

Peyton Parker Lane Playground



All-Inclusive, Parallel Play, Playground, York, Nebraska

Overview

January 2020, several parents of children who live with a disability, community leaders, started discussions to build an **All-Inclusive, Parallel Play, Accessible** playground in York, Nebraska.

Paul Jaekel and his wife Alisa have two sons Sawyer and Gracin. Gracin is 4 and was born with Down Syndrome. Paul and Alisa also have a nephew with Down Syndrome and a niece with Cerebral Palsy. They have a passion for inclusivity and made the call for others to join them.

Through a series of meetings, several committees have been formed and the playground is becoming a reality.

We have aligned and partnered with York Community Foundation, Unlimited Play Playgrounds, Crouch Recreation and Little Tikes Commercial, York Parks and Recreation and the City of York.

York Community Foundation The mission of the York Community Foundation is to utilize charitable funds to strengthen and improve the community for the benefit of all its citizens. They are a 501(c)3 and hold our account. You can donate at www.yorkcommunityfoundation.org

Little Tikes Commercial and **Unlimited Play** are delighted to offer certified, inclusive play spaces to take the guesswork out of your playground design. At Little Tikes Commercial, we believe in the developmental value of play. We understand that play is necessary for healthy child development, and that's why our play structures are specifically designed to encourage the physical, social, emotional, cognitive and sensory development of children of all abilities. Our commitment to delivering fun, innovative play structures that

Watch Fly Through Video Here



promote the value of outdoor play has been a focus of our designs for over 40 years.

Crouch Recreation, Founded in 1966 and family-owned by Eric and Nicole Crouch since 2004, Crouch Recreation supplies quality, made-in-America recreational products to Nebraska. Eric and Nicole are the area representatives for Little Tikes Commercial. Eric has worked with our design committee and created our vision of the Nebraska outdoor theme for the **Peyton Parker Lane Playground**

Unlimited Play Playgrounds, is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that helps to plan, design and build fully accessible playgrounds that allow all children - regardless of their abilities - to play together. A valuable resource in our community, Unlimited Play has unique expertise in this area, and is available to assist in the development of inclusive playgrounds that promote dignity, understanding and respect among children.

Go to www.unlimitedplay.org/playgrounds to see detailed pictures of our Playground, and view a fly through video of our vision for **Peyton Parker Lane Playground**. You can also donate to our project on their website as well.

York Parks and Recreation and The City of York

Announcements

Peyton Parker Lane Playground has gotten the approval from the York City Council to place the playground at Minck's Park and near the Aquatic Center, 2222 East 14th street in York Nebraska.

*August 2020; **Peyton Parker Lane Playground** has a theme of Nebraska outdoor life; hiking trails, fishing, wildlife and wildflowers, etc.

*Designed budget including fencing is, \$980,481.50

Statement of Need

The Peyton Parker Lane Playground will provide a play environment that is currently missing in the region. There is no fully inclusive and accessible facility in the area. This will allow both children, parents and grandparents of all abilities to safely interact and have a parallel play experience with peers. To create this type of environment, it will take the community and others coming together both financially

and time wise to invest. There is NOT another accessible playground of this size in the state of Nebraska, and the closest to us is over an hour away.

Goals

1. To provide a play space that promotes and encourages full inclusion of children and adults with all degrees of abilities.
2. To create an environment that breaks social and physical barriers, and gives the opportunity for children with disabilities to interact without feeling different. Because all children love to play.
3. To provide a space that parents and grandparents with disabilities can easily interact and play with their children and grandchildren.
4. To raise awareness of inclusion, and bring our community together in a space that is equal for all. Bringing children together to play side-by-side with their siblings, friends, and providing a safe place for families to socialize.
5. Building community pride! When children and adults of all abilities experience the value of play, it will bring a community together in remarkable ways.
6. To create play areas for children of all abilities including sensory play, physical play, imaginative play, quiet spaces, climate protection and ease of access.
7. To partner with local government and the possibility of local funding and land use. For the city to provide ADA accessible bathroom facilities close to the playground. And additional accessible parking.
8. To solicit in-kind marketing and media support, including in-kind donations of materials and labor to complete the project.
9. Engage local community organizations, businesses, clubs and groups to help fundraise and apply for grants. To hold events such as a Gala, 5K walk/runs, raffles, business round ups, viral challenges, cook offs, golf tournaments, online auctions, car wash, penny drive, etc.

Specifications

We will be locating the Peyton Parker Lane Playground at Minck's Park, near the Aquatic Center. The park will include elevated play components, ramps with double handrails, rubber surfacing, activity panels, a Rock 'n Ship Glider, an in-ground Merry Go Round. Kids Zipline with specialized seating. Extra spacing around play equipment, letting all wheelchair users adequate space to get around. Quiet spaces, where children can play without feeling overwhelmed. Site amenities such as benches, and picnic tables so that all wheelchairs users can access them. To place signs and designate areas in the picnic area for those who live with food allergies. Grouping similar activities together, such as the musical area.

Grouping age appropriate equipment together. Shaded areas over picnic tables and benches, and areas that people would be more stationary in.

Our hope is for the Playground to be a place for all people with all degrees of abilities to enjoy a day of play. A place that not only benefits the York, Nebraska community and county but to bring people from surrounding communities. A place that is comfortable for all people young and old, able bodied or not. To bring a positive experience for all that enter and spend time here. **Truly a magical place!**

Events & Community Support

- *\$5,650.00, Living in the Right Lane/April & Brian McDaniel; July 2020
- * \$1,225.75, Lively Livestock 4 H Club, York County Fair concessions; August 2020
- *\$1,800.00, Wild Hawgs Motorcycle Group; Yorkfest Poker Run, Sept. 12th, 2020
- *\$6,839.17, York Eagles Auxiliary Club; Hamburger Feed/Grants, September 16, 2020.
- *\$6,410.00, Raffle for Gift Basket and Sign; Speece Family in memory of their son, Isaac Speece's first birthday in heaven. September 15th, 2020.
- *\$1,413.00, McCormick's Night Out Gift Basket (Sip N Stroll) October 8th, 2020
- * \$600.00 St. Joseph's School Pumpkin Raffle October 16th, 2020
- *\$5,170.00 Fillmore Hospital October 19, 2020; basket auction, proceeds to the playground.
- * \$1,467.00, Fall Craft Vendor Concessions & Raffle 55in. TV (Jen Arndt & Jamie Moore) October 24th, 2020
- *\$,1027.00, J & R Heating and Air, (Nancy Davidson) Ghostbuster Gift Basket and Ecto 1 ride home from school Raffle. October 28th, 2020
- *\$1,000.00, York Professional Firefighters Union, November 13, 2020
- * \$500.00 Kirby's School of Dance, November 15, 2020
- *\$1,000.00, York FFA Chapter; Talent Show Fundraiser December 1, 2020
- *\$1,400.00, P.E.O. York Chapter; The President's Project 2020-Chapter HH, P.E.O. December 1, 2020
- *\$1,500.00 United Methodist Church/Bradshaw, NE; December 8, 2020
- *\$2,500.00 Nestle/Purina donation, December 15, 2020
- *\$6,453.00 FB Giving Tuesday Fundraiser/Julie Hoffman December 1, 2020

*\$25,000.00 December 31, 2021, anonymous donation.

*\$2,500.00 Orscheln Industries Foundation; February 2, 2021

*\$539.00 St. Joseph School Penny War; February 12, 2021

*\$1,000.00 Kroy Industries donation; February 17, 2021

*\$1,146.00 Kelsey's Organized Chaos; Bag Sale 3/27/2021

*\$30,000.00 Custom Boat (Glider) purchased 4/2/2021

*\$1,339.42 Starbucks Fundraiser at the Easter Egg Drop 4/3/2021

*\$1,400.00 Concessions & Raffle at the Spring Vendor Event 4/19/2021

*\$4,534.75 The Battle of the Super Heroes; YES vs YG 4/26/21-5/14/21

*\$25,000 Black Hills Energy, Foundation donation; May 12, 2021

*\$12,051.50 York General PTO match; 5/21/2021

*\$1,494.61 York ACE Hardware 6/8/2021 Round-Up Event

*\$2,890.00 June 2nd-3rd, 21 Swinging for Sundaes, Friend,(Isaac Speece family)

*\$262.00 Soul Quest Car Wash June 19th, 2021

*\$100,000.00 Donation from; Virginia & Kelly Holthus June 8, 2021

*\$1,800.00 Waco Lutheran School; FB Dollar Auction; Floor Cleaner June 20, 2021

*\$1,200.00 Sunrise Sertoma Club 6/21/2021 (\$500.00 Club; \$700.00 Individual)

*\$2,642.43 All Area Daycares Coin Drive June 21st-July 1, 2021

*\$100,000.00 York General Foundation donation; July 7, 2021

*\$20,000.00 Peyton Parker Lane Playground Golf Tournament July 16, 2021

*\$50,000.00 Donation from Midwest Bank 7/23/2021

*\$2,500.00 Donation from Harlow Homes 8/5/2021

*\$2,500.00 Total; CVA/Land O'Lakes matching 8/6/2021

*\$100,000.00 Cornerstone Bank donation 8/11/2021

*\$5,000.00 Donation from Living in the Right Lane 8/12/2021

*\$25,000.00 Donation Henderson State Bank (\$10k;2021/\$15k;2022)

Grants and Pledges

*\$2,000.00 total; Aurora Co-op Grant \$1,000.00 & Land O'Lakes matching \$1,000.00 received on October 30th, 2020

*\$2,500.00, Corteva Grant; November 2020

*\$6,500.00, Eagles Auxiliary Grant; November 13, 2020.

*\$25,000.00 Anonymous Donation; December 31, 2020

*\$10,000; Brett & Jill Speece Pledge

*\$250,000.00; York Visitors Bureau Grant (pending)



The Quiet Zone is a place to get away from the crowd and have a space to reset if needed. These are actual pictures of the Playground with the Nebraska outdoor theme. A place for everyone! One of the largest All-inclusive playgrounds in Nebraska.



Everyone loves music. Music is therapeutic. It can relieve stress, enhance memory, express feelings, and help with communication. Music, when combined with recess, can become an important part of children's development and learning processes. Unstructured play on the playground is an integral part of every child's social, physical and cognitive development. Music has also been proven to positively affect a child's development. If you join the two, it's a winning combination.

Wheelchair accessible Glider

Gentle swaying motion, wheelchair accessible glider meets all safety standards. With 70 sq. ft. of deck surface, there is ample room for wheelchairs – and several shipmates! This can be made into any design to fit the theme of the playground, it does not have to be a ship. Our piece is designed to look like a fishing boat.



Zipline

Kids of all abilities can experience the thrill of flying! The molded bucket seat with lock-in-place harness provides stability and security for kids with limited core strength. A truly inclusive play experience

where kids of all abilities can play side-by-side!



Quiet Grove has been tested to reduce the sights, sounds, and even smells that can overstimulate. It can be installed away from the playground to create a peaceful retreat to escape the hustle and bustle.



***2-5 yr area**

***The early years of child development are crucial for learning important skill sets, like how to talk, walk, and interact with others. Through the ages of 2 to 5, children are mastering: colors, numbers, and learning creativity.**



Little Tikes Commercial believes in creating inclusive environments for all children. In fact, we were founded on the idea that all children deserve to play.

Unlimited Play is an award-winning, non-profit organization that transforms communities by providing universally accessible playgrounds for all children and families.

TOGETHER, WE BELIEVE IN DESIGNING PLAYGROUNDS
WHERE LIMITATIONS ARE FORGOTTEN
AND DIFFERENCES ARE CELEBRATED!



In-ground Merry-Go-Round

Wheelchair accessible, built in bench and room for many more!

- **Inclusive playgrounds are more fun!** In order to allow all kids access to all play equipment, a certain level of creativity is needed. This often means inclusive playgrounds extend beyond basic swings, slides and sand boxes.
- **Inclusive playgrounds encourage creativity.** Truly inclusive play equipment often accommodates children with visual, hearing or other sensory issues, enabling the equipment to be experienced in many different ways.
- **Inclusive playgrounds teach important lessons.** When neurotypical children get to interact in play with peers who have special needs, they view them as no different from themselves and are given opportunities to practice kindness.

This playground will create a destination, a unique space that provides an environment that is fully accessible for **EVERYONE!** When you create a space such as this, you create opportunities for peers of different abilities to play, create and have parallel experiences. This playground will create friendships that possibly wouldn't have happened otherwise. Creating and cultivating relationships that are deeper, more compassionate and unlike most. In turn, creating individuals that look at the world a little differently, a little more patiently, and will be better citizens for our community because of their experiences here.

Please, join us on this adventure adding a positive addition to our community! If you have questions or would like to donate please contact any one of us.

Julie & Chad Hoffman 402-366-4543 jcPPP62495@hotmail.com

Paul & Alisa Jaekel 402-366-9561 pjaekel@cityofyork.net

April & Brian McDaniel 402-366-4862 aprilwallace99@hotmail.com

[You can also mail donations to:](#)

York Community Foundation

603 N. Lincoln Ave.

York, Nebraska 68467

Or online at;

www.yorkcommunityfoundation.org

www.unlimitedplay.org/playgrounds

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NOTE IN THE MEMO ON CHECKS, AND
ONLINE;

That your donation is for the,

PEYTON PARKER LANE PLAYGROUND

We THANK YOU for your support!

"Play is the highest form of research" -Albert Einstein

Peyton Parker Lane Playground Committee

Julie & Chad Hoffman; Parents of Peyton & Parker

April & Brian McDaniel; Parents of Lane

Paul & Alisa Jaekel; Parents of Gracin (Downs Syndrome)

Paige & Derek McKenzie; Sister of Peyton and Parker

Lisa Hurley; York County Development Corp.

Cheree Folts; York Park & Rec. Director

Sharilyn Stube; Clerk of District Court

Steven Postier; Henderson State Bank

Dave & Paula Rollins; Dave; disability at birth

Cindi Nickel; Coldwell Banker Realtor

Kris Friesen; York Elementary Principal

Meagan Naber; York General Occupational Therapist

Jill Bathen; York General Physical Therapist

Beth Erickson; York Public Schools District Admin.

Jill & Brett Speece; Parents of Isaac Speece (Cerebral Palsy)

Find the playground on facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/PeytonParkerLanePlayground/>

Find the playground website

<https://www.yorkdevco.com/life/peyton-parker-lane-playground>



Donation Form

Donor Information:

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 COPPER: \$2,500
 CONTRIBUTOR: \$500

Donate to www.yorkcommunityfoundation.org and designate the Peyton Parker Lane Playground or
 Email Form to Kristine Richert, ycf@yorkchamber.org or mail to: 603 North Lincoln Avenue, York, NE 68467
 or

www.unlimitedplay.org/playgrounds and select our playground!

Questions? Call YCF Kristi, 402-362-5531

Julie Hoffman, 402.366.4543 April McDanial, 402.366.4862

Paul Jaekel, 402.366.9561 Lisa Hurley, 402.362.1125

Cindi Nickel, 402-363-1158

Peyton Parker Lane Playground

THE STORIES BEHIND THE name:

Peyton and Parker Hoffman



Brothers, Peyton Jerry Hoffman born May 20, 1998 and Parker Steven Hoffman born August 6, 1999. Parents are Julie and Chad Hoffman of York, Nebraska. Both boys were born with a rare genetic disorder, Pelizaeus Merzbacher Disease is an X-link (only affecting males) neurological disorder that affects the central nervous system. Peyton and Parker were never able to hold their head up, set up, walk, talk, or eat on their own. They were G-button dependent, and relied on tilt in space wheelchairs to move in their environments. They were incredibly smart and fully aware of their surroundings, and did their best to interact with those around them.

They laughed, squealed, smiled, and at a young age they could reach out to touch computer screens to say yes/no, maybe, answering questions and making their own decisions. This is how they were able to learn in a school setting.

Their parents requested that the boys were one hundred percent in their classrooms and have no pull out into the special needs rooms. That any accommodations and therapists come to them in the regular classroom setting. This took some convincing, but worked out beautifully. They made so many friends, and came out of school each day smiling and happy.

Because they had this opportunity to be in the classrooms, and make friends, they were invited to birthday parties, had birthday parties, sleepovers, weekends at the lake with friends in tow. They joined Cub Scouts and participated in all the activities, including the Pinewood Derbies, and won many trophies and medals in competitions. They had pride in their lives and friendships. They felt valued!

Peyton 11, unexpectedly passed away March 19th, 2010 the spring of his sixth grade year. His parents and siblings were devastated, as were his friends. They started the Peyton Hoffman Memorial Scholarship Fund. Throughout the remaining years of his classmate's school years, his parents and classmates held many fundraisers to add to the fund. When Peyton's class graduated in 2016, his parents gave 18 scholarships to his class totaling \$13,000.00. The class president spoke about Peyton in her graduation speech. She said to her classmates, let's remember what our dear friend Peyton Hoffman taught us, without ever speaking a word. He taught us, JOY! We must always have joy in our lives.

Parker, the younger brother, remained a guiding light for his parents, and older sister, giving them purpose and reason to heal from losing Peyton. It took some time for the family to find their way through grief. Parker continued to go to school and had some amazing experiences in middle school. He was in the band, with friends helping him play the drums hand over hand. He marched in the Yorkfest and Homecoming Parades. He found an amazing unexpected friend in shop class. The shop class teacher also teaches Animal Science Class at the high school. Mr. Hirschfeld was bringing

bunnies to the middle school to visit the kids. Parker and one bunny in particular took a liking to each other. PB (Parker's Bunny) and Parker maintained their relationship all through Parker's high school years. Parker attended classes with PB on his lap most of the time. Parker and his parents donated the last of the Peyton Hoffman's Scholarship Funds (\$5200.00) to the Animal Science Lab at the end of Parker's senior year. Although Parker was suffering through many health issues, he attended his last few years of high school very sparingly. Parker graduated in 2018 to a roar of clapping, whistling, and a standing ovation. After a valiant battle with kidney issues, and respiratory illnesses Parker 19, passed away March 16th, 2019.

Peyton and Parker's parents and older sister and her family continue to heal and treasure their wonderful life experiences and memories of both the boys. With the life lessons the boys taught them,

the passion of inclusion does not stop with the boys being in heaven. Julie is now a Lay-Advocate, trained by Disabilities Rights of Nebraska and helps families needing assistance with the IEP (Individual Education Program) process. And together with several other families in similar circumstances have partnered to bring an All Inclusive Playground to York, Nebraska. And are honored to have their sons names as representation of the playground.



Peyton Parker Lane Playground

THE STORIES BEHIND THE name;

Lane Michael McDaniel was born July 9th, 2005 to Brian and April McDaniel at 30 weeks 5 days gestation. While born prematurely at 3 lbs. he was healthy. He came home from the St Elizabeth's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at 28 days and weighed just over 4 lbs. He was doing all things on his own and came home on no monitors. Just shy of 2 days after being home Lane became lethargic. Lane's health went downhill very quickly. Lane was baptized under danger of death and transported back to St Elizabeth's Hospital in Lincoln. After days of praying that he'd survive, the doctors determined that he had contracted late onset Group Beta Strep likely from a bad blood stick while in the NICU. Lane was on all means of life support. His neonatologist, Dr. Hawk said by all statistics he should not have survived. Lane's parents, Brian and April, believe it was by God's grace that he lived. The GBS caused meningitis and lifelong injury to his brain. Lane was not able to walk, talk or complete daily living activities independently. Lane rose above all challenges presented to him, always greeting each challenge with a contagious smile and giggle.

Brian and April advocated fearlessly for Lane's inclusion in all things, including Catholic School. Supported by McCool Public & St. Joseph Catholic Schools they were able to successfully make this happen. Lane was included in all things that the McDaniel family did including riding on the gator, amusement park rides, going to the zoo, hunting, fishing, riding bikes, going to church, attending family gatherings, high school & community events, parades – you name it. Although these events and activities often took some additional planning Brian and April didn't see that



things could be any other way. Lane inspired other children and adults, including Brian and April to want to help others.

On March 15, 2014 with no warning Lane died in his sleep. Lane had been healthy and had spent the day before with family enjoying Spring Break. The outpouring of love and support that followed that day continue

to be a blessing to the McDaniel family. Brian and April have since founded Living In The Right Lane a non-profit 501c3 organization which helps families with children with special needs through prayer, education and monetary donations that they call "Lane Changers."

Their motto after Lane's name is to spread the message to Love, Admire, Nurture, Everyday. Each one of us is given gifts to which we should share with others. Lane was and continues to be a gift to all those that knew him. The McDaniel family continues to share this gift through Living In The Right Lane and working together with a group of families that have partnered to bring an All Inclusive Playground to York, Nebraska. The McDaniel's are honored to have Lane's name represented in the name of the playground –

[Peyton Parker Lane Playground](#)

