



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Lea Webb

## Senator Lea Webb Allocates \$140,000 to the Southern Tier Independence Center (STIC)

LEA WEBB September 16, 2024

| ISSUE: **INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES**



**BINGHAMTON, NY** — Senator Lea Webb is proud to announce that she has allocated \$140,000 in state funding to support essential upgrades at the Southern Tier Independence Center (STIC). This funding will be used to kick-start a multi-phase, multi-year project to replace the aging heat pumps in the center’s building, with the purchase of seven new heat pumps as the first step.

STIC, a Center for Independent Living, has been operating out of its current facility since 2008, providing vital services to children and adults with all types of disabilities. The center is also a significant employer of individuals with disabilities. The new heat pumps are an important upgrade for STIC, as they will create a safer, healthier environment for those with temperature sensitivities or regulation difficulties. In addition to improving comfort and accessibility, the energy-efficient heat pumps will help STIC reduce environmental impacts and lower operational costs, allowing them to invest more in the services they offer.

“I am thrilled to have secured this funding for the Southern Tier Independence Center to purchase seven heat pumps,” **said Senator Lea Webb.** “Their organization does incredible work, and their center is a hub of empowerment for everyone they serve. With these new heat pumps, STIC will not only improve the quality of life for its community but will also save funds that can be used to enhance their services and outreach. I am committed to investing in our local nonprofits that play a vital role in uplifting our communities and supporting those in need.”

**Said Jennifer Watson, Executive Director of the Southern Tier Independence Center (STIC),** "We appreciate Senator Webb's support in securing funding to replace heat pumps in our aging HVAC system. This critical upgrade modernizes our infrastructure and reduces our energy consumption, contributing to a sustainable future. It will allow us to allocate more resources toward our core mission empowering people with disabilities to live independently. We are grateful for the Senator's continued commitment to STIC and the communities we serve."

The Southern Tier Independence Center plays a critical role in the community, fostering independence and inclusion for people with disabilities. This funding allocation marks a step toward ensuring the facility remains a safe, efficient, and welcoming space for all.

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**Watch the Full Announcement ([LINK](#)) | Photos From the Announcement ([LINK](#))**