

Lending a helping hand for Devon

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Tulane University has announced its latest endeavor to assist with the recovery of injured student athlete Devon Walker ? Devon's Den. This privately funded project is providing needed materials and services for an addition of a bedroom and bathroom to the Walker home in Destrehan, La.



On Sept. 8, 2012, Tulane senior safety Walker sustained a severe spinal cord injury while making a tackle on the final play of the first half in the Green Wave's game in Tulsa, Okla. After months of rehabilitation out of state, Walker returned to New Orleans in December to continue his recovery.

The equipment and technology required for Devon's Den includes a ceiling-lift track system, which allows for safe mobility throughout the room. Other amenities include a gas generator, specialized toilet and shower, and equipment designed to provide a safe environment for Walker, his family and caretakers. To date, Walker's injuries require comprehensive, 24-hour care.

"Devon is someone who represents all that is special about student-athletes at Tulane," says Rick Dickson, Tulane athletics director. "He is extremely bright, dedicated and selfless, and makes everyone around him strive to be better.

“The manner that he has faced this tremendous adversity in his young life has been inspirational to many of us. With this project we are committed to providing the best level of medical care and accommodations in order for him to achieve his goals of graduating from Tulane, living independently and continuing to inspire others as he has us.”

The project is projected to cost \$300,000 and will be privately funded through the generosity of the many donors of the [Devon Walker Fund](#).

Donations for Devon's Den may be made [online](#).

Roger Dunaway is assistant athletics director for athletics communications.