Contact: Harmony Verna
Phone: 203-984-9215
Email: hverna@cvhfoundation.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CATHERINE VIOLET HUBBARD ANIMAL SANCTUARY BEGINS CONSTRUCTION ON EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

Catherine's Learning Barn – the sanctuary's new educational facility – is underway and will open in spring of 2025

NEWTOWN, CT, Nov. 1, 2024 – This week, the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary broke ground on its new educational facility called Catherine's Learn Barn – a poignant nod to the sanctuary's namesake and Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victim, Catherine Violet Hubbard.

The 3,400 square foot facility will serve as an educational space designed to host field trips, workshops, classes, and hands-on learning experiences focused on teaching individuals how to care for animals. The project is the first step towards the main building, allowing an expansion of programming and services while preparing for the bigger construction project that will be a certified Living Building including a veterinary in-take center, library and welcome center. Catherine's Learning Barn will be completed spring of 2025.

"Even without a building, we have brought educational programming to thousands of people while helping hundreds of animals find the homes and care they deserve. We have done all of this under tents and borrowed space," said Jenny Hubbard, Catherine's mother and the president of the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary. "While we're so proud of the incredible growth and impact achieved with limited resources, we are dedicated to doing more, to helping more. That's why we're thrilled to announce the creation of Catherine's Learning Barn."

As stewards of the environment, the sanctuary has taken great measures to ensure the construction does not disrupt or negatively impact the sanctuary property or the environment. In fact, the site of the new educational facility was once home to a very old and dilapidated farmhouse that was both an eye sore and safety hazard. Catherine's Learning Barn not only repurposes the space but beautifies it with new life and radiance.

The project has been supported in part by Connecticut businesses and supporters including Country Carpenters, PH Architects, Verdi Construction, HAFSCO, and e2

Engineers. An official barn raising and celebration will be scheduled as the project continues its progress over the next two months.

The public is welcome to follow the construction's evolution every Friday on the sanctuary's social media channels or website. Specific questions or interests in supporting the build can be directed to info@cvhfoundation.org. For more information on the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary, please visit cvhfoundation.org.

About the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary:

The Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation is a Connecticut-based nonprofit organization working to promote compassion and healing through human-animal connection. The foundation was started in 2013 to commemorate and honor the life of Catherine Violet Hubbard, a six-year-old victim of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy and passionate animal lover. In 2014, the CVH Foundation was awarded more than 34 acres of CT state farmland by a unanimous legislative decision, which would become home to the Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary. Since its inception, the organization has raised more than $9 million in funding, supporting its breadth of programming that by honoring the human-animal connection, is providing tools and skills that translate into compassionate and accepting human-human interactions. Specifically, the sanctuary focuses on environmental stewardship, provides no cost humane education curriculum and community workshops, aid for seniors to keep and care for their pets, and property revitalization efforts. Through caring, educating and protecting animals, the sanctuary's programs have become recognized as a beacon for fostering human empathy and promoting harmonious coexistence among all beings.

Catherine Violet Hubbard Animal Sanctuary
PO Box 3571, Newtown, CT 06470
www.cvhfoundation.org
(866) 620-8640

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