

# MORE THAN 1 MILLION CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WITH INCREASED ACCESS TO PLAY AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

In 2017, the National Recreation and Park Association and The Walt Disney Company launched the Meet Me at the Park Play Spaces grant program with the intention to positively impact one million children and families by providing access to physical activity and play spaces through inclusive and imaginative play. In its third year, the grant program has successfully achieved this goal and is celebrating the impact these projects have made in communities throughout the country.



**1 MILLION +**  
children and families with increased access to play and physical activity

**75 PARKS**  
**39 STATES**

**\$2.3**  
million invested in local communities

- EVALUATION SHOWS:**
- Significant increase in daily park use.
  - Increase in the number of volunteers at park programs/events.
  - Increase in number of people exercising at the park post-renovation.

## IMPROVED PLAY SPACES LED TO:

**80%**  
of surveyed park visitors believe the projects have had a positive impact on nearby communities



**16%**  
increase in first-time park visitors



## VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

**Kellie May, Vice President of Programs, NRPA**

"These transformative projects are providing inspiration for other communities to create their own innovative and welcoming spaces."

**Local Resident, Huntington, WV**

"Play should not be stressful for any child and this playground has helped eliminate that stress for many families in our area."

**Alderman Michael J. Murphy, 10th District, Milwaukee, WI**

"Unfortunately, you see city governments cut back on parks and having partnerships like those with Disney and NRPA [allows us to] have the resources, the will and the drive to do even more."

**Nancy Winzer, Parks and Recreation Director, Port Huron, MI**

"The hope is to get kids on their bikes at a young age and get them outside in a way that is stimulating and interesting. When we do that, it encourages them to carry those habits throughout their life."

Learn more at [nrpa.org/MeetMeAtThePark](http://nrpa.org/MeetMeAtThePark)

Evaluation data was collected over two years through systematic observations of play and recreation and intercept surveys via hand-held tablets from adults (defined as aged 18 and older) regarding their use of the parks.

