medical products much more affordable,” said Ritcey. “We are excited to work with Crotched Mountain Foundation to make this transition seamless and to continue to offer the high-quality equipment and service that REM is known for throughout the region. This program has been well-managed for years and served countless families. It’s our honor to work with them to keep this vision alive for years to come.”

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About GSIL:

In 1980, it all started around a kitchen table in Goffstown, NH. Four people, each living with a disability, came together to overcome countless barriers and the lack of services available. With a shoestring budget of \$40,000, created from personal bank accounts and donations from family and friends, Granite State Independent Living (GSIL) began its grassroots journey. Today, as a statewide non-profit and New Hampshire’s only Center for Independent Living, we stay close to our roots with a focus on our 5 core services of education, information, advocacy, support and transition services for seniors and people with disabilities. We are able to speak and think with authority on behalf of the people we serve and support because we are led by a board of directors and staff of which over 51% are people with disabilities. With the help of our local New Hampshire communities, we assist people with tools for living life independently, so they can change their lives for the better. While much has changed over the years, one thing remains the same; GSIL is committed to the principle of personal choice and direction.