

It's Time to Make a Difference

Our project management class is expected to come away from this experience as changed individuals, but most importantly, our goal is to help the Manion family members improve the quality of their lives. People are presented with limited opportunities to do their part to change the world. It is our turn to make a difference.

Thank you!



University of San Diego
5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110

619-260-4600

<http://www.sandiego.edu/thanksgivinghouse>



Thanksgiving House



"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

-Gandhi

USD Thanksgiving House

Have you ever been so touched by a story or circumstance that it ignited your inner humanitarian spirit to help in anyway that you could? The story you hear speaks directly to your heart and touches your soul. The message is so powerful that it moves you to make a difference. We, at the University of San Diego, were recently moved in such a way by one man's "Unthinkable Journey."

Mark Manion, a native San Diegan, was only 19 years old when he was critically injured by a drunk driver. Mark and his cousin were riding bikes cross-country, but they only got as far as Bakersfield. Sadly, Mark's cousin was killed and Mark was left paralyzed from the neck down. Mark beat all odds when he began to walk again. But, years later, he was met, yet again with

tragedy; a freak accident sentenced him to life in a wheel chair. Since that second accident, he has been forced to be completely dependent on others for his mobility.

Mark's courage and dedication is an example for us all. In spite of his hardships, Mark remains a very positive individual and uses his experience to speak out against the dangers of drunk driving. In 1999, he received the "Volunteer of the Year" award from Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD). As a role model, Mark changes lives and serves as a reminder of our actions on others.

During the Fall, 2007 semester, the Project Management class at USD has committed to improving the quality of life for the Manion family, making the home more accessible and comfortable.



How You Can Help

*This project is not funded by USD and the class must raise the funds needed to cover all the expenses for our work. We will make many improvements to Mark's house including a kitchen remodel, extensive landscaping and new patio, new floors, and air conditioning. We are humbled to ask for your donations. Financial donations can be made online at www.sandiego.edu, **Key-word: Thanksgiving house**. If you prefer in-kind donations or want to find out about volunteer needs, please feel free to contact our Professor, Barbara Withers at bwithers@sandiego.edu.*

If you are unable to give financially at this time, please help by keeping Mark Manion and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

