

Dear Members of the Umbrella Club,

As I prepare to retire from my position in the Family Center at St Vincent's Special Needs, I wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank you and your generous donors for all you have done to assist our students and families.

Parenting a child with complex medical needs can be extremely challenging, exhausting, and financially draining.

For a family, it can be heartbreaking when your child needs something that will make a huge difference in his quality of life, but financial circumstances prevent you from meeting his or her need. The Umbrella Club, and its generous donors have truly been the answer to so many of our parents prayers. Your contributions towards adaptive strollers, orthotics, medications, van and bathroom adaptations, to name just a few things you have helped with, have been a blessing and made such an impact on the quality of life of our students.

I am leaving St Vincent's Special Needs with mixed emotions, excited for the new adventures that lie ahead, but sad to be saying good bye not only to this incredible school program, but also to folks like you who lead by example every day. Your commitment to community and service and your generous spirit have been inspirational to me and I am so grateful to have had the privilege of working with you and your remarkable organization.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do and for being such amazing partners.

I hope your partnership with St Vincent's Special Needs will continue long into the future.

All the best my friends,

Donna Kennedy