



Elizabeth  
Seton  
Children's



A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR

# Home TO Stay



A FIRST OF ITS  
KIND YOUNG  
ADULT CENTER



THE FIRST HOME OF ITS KIND

## Home to Stay

Elizabeth Seton Children's is reimagining the health care landscape. With its groundbreaking new young adult center – the first of its kind in the nation – Elizabeth Seton Children's will transform the futures of young adults living with severe medical complexities for generations to come. Here they will receive an unparalleled quality of care that is tailored to their specific medical and emotional needs and unmatched anywhere else in the world.

Our young adult center will be a lifetime home for 72 residents that is fully equipped with the things that make this home unique and state-of-the-art. With highly specialized, 24/7 care and the most advanced medical technologies available, it will serve as a nationwide model for caring for the complex medical conditions of young adults.

For many young people with severe medical complexity and their families, the formative transition from childhood to young adulthood is all the more precious after years of overcoming unimaginable medical hurdles.

The Elizabeth Seton Young Adult Center will be a haven for so many – a place where these extraordinary individuals can truly flourish and experience the fullness of life.

## GROWING TO MEET THE NEED

# The Aging Out Crisis

Until recently, children with medical complexities rarely lived beyond the age of 21. Fortunately, medical and technological advancements are allowing these children to live longer and healthier lives.

For most of our young adult residents at Elizabeth Seton Children's Center, aging out means having to be transferred to a geriatric nursing facility that is not equipped to handle their specialty medical, social or emotional needs.

### **THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.**

Our young adults have tremendous determination and spirit. They deserve to live in an age-appropriate environment filled with love where they can safely become adults.



We are uniquely prepared to respond to the aging out crisis. Elizabeth Seton Children's has already successfully completed two major construction projects within the past 10 years both within budget and on time. We have the leadership, experience and track record to successfully pioneer this groundbreaking project.



### **A POPULATION ON THE RISE**

In New York State, there are an estimated 5,500 children with high-need medical complexity under the age of 21 enrolled in Medicaid.

Our health care system has not caught up to meet the needs of this growing population. The Elizabeth Seton Young Adult Center aims to change that. By 2023, 50 residents of the children's center will move into this new home.





“The center took early drastic steps to keep its children safe during the COVID-19 crisis. It has been a great challenge, but it’s paid off.”

NEW YORK POST  
MAY 6, 2020



## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON OUR CHILDREN

# The Time to Act is Now

The COVID-19 pandemic poses an additional threat to the children and young adults who reside at Elizabeth Seton Children’s Center. With complex health conditions and compromised respiratory systems (62 percent have tracheostomies and 46 percent require ventilator support), our residents are always the most vulnerable of society.

During this crisis, because of extensive planning, preparedness and safety protocols, as well as strong leadership and a culture committed to excellence, the children’s center has been remarkably successful at keeping its residents safe. In fact, all residents remained COVID-free for 300 consecutive days: the Elizabeth Seton Children’s miracle of 2020.

And now, the children’s center’s greatest defense against the virus is the COVID-19 vaccine. As of March 2021, 64 percent of eligible young adults ages 16 and older have been vaccinated with parent/guardian consent, along with approximately 68 percent of children’s center staff.

WHERE INSPIRED CARE CREATES POSSIBILITIES

# Elizabeth Seton Children's

The future young adult center does not stand on its own. Once built, it will be a part of the Yonkers campus of Elizabeth Seton Children's, which is also home to the renowned Elizabeth Seton Children's Center and Elizabeth Seton Children's School. Together, these organizations provide excellent care and special educational services in a world-class setting. Along with Elizabeth Seton Children's Rehabilitation Center and Elizabeth Seton Children's School's campus in White Plains, this family of united organizations is supported by a staff of over 1,000 employees and serves over 3,000 children annually.

Our mission is to give a full and happy life to the children we serve. For over 30 years, Elizabeth Seton Children's has been an innovative provider of care, education and hope for children facing the most challenging and medically complex health conditions imaginable. A nationally recognized leader in nursing, rehabilitative and special educational services for children both living in residence and in the community, there is no place in the United States with the size, success and approach like ours.

As an organization, we believe that we are all God's children and that all life is sacred. Emblazoned on the wall of our lobby at Elizabeth Seton Children's Center to greet each visitor are the words of our foundress, St. Elizabeth Seton: "All are Welcome." Indeed, not only are all welcome, but all belong in our "home," which celebrates diversity, inclusion and every human life.

**TOGETHER, WE CHANGE LIVES,  
ONE CHILD – AND ONE FAMILY – AT A TIME.**





FROM HOPE TO A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

## Meet Max

Max Amar was born with brain stem atrophy. He can't breathe, swallow or move on his own.

Max has called our facility home for over 14 years. He is medically cared for and provided with the dignity, love and experiences he deserves.

Max's mom, Rachel, knows that Elizabeth Seton Children's Center is the best there is.

However, soon Max must leave the place he calls home.

Max is now 18 and, within a few years, he will reach 21 – the age at which pediatric nursing home placement ends and most young adults with complex medical needs transfer to a geriatric nursing home.

**WE ARE CHANGING THAT MODEL FOR MAX AND COUNTLESS OTHERS WITH THE CREATION OF A PIONEERING YOUNG ADULT CENTER.**

Here, Max will continue to achieve therapeutic milestones, enjoy art and music and spend time outdoors with his family and friends creating cherished memories.

Rachel will also continue to have the peace of mind that, as an adult, Max will experience the same unparalleled care and quality of life he had as a child.

**WITH YOUR GENEROSITY, WE WILL TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN AND GENERATIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO COME SO THEY MAY EXPERIENCE THE JOYFUL PASSAGE FROM CHILDHOOD TO YOUNG ADULTHOOD.**

PROM 2019



UNDER THESE



# Be Part of the Groundbreaking Solution

Elizabeth Seton Children's is embarking on a \$30 million Capital Campaign to realize this transformational project. With a total budget of \$84.8 million, partially funded by New York State and government grants, this groundbreaking endeavor requires visionary philanthropic partners willing to change the paradigm of health care for young adults with medical complexity.

We seek partners that understand that a new model of care – a new system of care – needs to be built.

We seek partners of action to make this innovative, one-of-a-kind facility a reality for young adults. A place where they are truly "Home to Stay."

Our young adult center will be a haven where our residents, who define grace, courage and spirit, can transition safely into adulthood. Together, we can ensure they have the care, respect and opportunities they deserve. Elizabeth Seton Children's is not only changing lives – we're saving them. Lives like Max's.

**JOIN US.**



# The First Health Care Facility of Its Kind Depends on You

## GIVING TO OUR YOUNG ADULT CENTER

### GIVE NOW

- » Your gift of cash makes the most immediate impact and allows you to receive full tax benefits to the extent allowed by law. We encourage you to also consider a multiyear pledge to maximize the power of your gift.
- » You may also make a gift of appreciated securities, such as stock or mutual funds.
- » Additionally, we welcome grants from donor-advised funds and personal, private and public foundations, as well as grants from family offices.

### GIVE LATER

- » You can designate any percentage or dollar amount of your will, life insurance or retirement plan naming Elizabeth Seton Children's as a beneficiary.
- » Bequests, IRA asset allocation, Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA) and Charitable Remainder Trusts are alternate ways to contribute to our campaign and may offer you significant tax incentives.



## RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES

There are numerous opportunities for visible recognition of donors interested in having their name associated with our young adult center.

The financial requirements for naming opportunities range from \$10,000 to \$15 million and include the name of the building itself, our main lobby, chapel, gardens, recreation and medical suites, cultural programs, neighborhoods, "Healing Arts" Program and more. We can assist with the process in selecting the opportunity that is most meaningful to you.

To support this project or learn more, please contact Brian Harrington, Senior Vice President of Advancement, at [bharrington@setonchildrens.org](mailto:bharrington@setonchildrens.org) or (914) 260-3751. You can also scan the QR code on this page to make a donation directly to the Elizabeth Seton Young Adult Center.





Photo by Matthew McDermott/  
Matthew McDermott Photography

# Meet Stephanie

If there is one person who embodies the spirit of love and possibilities at Elizabeth Seton Children's, it is Stephanie Gabaud.

By enduring and thriving despite severe and complex medical conditions, Stephanie has become more than a young adult of defining grace; she is the face of a crisis that threatens lives like hers when young people age out of a children's care center and have nowhere to go.

Recently named National Spokesperson for Elizabeth Seton Children's, Stephanie is leveraging her inspirational story and influential contacts to raise awareness about this fast-growing, life-and-death crisis impacting young adults with medically complex conditions like her. That is why Stephanie's advocacy is so critical right now. She is in contact with anyone and everyone who will listen – telling them her story, educating them about the aging out crisis and enlisting their help to build what she calls her “dream home” for young adults like her.

Please join Stephanie, and all young people with medical complexity, seeking a “Home to Stay.”



**“LET NO ONE STEAL YOUR HOPE ...”**

In June of 2020, Stephanie received an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis in a letter from Archbishop Gabriele Caccia, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, which blessed her and all her friends at Elizabeth Seton Children's Center.



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