



Delta Gamma Center for Children with Visual Impairments

E N V I S I O N

Building Campaign Fact Sheet

Campaign Goal:	\$3.5 million	
Building Location:	1750 Big Bend, Richmond Heights, MO 63117	
Lead Gifts to Date:	\$500,000 Challenge Gift - The Cardinal Foundation of Ohio (for every \$3 raised the Center receives \$1) \$300,000 Lead Gift - Lighthouse for the Blind	
Pledges:	1-5 years in length	
Naming Opportunities:	All gifts of \$1,000 or more will receive plaque recognition; Additional naming opportunities available	
Space Needs/Uses:	Outdoor Play Space; Four Classrooms (music, art, motor, youth room); Light Room; Staff & Administrative Offices; Family & Community Resource Center; Multipurpose Meeting Room	
Designer:	Mark Herman - Owner, MARk-inc. Interior Architectural Design Firm	
Contact Information:	Debbie Naucke, MSW Executive Director danaucke@dgckids.org 314-776-1300, ext. 110	Leah Lombardo Development Associate llombardo@dgckids.org 314.776.1300, ext. 108
	Mary Beth Soffer Campaign Co-Chair mbsoffer@hotmail.com 314-603-4711	Jim Sprick Campaign Co-chair jim.sprick@anheuser-busch.com 314-577-9966

WHY DO WE NEED A NEW BUILDING?

NEED. The number of families served has more than doubled in the past 10 years and the range of services offered by the Center has expanded as well.

VISIBILITY. Our ability to serve children and families whose lives are severely impacted by the diagnosis of blindness/visual impairment will be greatly enhanced by the central location of this building. Statistics for the St. Louis metropolitan area indicate that at present 40-50 percent of the children in need of our services simply aren't receiving them due to a lack of awareness of the Center.

SPACE DESIGNED FOR LEARNING. The interior design will include adaptations crucial to facilitate learning in young children with visual impairments, and full access to activities for children with other disabilities as well. The exterior play space will incorporate engaging ways to develop independent mobility and exploration.

WHY ARE SERVICES IMPORTANT?

HOPE. Learning their child has a visual impairment or blindness can be devastating to parents when they receive this news. Education and therapy services, offered from the point of diagnosis, provide families with the training and support as they adjust to this new challenge. The wide range of services offered includes training and guidance, access to resources, opportunities for parent connections, and support for all family members including siblings and grandparents.

OPPORTUNITIES. The learning needs of children who are blind/visually impaired are unique. Often times the kids and their families feel isolated and alone. The Center provides opportunities to participate in a variety of recreational activities, resulting in children and families who are better equipped to participate with confidence.

FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT. The children and families served by the Center can form friendships with other people who understand their situation. Groups for school age youth focus on development of interpersonal and social skills and provide kids and their families with a sense of belonging. The Center's four GRADS groups, offered for different ages from preschool through high school graduation, provides the participants with social and recreational opportunities which help them develop fitness, friendships, social skills and independence.

EDUCATION. The Center provides children and families with numerous educational opportunities, from the point of diagnosis, with support and resources throughout the school years. Because families are a part of the community, the Center provides the greater St. Louis community with helpful support and resources, including publications, information and consultation.