



J. Francis Company, LLC Manager Earns Certified Aging-in-Place (CAPS) Designation

National Certification Program Helps Remodelers Make Homes Safer

Seniors and people with disabilities needing to adapt their homes to their changing needs and lifestyles will have to call on the services of a remodeler in order to continue living comfortably and independently. Before you do, be certain that your remodeler has completed a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) course, as Jean M. Krak, Business Development Manager of J. Francis Company, LLC did. CAPS is a designation program from the NAHB Remodelers of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in collaboration with the NAHB Research Center, NAHB 50+ Housing Council, and AARP. According to the NAHB, there are approximately 1,800 CAPS certified professionals around the country.

CAPS professionals have been taught the strategies and techniques for designing and building aesthetically pleasing, barrier-free living environments. The CAPS program goes beyond design to address the codes and standards, common remodeling projects and their costs, product ideas and resources needed to provide comprehensive and practical aging-in-place solutions.

A Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist is trained in “universal design” and:

- The unique needs of older people
- Home modifications that can help people continue living independently in their homes longer;
- Common remodeling projects;
- Solutions to common barriers.

Universal design (a design system enabling nearly anyone to use a facility without special adaptation) focuses on seven principles:

1. Equitable use
2. Flexibility of use
3. Simple and intuitive operation
4. Perceptible information
5. Tolerance for error
6. Low physical effort
7. Size and space for approach