

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Third Year

July 1st, 2020 marked the beginning of a new fiscal year at Lifestyles for the Disabled. At the beginning of February 2021 we began the third and last year of our Capital Campaign which ends on June 30, 2021. As I stated at the beginning of the campaign all proceeds would be utilized to subsidize the renovation of the former St. Sylvester Convent, renamed The Lifestyles Abilities Center.

Donations from our families, grants from foundations and fundraising through our major events allowed us to complete the interior renovation of the building. However the pandemic forced us to cancel our Annual Gala and Golf Outing, two significant fundraising activities. In addition, OPWDD and CDC protocols necessitated closing portions of our program for periods of time and telehealth to maintain support to individuals in our program was developed. Although very successful telehealth was costly. Each of our participants received tablets to participate in Zoom sessions. In addition sanitizing units, PPE equipment, and additional cleaning equipment was purchased. As we return to in person program Day Habilitation, protocols have necessitated that our vans transport no more than 5 individuals and our classrooms house approximately 6 individuals because of social distancing. All these restrictions are extremely costly especially coupled with the decrease of attendance. As a result we needed to pause our Capital Campaign.

In April 2021 it necessitated that we solicit grants and funds to assist us with absorbing some of the costs of the pandemic. Fortunately we were able to obtain grants and donations totaling over \$200,000 to address this need. Now as we enter our final year of the Capital Campaign we need funds to take full advantage of the Lower Level of the building and complete the exterior of the facility. With these funds we will:

- Provide a centralized Supply Room for the storage and disbursement of products agency- wide. Bulk purchasing for economical savings.
- Create a "Canned Food Pantry" and refrigeration to assist "Lifestyles Families" who are in need.
- Provide a Laundry Room to develop Activities of Daily Living skills and the storage of emergency clothing.
- Create an Employment Training Room for educational purposes and an office in case of Disaster Recovery.

- Increase the security of the facility on the exterior by providing fencing.
- Create outdoor seating and opportunities for barbeques and other activities
- Enhance the exterior of the building through landscaping

It is my hope that the last year of the Capital Campaign fund the many opportunities that the Lifestyles Abilities Center affords us. As we grow into this building we will be able to take advantage of its proximity to the Lifestyles Educational Center and enjoy the benefit of what a complex has to offer. Your donations make a significant difference in the lives of our participants. Let us continue together "Creating a World of Opportunities". To donate to the Capital Campaign go to the website at www.lfdsi.org and click on the donate button.