

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**STARLIGHT STARBRIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION GRANT  
FUNDS INNOVATIVE NEW CHILD LIFE PROGRAM – "COLORS OF PLAY"**

(NEW YORK, NY) – In April 2007, the Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation awarded a grant of \$34,380 to the Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center for the creation of the "Colors of Play" Program. This represents the fourth consecutive year that the Foundation has given generously to the Pediatric Center to collaborate in the creation of first ever Therapeutic Activities/Child Life programs solely focused on the healing energy of the joy of childhood.

"Colors of Play" introduces the residents of the Pediatric Center to an expanded variety of recreational activities not commonly found in an urban pediatric long-term care setting. "Colors of Play" consists of special Therapeutic Activities/Child Life programming developed to enhance children's treatment and life experience through enhanced holistic offerings including:

- **Horticulture Therapy** – is a creative arts approach involving group planting sessions, individual bedside projects, family gardening and seasonal projects.
- **Adaptive Karate & Yoga** – adapted forms of these meditative physical disciplines are specifically tailored to the individual needs of each child.
- **Dance Therapy** – Dance movement in a therapeutic setting is an effective way of observing, assessing and treating children with developmental challenges.
- **Sound Beam Workshop** – Advanced workshops and training on this interactive spatial, sound and music system will enable therapists to realize the full neurological potential of children controlling their auditory environment through their movement.
- **Quiver Farm Visits** – This traveling farm will bring a bus load of farm animals to the facility. Children will have the chance to feed the animals and watch them play.

For these children whose days are filled with medical procedures "Colors of Play" ensures that their lives remain fresh, diverse and vital.

The Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center is committed to *changing the lives of medically fragile children, one child at a time*. All programs are centered on resident children and their families, respecting individual cultural beliefs and practices. Each child admitted to the Center enters a "Neighborhood" where they receive team-based trans-disciplinary care, including medicine, nursing, social services, palliative care, mental health, rehabilitation, education, nutrition, child life/therapeutic activity, pastoral care and more.

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*Established in 1987 by the Sisters of Charity as an affiliate of the New York Foundling, the Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center is now an independent nonprofit pediatric health facility licensed by the New York State Department of Health providing care for children with severe disabilities and complex medical conditions.*