

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 2008, Mid Hudson Valley – REHAB Programs, Inc.'s Preschool will open a new location in Wappingers Falls, NY. this September, after many months of searching for an appropriate site. This site will serve approximately 35 children with disabilities, ages 3 to 5. REHAB Programs is seeking support from the local community to fund the \$40,000 cost to build a playground at this site.

The First Step Preschool provides a range of educational services to children with developmental disabilities through two sites in Dutchess County. In the Spring of 2008 REHAB received the unfortunate news that the space at one of these sites would no longer be available and so the search began for a new, ideal space.

As REHAB prepares the new First Step Preschool for opening day, they are seeking funds to build a much needed playground at the site. Physical play is at the core of a child's development and health, therefore it's vitally important for children with disabilities to have access to play spaces where they can learn and develop. The cost for excavation, ground preparation, fencing, and equipment will be \$40,000. Government funding does not cover this expense, therefore, REHAB Programs, Inc. is reaching out to the community to raise these funds.

REHAB Programs, Inc., is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that provides quality educational, vocational, residential, clinical and employment services to over 2,000 people with disabilities in the Mid-Hudson Valley. These services are designed to strengthen the abilities and increase the opportunities for both children and adults with a wide range of disabilities.

If you are interested in supporting this worthwhile project, please contact Serena Marrero, Director of Development at ext. 227.

By providing play opportunities for children *of all abilities*, we help them live longer, healthier, happier lives.

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