



One Field. One Playground. EVERYBODY Plays.



"During our research, the two responses we received the most from parents of children with disabilities and special needs were: 'We need a place with more activities for our child' and 'We want activities that our child can participate in with other children.'"

The Miracle League of Memphis complex will meet both of those needs."

Eddy Hatcher
Executive Director
The Miracle League of Memphis

CURRENTLY

What happens when a child with disabilities or special needs goes to their brother's or sister's baseball or softball game? They sit on the sidelines and watch.

When a child with disabilities goes to a birthday party at a playground, after cake and ice cream all of the kids rush to the playground – except the child with disabilities, who sits on the sidelines and watches.

WITH YOUR HELP

Children with any kind of disability or special needs can go PLAY a baseball game – and this time their brothers and sisters and parents and friends cheer THEM!

After the game, Mom, Dad, brothers, sisters, friends – ALL go the playground and play TOGETHER. No one sits on the sidelines and watches. No one is left out.

Where EVERYBODY PLAYS regardless of disabilities or special needs.

THE PURPOSE

The Miracle League of Memphis has been organized to:

- 1) create a recreational complex for individuals with disabilities and special needs.
- 2) build the largest INCLUSIVE playground in the Mid-South where all equipment is accessible to every child.
- 3) include pavilions where families and friends of all racial/cultural backgrounds can gather to celebrate the uniqueness of each individual.



THE NEED

FOR THE MIRACLE LEAGUE OF MEMPHIS

- 75,620** Individuals with disabilities under age 65 in Memphis
- 116,139** Individuals with disabilities under age 65 in the Memphis TN-AR-MS Metro area
- 200+** Miracle League baseball fields in the United States
- 150+** Miracle League playgrounds in the United States
- 0** Miracle League complexes in the Memphis TN-AR-MS Metro area

Justice Bolden, Director of Memphis Parks, has said, *“This complex will be the premier destination for inclusive recreation in the Mid-South.”*

* 2022 US Census Bureau Estimates of Non-Institutionalized Population.

“Thank you for building this.

*Now I will be able to do **everything** I was **never**
able to do when I was a kid.”*

Anonymous lady in her late 20's with cerebral palsy who uses a wheelchair





Jan Averwater
Director of Fitness Ministry
Christ Church Memphis

“A lack of facilities prevents players with disabilities from experiencing the true joys of the game. Having to use a walker or crutches, they can’t move through the grass. It’s hard on an unlevel field. The Miracle League of Memphis field is level, has easy access with dugouts, and ground-level bases – a field where all ages with disabilities can participate.”



Dr. Eliza Hendrix, OTD, OTL/R
Occupational Therapist
St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital

“All kids just want to play. Having this accessible playground and baseball field will allow children from all backgrounds, all ages, and all ability levels to come together and to interact on equipment that is really cool and really fun that we don’t have anywhere else in this city. The overarching theme is a playground that’s inclusive for everybody.”



landscape
structures

Memphis Miracle League

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Recreational
concepts

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LOCATION

The Memphis Parks Department is graciously permitting the Miracle League of Memphis to develop the complex on a field at the north end of Tobey Park with the entrance from Avery Avenue, just southeast of the Board of Education. The area will be designed with a single entrance to protect the children. Below is an aerial view of the field as it exists today.

The area is located within the heart of Memphis. It's within walking distance of the Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium, Liberty Park and the Children's Museum; less than two miles from the Memphis Museum of Science and History (formerly known as the Pink Palace), Cooper-Young, Overton Square, Poplar Plaza, and the University of Memphis; and it's 8 minutes from the Memphis Zoo.





Luis and Yareli Rivas

"We want our son, Enrique, to be included and to be able to play with other kids. We've been searching for years for a place where he could feel safe and he can have fun. Baseball is a good match for him. Having the rubber surface will make it a lot easier for him to move around because he falls a lot in grass."

"He gets upset at the playground. It's really hard on him not to be able to do what the other kids are able to do. He wants to have fun like a kid should be able to."



Tracey Anderson

"My son, Kyle, is in a wheelchair. He loves baseball and is looking forward to playing on a field designed with kids like him in mind."

"And the playground will be awesome. We just don't go now because he can't do anything. We can't wait for him to be able to get out there and be with the other kids instead of just watching from the sidelines. He has never been able to play on a playground with other kids. What a huge difference this will make in his life. And ours."



Violeta Brown

"Liam has trouble running; he's shaky. If the ground were more stable for him it would be amazing."

"Not every playground has the equipment we need for him. We need something more."

"Sometimes we get so used to just having the things that are available to everyone, we don't realize there are things that could be better for them until somebody comes up with such an idea, and we are like, 'That would be AMAZING. YES!'"



MEMPHIS MIRACLE FIELD & PLAYGROUND

CONCEPT PLAN MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

10.11.17 10:00 AM - Memphis Miracle Field & Playground Concept Plan Rendering.dwg
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0 20 40 80
SCALE: 1"=40'



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YOUR HELP WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As Matthew West said in his song, *“Do Something”*:

If not US, then WHO
If not ME and YOU
Right Now.
It's time for US to Do Something.

The Mission of the Miracle League of Memphis is:

One Field. One Playground. EVERYBODY PLAYS.

100% of your gift will be used to build the field and playground.
YOU can have an impact on the lives of these children.
Today. Right Now.

For more information, contact:
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One Field.
One Playground.
EVERYBODY PLAYS.

“It will make everyone feel included – and that’s what we want. There are not a lot of resources in Memphis. We need this for our kids with disabilities. It makes the kids with disabilities feel more equal. It will be beneficial to my kids in every possible way.”



Tayler Jones

The Miracle League of Memphis is a 501(c)3 organization incorporated under the name “Everybody Plays” dba The Miracle League of Memphis