

# Project Case Study in partnership with Cornwall Housing and Accomplish Care

*Greater Independence For Adults With Learning Disabilities*

## SUMMARY

The GenieConnect® project aimed to evaluate the acceptability and impact of remote care delivered through the Genie robot on the daily lives of 5 adults with learning disabilities living in a Cornwall Housing sheltered housing scheme. Over four weeks, the project examined the benefits of Genie in promoting personal independence, fostering companionship, and increasing staff productivity.



Genie's setup was co-produced with input from each resident and their support worker. Resident feedback and staff observations revealed positive outcomes in task completion, social connectivity, and personal empowerment. The evaluation showcases the potential of GenieConnect® in supporting people with learning disabilities while highlighting some further adaptations to improve on the delivered benefits.

## CHALLENGES

People with learning disabilities, such as global development delay and fragile X syndrome, may face cognitive and physical challenges, making it difficult to remember personal care routines, manage medications, and perform household tasks independently.

Some residents struggle with distractions or lack of focus during tasks, making it harder to stay engaged and complete activities effectively. This can impact their overall health, wellbeing and care of their home environment.

## RESULTS

### ● Personal Independence

The GenieConnect® project positively impacted the personal independence of the residents. They became more proactive in their tasks, which helped them achieve greater autonomy and self-management skills. This empowerment led to an increase in their personal effectiveness and task completion.

David made significant progress in all areas by responding to Genie's reminders and prompts.

His **personal effectiveness has increased by 50%** with remarkable improvements in caring for his home (**80% increase**) and staying hydrated (**80% increase**). Additionally, David demonstrated progress in social connection, expressing his feelings, and personal hygiene, with **improvements exceeding 60%**.

### ● Improved Medication

Genie's reminders and prompts **increased Craig's medication intake by 100%**. Genie assisted Craig in consistently taking his medication and meals, promoting better health management. Susan also benefitted from medication reminders. She told us, "**Genie wakes me up every morning. Tells me it's time for meds. Yes. I take them. Before I had Genie taking tablets was difficult.**"

### ● Companionship

GenieConnect® helped several residents feel more connected, understood, and cared about. This sense of companionship and social connectivity was especially noticeable when residents had Companions (video-calling contacts) or were set up as Genie Buddies (Genie to Genie video-calling). However, even those without external video-calling companions felt companionship from Genie itself. Alice said, "**I feel I have a little friend on my shoulder...Gets me up and going in the morning.**" Kerry experienced a sense of connectedness and happiness as

Genie brought a smile to everyone's face. The companionship provided by Genie contributed to a more fulfilling and interactive daily life for Kerry. Kerry told us, "**It's like part of the family. I don't have any family. So, it's like always there when I need to listen to music and iPlayer**".



### ● Empowerment

With GenieConnect®, residents can take control of their tasks and seek help when needed. This leads to a sense of accomplishment and empowerment, which boosts motivation and involvement in daily activities. Craig told us, "**I found it useful in some ways – reminder to take meds, household jobs – quite helpful. When it said wipe the sides, I did it.**" This resulted in a **63% improvement in-home care**, positively impacting Craig's daily responsibilities.



### ● Productivity

The study highlighted increased staff productivity as a result of using GenieConnect®. Staff members reported time-saving benefits, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks and increasing efficiency. **David experienced an overall increase in personal effectiveness of 50%.** David said, **"I use it for meds reminders. Rather than staff reminding me every day."**

### ● Mood awareness

People with learning disabilities can benefit from being aware of their moods to better understand their emotions. Additionally, it provides support workers and support providers with valuable information to make informed decisions and improve the wellbeing of the resident.

Craig told us, **"Also liked when it asked me how I feel, how are you feeling – sometimes I felt down so I pressed the sad one – it said thank you and I felt that I'd spoken to someone. So, they know how I feel. Understand how I feel".**

### ● Personal Care Routine and Hydration

The study showed a significant improvement in personal care routines. Genie's reminders and prompts encouraged care recipients to stay hydrated, which was essential in some cases for medication regimen. David said, **"I have a drink - before I didn't have one ever. I have a shower most days now."**



**I look forward to meeting you**

- Meet GenieConnect® and see it in action!
- Hear our GenieConnect® success stories from existing partners such as Cornwall Housing and get funding advice.
- Find out how the easy-to-use Care Portal and Companion App technology works for care providers, family and friends.

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