

Wheelchair donated to Coram man

'I couldn't ask for more,' mom says

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A severely disabled Coram man whose sad plight — losing his wheelchair to a thief — touched the hearts of Long Islanders who donated money and even an SUV to help him has received yet another present: a new wheelchair to replace the one that a Grinch swiped last month.

"I am so happy," said Roxanne Drayton, as she learned that her son, Todd, would get the new wheelchair, which was donated by H & J Medical Supplies of Lindenhurst. "Now we can go out again. Yeah. This is going to be beautiful. Thank you so much."

The wheelchair comes a day

after a local car dealership, Generation Kia in Bohemia, donated a sangria-colored 2011 Kia Sorento EX to the family.

The wheelchair and sport utility vehicle accompany a GoFundMe fundraising campaign that began when Drayton's 2002 Ford Explorer was stolen from her driveway on Nov. 8. She had left the vehicle running with the keys in the ignition and the wheelchair inside, just before she was heading out to pick up her son from Stony Brook University Hospital.

The chair cost about \$8,000.

By Monday evening, the two-week-old online fundraising drive had grown to nearly \$20,000. The page says Todd Drayton is in need of full-time support and care because he



Roxanne Drayton of Coram thanks Sean Tracey of H & J Medical Supplies in Lindenhurst on Monday. Her vehicle was stolen Nov. 8 with her son Todd's wheelchair inside.

has seizure disorders, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy.

"We heard the story — and it was a hard story to hear — and we wanted to help," said Sean Tracey of H & J Medical Supplies. "This is a time when com-

munities and businesses have to pitch in and do the right thing for somebody who needs help."

Angie Policastro of Community Care, a home care agency based in Smithtown said: "It

makes me feel great that we helped a family that had no other means of help."

"This is wonderful," Roxanne Drayton said. "This is absolutely wonderful. I couldn't ask for more."



Dogs lead by a nose (or two)

Joanne Ramirez of Lindenhurst, owner of In Home Pet Services, doesn't mind having her charges, goldendoodles Charlie and Henry, out in front on North Carll Avenue in Babylon Monday.