



SAINT CATHERINE CENTER FOR  
*Special Needs*

760 Tahmore Drive  
Fairfield, CT 06825  
Phone: 203-540-5381  
[www.stcatherinecenter.org](http://www.stcatherinecenter.org)

June 28, 2021

Dear Fr. Pecaric and Members of Holy Cross Parish,

On behalf of the Saint Catherine Center community, I am excited to share with the Holy Cross Parish family our plans to expand our footprint in order to better meet the needs of the children and young adults we serve. Following a multi-year planning process and an unanticipated delay due to COVID, **we are embarking on the most important initiative** to happen at Saint Catherine's since its establishment in 1999 and our move to Fairfield in 2007. We are grateful for the assistance of Parish leadership, including Fr. Pecaric, Bob Kokorda, Bill Sekelsky, Frank Ficko and Ed Colon as we strived to best meet the needs of the Center and the Parish. Monsignor Thomas Powers, Vicar General of the Diocese of Bridgeport, coordinated our collaboration that also included four of Saint Catherine Center Board Members.

As you may know, we serve children and young adults whose lives are challenged by significant disabilities. Our programs support their academic, social and vocational needs with nurturing and caring staff and intentional programming. The need in our area has outpaced our facility and many of our program ideas remain on the shelf due to inadequate facilities.

We are currently working with Antinozzi and Associates, the architects for the project, to draw up final plans that will be presented to the Town of Fairfield for approvals from the appropriate Boards and officials. We anticipate that this will take about 3-6 months. Simultaneously, we are completing the capital campaign necessary to support the expansion project. We have already secured 80% of the campaign goal in cash and/or pledges and are grateful to our donors for their steadfast support. If all goes well, we would like to begin construction in late spring 2022 and anticipate that the project will take less than a year to complete.

We will continue to communicate with the Holy Cross community to keep you informed of the progress in an effort to minimize inconveniences during construction. We recognize that there may be some disruption and hope to limit this as much as possible. Once construction begins, we will use our website at [www.stcatherinecenter.org](http://www.stcatherinecenter.org) to provide weekly updates on the project. Questions may be submitted to [info@stcatherinecenter.org](mailto:info@stcatherinecenter.org) and will be answered as quickly as possible.

This expansion will allow us to continue to serve a group of young people that often are overlooked. Thank you for embracing this opportunity to deliver on our mission to serve the most vulnerable among us.

Regards,

Helen C. Burland  
Executive Director

