



L. VINCENT STRULLY, JR. ENDOWMENT FUND FOR THE NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR CHILDREN CAMPAIGN



The New England Center
for Children®
Autism Education and Research

NECC.org



As a young man, L. Vincent Strully, Jr. recognized that there must be a better way to help children with autism and their families. In 1975, he and his colleagues embarked upon this challenge, establishing the first program — which would become The New England Center for Children® — with \$30,000 in start-up funds at the Taunton State Hospital. Nearly 50 years later, that ambitious project has evolved into an internationally recognized leader in autism education, research, and professional development.

Vinnie Strully has been a steadfast leader of NECC for nearly five decades. He will soon step down as the organization's CEO, but his legacy as founder will live forever in the programs and buildings he has built to help children with autism and their families.



The L. Vincent Strully, Jr. Endowment Fund for The New England Center for Children has been established to honor Vinnie's accomplishments and to ensure his work and vision continue for generations to come. This fund will ensure that NECC recruits and trains the best staff to serve children with autism, both at NECC and throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Jared Bouzan, M.Ed.

Chief Development Officer

John Y. Kim

Chair, NECC Board of Directors





OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE A GLOBAL NETWORK OF EDUCATORS, RESEARCHERS, AND PROGRAMS SO THAT THOSE LIVING WITH AUTISM MAY LIVE FULLER LIVES.

CASE STATEMENT

To realize our vision of a world where autism is not a barrier to growth, independence, and happiness, NECC must have financial reserves to support the comprehensive and complex service model that has fueled our success for more than four decades.

The establishment of an endowment fund will ensure that NECC will continue to have a transformative impact for generations, not just years, to come.

AREAS OF SUPPORT

- Direct-care staff salaries are dictated by the rate of tuition set by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. An endowed fund will provide support to supplement salary and benefits to better compensate teaching staff. Salary subsidies, housing, and professional development are a few examples of how funds would be used.
- Growing and supporting DEI initiatives and programs will help attract and retain a more diverse staff, one that will better reflect our current and future student population.
- Internships provide an opportunity to experience a career in working with children with autism. Many interns, upon completion of their time at NECC, apply for full-time positions here. Expanding and supporting the NECC internship program would help improve staff recruitment.
- Researchers at NECC have contributed to the improvement of autism education as well as early detection of autism in infants and younger children. Underwriting research opportunities will ensure NECC remains on the cutting edge of improving the lives of children with autism.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

An endowment is a fund of donated money that is invested to create a reliable stream of annual income for a charitable purpose. Consistent with NECC's mission and institutional goals, the Endowment Fund will be managed in such a way that will strengthen the financial position of NECC while at the same time upholding and enhancing the reputation of NECC.

Like all endowments, the L. Vincent Strully, Jr. Endowment Fund for The New England Center for Children will be overseen and responsibly controlled by specific guidelines, including:

- Oversight of distribution of funds will be handled by the Investment Committee of the NECC Board of Directors, which consists of five voting members and two non-voting members (the CEO and CFO).
- The Endowment Fund will not be used to supplement any senior-level executive compensation.





WAYS TO GIVE

- **Donation.** Donations can be made in cash or securities via a one-time gift or a pledge, to be fulfilled within five years. Donations to the Endowment Fund are welcomed starting at \$50,000.
- **Planned Giving.** Individuals can contribute to the Endowment Fund through their estates. Below are ways that can simplify the giving process:
 - **Beneficiary Designated Charity Gift.** When you designate NECC as a beneficiary of a retirement fund, life insurance policy, or investment or bank account, funds will be directly distributed to NECC.
 - **Bequest.** A bequest can be made by adding language into one's will or trust that a gift be left to NECC. Bequests can also be made to designate NECC as a full, partial, or contingent beneficiary of your retirement accounts.
 - **Charitable Gift Annuity.** Through a charitable gift annuity, individuals can transfer cash or property to NECC, and in return, receive a fixed payment for life from NECC. Donors receive a tax credit for the charitable portion of their gifts; what is left of the gift will be designated to the Endowment Fund.
 - **Donor Advised Funds (DAF).** A DAF is a way to leave a lasting family legacy. Money in this type of fund grows tax free and is a flexible way to give to multiple charities. Upon an individual's passing, the family can continue giving from the fund.
 - **Gift it Twice Trust.** This charitable trust allows individuals to help their families as well as a charity. Upon death, designated funds from a retirement or similar account will be transferred to a trust, which will first pay income to the family for a specified period before transferring the remaining balance to NECC.
 - **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).** Individuals who are aged 70 ½ or older can make a difference through a QCD by transferring funds directly from an IRA to NECC. Individuals can avoid taxes on transfers up to \$100,000.

For more information or assistance regarding your financial estate or philanthropy, please contact your financial advisor.



ANNUAL REPORTS OF SPENDING

Individuals who support the L. Vincent Strully, Jr. Endowment Fund for The New England Center for Children will receive an annual report covering the:

- Status and financial health of the endowment.
- Areas of distribution made during the fiscal year.

In addition, Endowment Fund portfolios will be available for review upon request to a person on the Investment Committee. In the event there is a concern with a particular holding, the Directors will initiate a discussion with the Investment Committee.

SUPPORTING OUR TEACHERS



LEO ORLANDO joined NECC as a level 2 teacher in August 2019 and has been on the Westboro 1 residential team for the last two and a half years. Colleagues say Leo goes “above and beyond the standard of care for both students and fellow teachers” and puts in extra-long hours to cover shifts, works holidays, and shows up in severe weather to ensure his students are cared for.

“My favorite part of working at NECC is watching and helping the students build and develop their communication skills,” shared Leo. “It is always a great feeling when you see a student learn a new skill that can make their life easier.”



KARA DICRUCCALLO has worked at NECC’s Higley Road residence for the past two and a half years as a level 2 teacher. Kara is known by colleagues as someone who encourages, celebrates, and advocates for her students.

Kara’s desire to work with students with autism stems from her personal experience growing up on an IEP and the teachers who supported her. “I decided I wanted to become a teacher who saw every student for who they are, taught through love, and worked hard to make each student know they were capable,” she shared. “Working with children with autism has been such an unreal experience because as much as I am working to teach them, they are teaching me and helping me grow just as much.”



Staff members like **DANDBORM'BAYO**, a residential counselor who has worked on one of NECC’s Intensive Treatment Teams (ITT) for three years, are focused on the safety and success of their students, something that is especially important at night.

Dandibor’s favorite part of the job involves working with new students. “It can be difficult to see a student placed in the ITT,” he shared. “It means the hills have become mountains. Fortunately, we’re all climbers here at ITT, and there is nothing more gratifying than to look past a doorway one day and see that student not just at their peak but maintaining it. There’s nothing like a safe, autonomous, copiously reinforced student at the top of their mountains.”

CONTACT

JARED BOUZAN, MEd
Chief Development Officer

E: jbouzan@necc.org
P: 508.481.1015 x3250

NECC.org

