Free to Be Me Playground at Bartlett Park

Sponsorship Packet Bartlett, IL

**Bartlett Parks Foundation:** Creating Fun For Everyone!

In association with:

Bartlett Park District
Northwest Special Recreation Association
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Shared Vision</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elements of Inclusive Play</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preliminary Design</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the Foundation</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Play Changes Lives</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Contextual Plan</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master Plan</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist Perspective Drawings</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland Forest Treehouse</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensory Garden and Chalk Wall</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Play Area</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Meadow</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pond and the Sky</td>
<td>15 &amp; 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical &amp; Nature Sound Area</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swings</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation Plaza and Accessible Restroom Facility</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Benefits, Partnership Opportunity &amp; Community Fundraising Efforts</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship Levels</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge Agreement</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Shared Vision

The Bartlett Park District has over 40 parks with playgrounds, fields, open space, and other unique features. However not one of these created the nurturing environment that focused on serving all abilities in a way to promote an inclusive play experience. On Friday, February 28th, 2014 the Bartlett Parks Foundation unveiled plans to build an inclusive playground that would be accessible to all abilities and bridge the gap in play. They say “it takes a village to raise a child” and we know “it will take a community to build this project”.

This nature themed playground will be built in Bartlett Park to replace the current 21 year old playground structure. The playground will include features that spark the elements of play for all. The structures will feature an accessible route via wheelchair or other assistive device to provide access to the components including a treehouse play structure, dragon fly teeter-totter, cattail spinner balance stick, bumble bee rider, cozy cocoon hanging swing, sensory panels, sound towers with nature sounds, and a surrounding landscaping plan with different textures, colors, and smells.

Cost

The estimated cost for the project is $800,000. It is hoped that the playground will be completed within three years (by 2017). Costs include preparing the area, playground features, installation, and landscaping. The Bartlett Park District is pledging the first $125,000 toward this project. This sponsorship package provides information to help donors make an informed decision to pledge, fund, or provide in-kind services toward the construction of the playground.

Be a Part of Bartlett History

Help make this dream possible by donating to the Bartlett Parks Foundation, 696 W. Stearns Road, Bartlett, IL 60103. The Bartlett Parks Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Donations of all sizes are appreciated. Contribution levels are detailed on page 20 of this informational packet.

For more information please visit bartlettparks.org/general/foundation.aspx or call Stephanie Baxter at 630-540-4824.
Elements of Inclusive Play  www.inclusivemakeabilityplaygrounds.org/me2/playability

Social/Emotional

As children play together they learn to cooperate, take turns, and engage in meaningful dramatic and imaginative play experiences which create lifelong memories. Providing a place for children to feel emotionally secure allows them to belong and to choose how and when to engage in play.

Physical

All children need opportunities to be physically active through play; play environments that provide a variety of developmentally appropriate activities, offer healthy risk, challenge children of all abilities, and create places where everyone wants to play.

Sensory

Play is most meaningful in sensory-rich environments that encourage discovery and exploration. Sensory play through tactile, visual, auditory, olfactory, and tastes experiences help children understand the world around them.

Cognitive

Children learn through play and interacting with people and the world around them. Supporting intuitive play behaviors that stimulate development can help keep children engaged in meaningful play for longer periods of time. Opportunities for children to problem solve, think abstractly, and develop cause and effect skills help provide unique hands on opportunities to bring learning outside.

Communication

Playgrounds can support the development of receptive and expressive language, allowing children to demonstrate knowledge and expressions. Language development occurs through natural play behaviors and routines and is enhanced through developmentally appropriate play elements, loose parts, and outdoor programming.
Preliminary Design
About the Foundation

The Bartlett Parks Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization created in 2002 to help support the mission of the Bartlett Park District. This includes funding for programs, services, or products that are not financed by tax dollars including the Resident Financial Aid Scholarships, artwork for the community, special events related to environmental education, and other charitable activities. The Foundation Board of Trustees is comprised of active civic members of the community who are appointed to a three-year term. For more information about the Bartlett Parks Foundation please call (630) 540-4824.

Since 2002 the foundation has donated over $25,000 to the Bartlett Park District Financial Aid Scholarship program, purchased a variety of art pieces displayed in the Bartlett Community Center, installed bronze statues in a variety of Bartlett parks and facilities, supported events like Earth Day, and partnered with the Park District to provide family fun events. The Foundation is currently focusing their fundraising efforts on building an inclusive playground.

Foundation Trustees:

Tom Poulos, Chairman  Tracy DeBastiani, Vice-Chairperson
Donna Weir, Treasurer  Rita Fletcher, Trustee
Ted Lewis, Trustee  Ralph Binetti, Trustee
Marianne Cordell, Trustee  Tom Skelton, Trustee
How Play Changes Lives

“Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and youth. Play allows children to use their creativity while developing their imagination, dexterity, and physical, cognitive, and emotional strength. Play is important to healthy brain development. Play allows children to create and explore a world they can master, conquering their fears while practicing adult roles, sometimes in conjunction with other children or adult caregivers. As they master their world, play helps children develop new competencies that lead to enhanced confidence and the resiliency they will need to face future challenges. Undirected play allows children to learn how to work in groups, to share, to negotiate, to resolve conflicts, and to learn self-advocacy skills. When play is allowed to be child driven, children practice decision-making skills, move at their own pace, discover their own areas of interest, and ultimately engage fully in the passions they wish to pursue.”

http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/119/1/182.full

Doesn’t every child deserve a place where they can develop and be themselves?

Be a part of this project that will change lives and take the next step in providing a play experience for everyone. A place where a kid has the freedom to be a kid, where they don’t get hurt, they can be mobile, play in a fully inclusive setting, foster friendships, and have access to where they want to go.
Bartlett Park Inclusive Playground
Contextual Plan
Artist Perspective Drawings
Woodland Forest Treehouse

Treehouse Features:

Treehouse Pod Climber  Spiral Slide  Curly Climber
Swinging Monkeys Panel  Stump Climber  Treehouse Window Pane
Vehicle Reach Panel  Tree Climb  Sign Language Panel
Track Ride  Elbow Slide  Balcony Deck
Transfer Decks  Quantum II Spiral  Ramp w/ Safety Rails
Hypersonic Slide  Therapeutic Rings  Double Wide Plastic Slide
Fan Climber  Infinity Hi Climber  Abacus Reach Panel

Total Donation: $285,000

Benefits: Everyone needs recreation that develops skills, promotes good health, relieves stress, facilitates social interactions, and enhances perceived quality of life. Individuals derive many benefits from unstructured play including enhancement in cognitive, physical and emotional skills. This structure will be accessible via wheelchair or other assistive device. A rubberized surface will be included throughout the playground area.
Sensory Garden and Chalk Wall

4 Foot Chalk Wall and Sensory Garden

Donation $40,000

Benefits: Leisure experiences promote opportunities for developing equity. Unlike many other environments which people interact, leisure experiences promote opportunities for each individual to maximize her or his own interests and minimize competition. This structure enhances creative ability, motor skills, group interaction and hand-eye coordination.

Sculpture

Donation: $8,000

Benefits: Sculptures provide a relaxing atmosphere, decreasing anxiety or stress levels within individuals. This structure will be placed in an area to promote socialization opportunities.
Sand Play Area

Accessible Super Scoop

Donation: $3,000

Benefits: Weight-bearing and strength-building activities help sustain bone mass and reduce the incidence of trauma-induced fractures. Involvement in a physical recreation activity results in increased lung capacity, reduced resting heart rates and lower blood pressure levels, and a perceived sense of freedom, independence, and autonomy.

Elevated Sand Table

Donation: $10,000

Benefits: Social integration of children and adults with disabilities into community recreation programs offers the chance to develop a positive self-image through successful experiences and satisfying relationships with peers. Integrated play opportunities are stimulating and highly motivating experiences for children with special needs, offering them opportunities to imitate and model the play behavior of typically developing peers.
The Meadow

Inclined Web Crawler

Donation $15,000

Benefits: Climbing activities help to develop balance, spatial body awareness and hand eye coordination. Physical activity improves overall muscle tone. Fine motor skills in fingers and toes and gross motor skills in legs and arms are developed simultaneously by using this play component.

Dragonfly

Donation $10,000

Benefits: Physical recreation activities are known to reduce the symptoms of mild or moderate depression and anxiety through improved self-image, social skills, and mental health.

Mushrooms

Donation $3,000

Benefits: Moderate physical recreation activity benefits include a perceived sense of freedom, independence, and autonomy, enhanced self-competence through improved sense of self-worth, self-reliance, and self-confidence, and a heightened ability to socialize with others, including greater tolerance and understanding.
The Pond & the Sky

Omni Spinner

Donation: $16,000

Benefits: Activities that fill leisure time, performed within a group, strengthen social support ties known to negate stress. Social integration of children and adults with disabilities into community recreation offers the chance to develop a positive self-image through successful experiences and satisfying relationships with peers.

Cozy Cocoon

Donation: $8,000

Benefits: Areas of individual play provide opportunities for improved expressions of and reflection on personal ideals, more balanced competitiveness and a more positive outlook on life.

Bumblebee

Donation: $5,000

Benefits: Among the positive outcomes of physical exertion are improvements in physical health status, psychosocial status, cognitive status, and an improved ability to deal with life, recreation, and community activities. - See more at: [http://source.southuniversity.edu/the-benefits-of-therapeutic-outdoor-recreation-102985.aspx#sthash.Pk5phcbF.dpuf](http://source.southuniversity.edu/the-benefits-of-therapeutic-outdoor-recreation-102985.aspx#sthash.Pk5phcbF.dpuf)
Spin Cup

Donation: $4,000

Benefits: “From the social aspect, people need interaction with each other to find harmony and balance with their lives and with each other. This is very important for people suffering with disabilities, because of the restrictions imposed upon them by their disabilities.” (Dr. A. Ronald Peterson, South University, 2012). The philosophies of empowerment, inclusion, and controlled risk help children to grow developmentally.

Cattail Spinner (2 total)

Donation: $18,000

Benefits: When the recreation activity experience has captivated the participant, this individual brings particular personality styles of learning, motivation, and expectations about the experience to the setting. The person faced with a specific environment, interpreted by the person or not, promotes one or more learning experiences. This structure will be accessible via wheelchair or other assistive device.

Flower Talk Tube (6 total)

Donation $10,000

Benefits: Children can communicate with their friends using the visually appealing, fun flower design. The talk tubes carry messages from one flower to another to create an exciting social activity and cause-effect relationship.
Musical & Nature Sound Area

**Fun-Semble**

**Donation:** $20,000

**Benefits:** Based on traditional African and Caribbean instruments, the GT Jams Fun-Semble includes 17 instruments that create different tonal and rhythmic sounds. Designed for accessibility and fun for children (and adults) of all ages, Fun-Semble helps children engage in musical, social and collaborative play. Awarded an Able Play® rating from Lekotek. Music therapy is an effective educational and therapeutic tool for both children and adults with forms of disabilities. It is an important learning tool and provides significant memorization assistance.

**Aero Glider**

**Donation:** $60,000

**Benefits:** Participants in groups report that these groups help them to feel included, provide a social outlet and furnish opportunities for individuals to make friends and have fun together. This structure will be accessible via wheelchair or other assistive device.
Swings

**Donation $15,000**

**Benefits:** Physical activity can improve mental health by improving physical fitness and enhancing opportunities for social interaction. Physical activity can be a practical tool to help fight depression, and reduce anxiety and stress. Other benefits of physical activity include improvement in cardiovascular fitness and endurance, joint flexibility, muscular strength, and balance, along with the reduction in the risk of diabetes and other health related issues and weight control. This structure will be accessible via wheelchair or other assistive device.
Orientation Plaza

Free to Be Me Playground Entry Feature
Donation $45,000

Accessible Restrooms
Donation $225,000
Sponsorship Benefits

- Fosters goodwill within the community
- Creates high visibility
- Incorporates health initiatives
- Incorporates values and history
- Leverages corporate outreach and impact
- Maintains corporate presence in the community

“Playgrounds should be a place where all kids are inspired to participate. I want to take my kids to a place where they blend in with everyone else and for a little while they aren’t defined by their disability but by the play of childhood.” Jennifer Williams (Parent)

A Powerful Partnership Opportunity

Playing together is vital to the healthy development of children with and without disabilities. Designed in cooperation with Northwest Special Recreation (NWSRA) this inclusive playground is fully accessible for children with disabilities. This unique playground will allow the interaction of children, parents, and grandparents to play in a safe and stimulating environment.

Community Fundraising Efforts

Barefoot Snow Stand-January

Wine and Beer Tasting Villa Olivia-February

Fourth of July Turbo Turtle Race-July 4

Twilight Golf Outing-September
Sponsorship Levels

No donation goes unrecognized. Below are the sponsorship levels that will be used to acknowledge each donor. Each level builds in the recognition and exposure including the benefits of the levels below them.

**Treetop Level** $100,000 +
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved boulder at Bartlett Community Center, name on signage at the playground, contribution recognized in one BPD brochure, name listed on Foundation Website with link to business website, and name on the Woodland Forest Treehouse.

**Forest Level** $50,000-$99,999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved boulder at Bartlett Community Center, name on signage at the playground, contribution recognized in one BPD brochure, and name listed on Foundation Website with link to business website.

**Riverbed Level** $25,000-$49,999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved copper leaf at Bartlett Community Center, name on signage at the playground, contribution recognized in one BPD brochure, and name listed on Foundation Website.

**Meadow Level** $10,000-$24,999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved copper leaf at Bartlett Community Center, name on signage at the playground, and contribution recognized in one BPD brochure.

**Rainbow Level** $5,000-$9,999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved copper leaf at Bartlett Community Center, and name on signage at the playground.

**Sunshine Level** $1,000-$4,999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, name on engraved brass leaf at Bartlett Community Center, and name on signage at the playground.

**Lilac Level** $500-$999
Name in the Dedication pamphlet, and name on engraved brass leaf at Bartlett Community Center.

**Butterfly Level** $50-$499
Name in the Dedication pamphlet.
Pledge Agreement

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I commit/pledge:

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I commit to the donation described above, payable to the Bartlett Parks Foundation. I understand the Foundation will use the funds solely and exclusively for construction of the Free to Be Me Playground at Bartlett Park.

Bartlett Parks Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization; donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible. Please return this sheet with initial payment to: Stephanie Baxter, 696 W. Stearns Road, Bartlett, IL 60103