



Sustain the home of our farm animals and wildlife - our best partners in therapy.

The Campaign for The Farm & Wildlife Center





You Can Help Sustain The Green Chimneys' Farm & Wildlife Center.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

There are outstanding schools for special needs students in the world. But few can compare to Green Chimneys.

Thanks to our farm animals and wildlife - our best partners in therapy - most would certainly say we are among that small, select group of the greatest.

In 1948, nineteen-year-old Samuel B. "Rollo" Ross had a dream to create an environment where children and animals could live together in a farm setting.

Seventy years later, his vision has turned into a globally renowned special needs school with world class programs in animal-assisted therapy and wildlife rehabilitation.

Over the span of my 36-year career in education for students with special needs, I've seen firsthand the struggles of children, parents, and teachers.

As the former Assistant Commissioner of Education for the State of New York, I closely supported many schools and programs for special needs students.

But, there was always one that set a gold standard for the rest – Green Chimneys. I feel privileged to now take the reins as leader of an exceptional organization.

Green Chimneys is a school that exists for those children and their families who are at an unimaginable crisis point.

For any family that has tried everything for their special needs child, but nothing works. **It is one of those rare places where people who have lost all hope, find it once more.**

And whether this is a permanent home or a place to heal, our farm animals and wildlife find hope here too.

Green Chimneys isn't just a school with a farm...it's a school on a farm. Animals and nature are at the heart of everything we do.

And now we undertake an ambitious campaign to sustain The Farm & Wildlife Center with an initial goal of \$10,000,000. You can help secure a future as great as our past.

You can ensure the home of our children's most valuable partners in therapy AND safeguard the advancement of breakthrough research that will help unleash the full potential of the human-animal bond in therapy across the globe.

We have 70 years of experience. And every step of the way we've proven the success of our approach. But there is still one more factor we need to sustain The Farm & Wildlife Center – **YOUR participation.**



Dr. Edward Placke, Ed.D
Executive Director



WE BELIEVE...

That the human-animal bond is one of the most powerful, most transformative on the planet.

That simply being with animals and in nature can bring about tremendous healing and growth.

That all living beings deserve to be cherished and given the chance to live to their fullest potential.





MEET BROOK LYN

**Brook Lyn was left behind –
in a box – to die.**

Abandoned in Brooklyn, NY this friendly sheep was driven up to the Green Chimneys Farm where the children hand fed her with bottles of warm milk.

As one of our best partners in therapy, Brook Lyn receives the utmost nutrition, housing, and veterinary care. She is also given time to rest and play with other animals on the farm.

Here, Brook Lyn and the rest of her animal friends live a life of purpose helping staff provide much needed therapeutic care daily to students with special needs - like Louis.



MEET LOUIS

Louis is a kindhearted boy who loves being silly. But, he struggles to make friends.

Born in the Bronx, Louis was diagnosed with a disorder on the autism spectrum at a very early age.

He is often frustrated, easily distracted, and has a hard time managing his temper. At times, getting along with his family, teachers, and friends feels practically impossible.

*But thanks to the therapy he receives from trained staff and animals like Brook Lyn, **Louis is more confident in the classroom, shows more compassion for the people around him, and copes better with feelings of fear, sadness, and anger.***



Louis is not alone.

Across the country, children like Louis are increasingly suffering from a range of mental illnesses and other behavioral challenges that often hinder their potential and keep them from living fulfilling lives.

Children who come to Green Chimneys' are those New York State defines as **"hard to place."** Families of these children have tried every treatment, program, and school you can imagine...but nothing has worked.

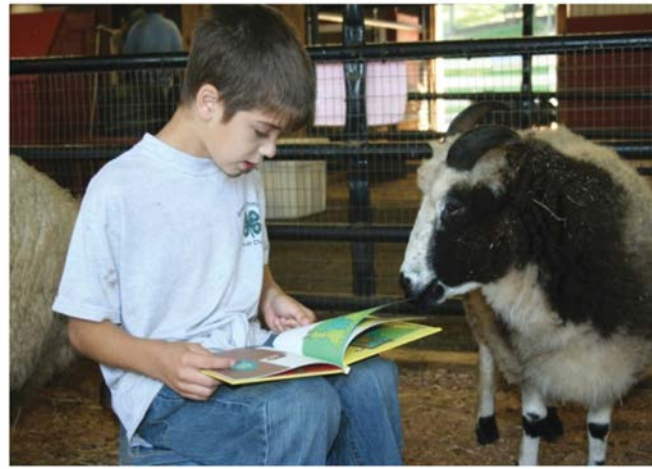
Did you know that 1 in 5 children in the United States will experience some form of mental illness before adulthood?



Many have already been **hospitalized twice, are suffering from multiple psychiatric diagnoses - including those on the autism spectrum, and are several years behind in school.**

Unfortunately, services and resources that can effectively meet the needs of these children are scarce. Effective treatment outside of traditional methods is rare. And that's because a more comprehensive, holistic approach requires more resources that many school communities simply do not have.

Thankfully, there is a place where children like Louis and animals like Brook Lyn
grow healthier – together...



the Green Chimneys Farm & Wildlife Center.





Why is Green Chimneys unique?

Want to see what one of the best schools in the world for special needs children looks like? All you have to do is walk through Green Chimneys and the Farm and Wildlife Center.

You'll be amazed.

Here you will see a child's face light up as he picks up his horse's grooming tools from his neatly organized cubby, see her intently listening to staff so that she can walk her favorite goat, or see him calmly and quietly greet the newly rescued baby swan.

For many special needs students these are not easy tasks to accomplish, but here at Green Chimneys children learn to master these abilities and more.

Unlike so many other schools our children have tried, we are one of the few in the world with a farm full of expertly trained therapists, staff, and animals ready to help children overcome their toughest obstacles.

Green Chimneys' innovative approach and methods are sought out by professionals worldwide. Over the last seventy years, we have shaped the way thousands of people see the value of animals and potential of special needs children.





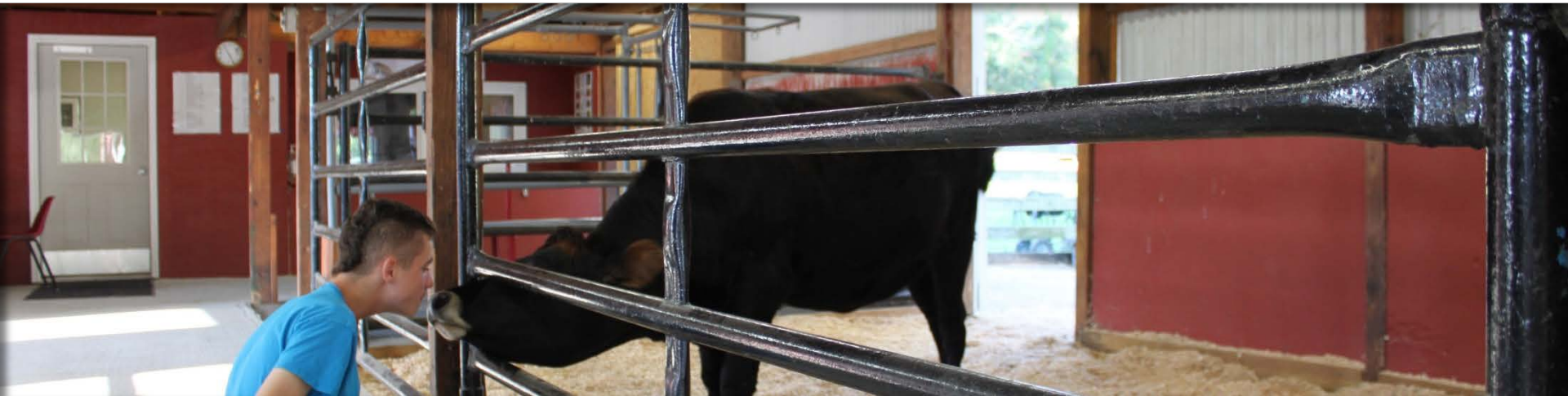
MARKING A NEW BEGINNING

Upon graduation last spring, Jeffrey proudly released a healed hawk back into nature.

This is a time-honored ceremony that marks new beginnings for both the animal and the student every year.



A SECOND CHANCE AT LOVE



When Nick lost his favorite horse – he felt he could never love the same again.

But thanks to 4-year old Bella and other animals on the farm, Nick is learning that building new relationships is possible.
It just takes time...and trust.

Invest With Confidence

Green Chimneys' innovative approach and methods are sought out by professionals worldwide. Over the last 70 years, we have shaped the way thousands of people see the value of animals and potential of special needs children:

01

Statewide

Students often return home to communities across New York State. Families often find that they are healthier, more resilient, and more likely to succeed at living an independent life.

02

National

Green Chimneys has supported the education and enrichment of therapists, graduate students, interns, and volunteers from across the US.

03

Global

Thanks to the Sam and Myra Ross Institute, research and best practices in animal-based therapy and wildlife rehabilitation refined here will be disseminated to practitioners worldwide.



The Farm & Wildlife Center Today

700 

of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Social Workers, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, Nurses, and Doctors that work with children & The F&WC



200+ 

Animals in The Farm & Wildlife Center

80 Species



550 

Acres Combined at Green Chimneys & Clearpool Campuses For Farm & Wildlife



300 

Children K-12 Per Year that receive therapy from animals



8,700 

of Volunteers and Visitors Per Year



The next evolution.

In the Spring of 2017 our partnership with the University of Denver's Institute for Animal-Human Connection took a great leap forward.

For the first time in the history of Green Chimneys, a team of graduate students spent time at the Farm & Wildlife Center to help "crack the code" and uncover the key elements behind our methods and the effect they have on student success.

You will be thrilled.

Thanks to the partnership between the University of Denver, Tufts University, and the Ross and Myra Research Institute, people across the globe will be better able to replicate our cutting edge methods. Together, we will further validate what we know works.

What's more, this collaborative effort along with emerging technologies will position the Farm & Wildlife Center to **bring about the next evolution in understanding the human-animal bond.**



UNIVERSITY *of*
DENVER

Tufts
UNIVERSITY

But while HUNDREDS of lives stand to be impacted...the long-term sustainability of the Farm & Wildlife Center **remains uncertain...**

Changing economic tides and foreseeable funding cuts **place The Farm & Wildlife Center at risk.**

That's where **YOU** can have an exceptional impact.



The Urgency. Why Now?

Much of Green Chimneys' school and programs rely heavily on public funding. And the reality is The Farm and Wildlife Center depends partially on this funding too.

Despite challenging times in the past, trusted friends who have believed in the leadership of Green Chimneys have helped us prevail – time and again - and now we need your support more than ever.

With an economic environment constantly in flux comes much uncertainty about the future. A sustained, long-term investment will help ensure our farm animals and wildlife have a permanent home that is not susceptible to the changing tides of funding priorities and fiscal objectives.



The Vision. Simple.

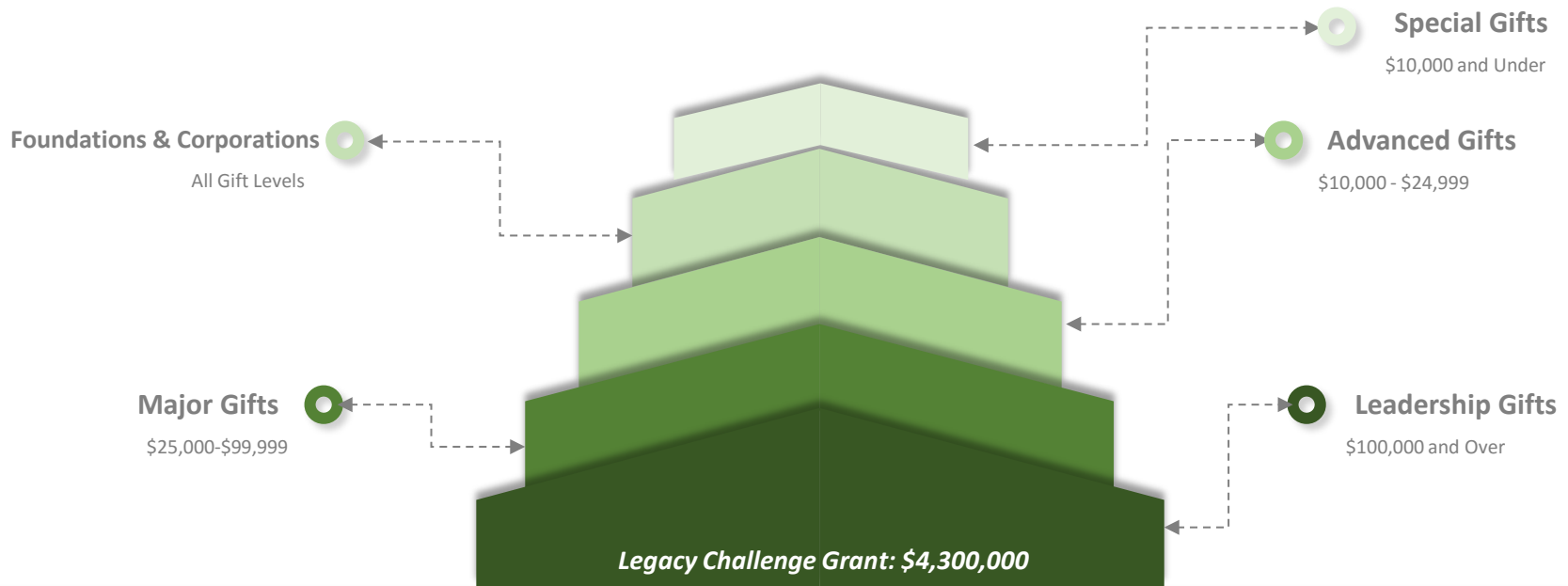
Sustain the Farm and Wildlife Center and impact generations to come.

With your help, children will continue to experience the benefits of a therapeutic, nurturing environment in partnership with their best animal friends.

You can help be the driving force behind a long-lasting sanctuary for children and animals that builds more resilient communities and deepens global understanding of the human-animal bond and its use in therapy.

Here For Good – But Only With Your Help

Initial Campaign Goal: \$10,000,000



Green Chimneys seeks to raise a minimum of \$10,000,000 in partnership with visionary philanthropists - like you - who treasure the Farm and Wildlife Center.

With your generosity Green Chimneys will be able to maintain and operate the Farm and Wildlife Center for generations to come.

Your “Yes!” decision will have exceptional impact on the long-term sustainability of the Farm & Wildlife Center!

YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

WHAT IS THE FUND?

The Farm & Wildlife Center requires substantial, consistent, and permanent funding and, by receiving such funds, Green Chimneys can continue to sustain a great portion its operations.

Your gift will be invested in perpetuity, and distribution from the invested contributions will be used to fund programming.

WHO WILL MANAGE THE FUND?

An Investment Committee consisting of key leaders and staff will be established to manage the fund. Green Chimneys will strive to earn the highest possible return from interest, dividends, realized gains, and market value increases while maintaining an appropriate level of risk.

The Investment Committee will closely monitor the performance of the fund's portfolio, with reallocation occurring as needed.

WHAT WILL BE THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION?

Green Chimneys will determine the annual fund distribution by utilizing a payout formula that provides a steady stream of income to support current needs while preserving the fund's annual growth.



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Sustain the home of our best partners in therapy.
Give children with special needs a chance to succeed.
Invest in the future of our farm animals and wildlife today.

*Join The Campaign for the Farm and Wildlife Center
For more information contact Kristin Dionne, Director of Fund Development
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