



Tony, 54, prizes his independence living in a Skillman apartment nowadays, but it was a long journey to get there.

The former warehouse worker had a stroke in 2017 and was moved from the hospital to a nursing home, to receive rehabilitation services. He made more progress at a second nursing facility, but he always knew the nursing home was not a permanent home.



“I didn’t like it there, because there were too many people, and I needed to be in a place by myself. But they got me to where I could move out on my own.”

After a few years in the nursing home, things changed for Tony when he met a representative from the I Choose Home New Jersey program.

I Choose Home helped connect him with a furnished, accessible two-bedroom apartment; occupational and physical therapy; home delivered meals; and a trusted aide who comes five days a week.

Tony gets around in his motorized wheelchair. He orders his own groceries or goes shopping himself at the nearby supermarket. “It’s beautiful. I like it,” he says of his apartment. “I like my independence.”

Does he have any advice for others who want to move out of nursing homes? “Just keep working at it. Sooner or later, you’ll get what you want.”

