



SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR  
*Special Needs*

*Volunteer Lynn Wetmore  
Receives Saint Augustine  
Medal for Service*

On most Mondays and Fridays, you'll find Lynn Wetmore of Trumbull with Academy students at Vazzy's, Fairfield U, or any of our partnering vocational worksites, helping to oversee activities and offer support. Our safe environment policy mandates that there be two adults with students at each worksite in our [Vocational Training Program](#), and we depend on dedicated volunteers like Lynn to assist. "She's been a wonderful, consistent volunteer over these past five years," said Darlene Jacobacci, Coordinator of the program. "Lynn always makes herself available."

Lynn felt a void in her life when her son, Justin, who had special needs, passed away. "I needed to be somewhere that I could feel his presence," she said. "My faith led me to Saint Catherine's. By volunteering at the school I knew I would be giving back to the church community as well as helping these special children."

In recognition for her service, the Center nominated Lynn to receive the Saint Augustine Medal of Service in November. The award is presented annually by Bishop Caggiano to nominees from across the Diocese.

"It is rewarding to feel that my little part—and I mean little!—is appreciated by both the staff and the children," Lynn said. "I love to sometimes get a hug, a laugh, or a big smile and thank you from the kids. I like being that extra person/friend for them to talk to and share their stories with. It truly makes my day."



## *"I Have a Dream": Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Like thousands of schools and organizations across the country, in January Saint Catherine Center celebrated the life and impact of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In Ms. Mitchell's class, students read and learned about Dr. King's life and his non-violent protests against discrimination, listened to his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, and wrote down their thoughts. "He was a great man working hard to help black people and white people get along," wrote Jaheim. To conclude their studies, the class went to the Ridgefield Playhouse to see a play about Dr. King.

Participants in the Adult Day Program created a poster together to mark the occasion. While Natalie read a short essay to the group about Dr. King, Tra'Nisha Blackwell, one of our service providers and a talented artist, led the art project. "We wanted to create something meaningful that would honor what MLK fought for, which was unity and equality for all," Tra'Nisha said. "So we used symbolic colors, such as green for harmony, yellow for happiness, red for love, and blue for peace."

Interestingly, those are also the colors of the Saint Catherine Center logo!



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## *Giving Day 2019-- Spreading the Word*

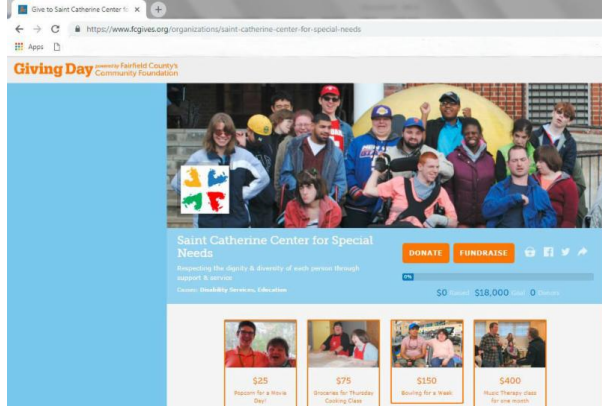
On **Thursday, February 28th**, we join hundreds of other nonprofits in Fairfield County for **Giving Day**—a 24-hour fundraising event hosted by Fairfield County's Community Foundation. Besides promoting the good works of local nonprofits and the importance of philanthropy, Giving Day is a great opportunity to spread the word about Saint Catherine Center and what we do.

This year, there's an easy and fun way you can help us do that. By becoming a "Fundraiser," you can easily create your own profile page from our template, share in a sentence or two why you support Saint



Catherine Center, and send that message out to family, friends, and co-workers who might want to support us. On our [profile](#) page, click “Fundraise” at the top of the screen, and follow the instructions. You can track donations to your appeal on your page.

Donating is easy—on February 28th, just follow the DONATE link in any of the emails we send that day, or visit us on Facebook. Give as little as \$10, or as much as you can. Every unique gift makes us eligible for additional cash prizes. [Visit our profile](#) to see how your contributions help us. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Happy *Valentine's* Day!



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