

**Community Funding Request
El Dorado County**

Organization Information

Name of Organization Walk with Austin

Address of Organization: 2201 Francisco Dr. Suite 140-578, EDH, CA, 95762

Type (one): Non-profit Public Community Organization (Association)

Event/Project for which funds are requested: All-Abilities Playground at Bass Lake Regional Park

Event/Project Location: Bass Lake Regional Playground in El Dorado Hills

Event Date/Project timeline: Working timeline, projected to break ground Fall 2021

Website: www.walkwithaustin.org

Name of Contact Person: Holly Reininger

Telephone Number: 325-518-1350

E-mail address: walkwithaustin@gmail.com

Total Amount Requested (Limit: \$5,000): \$5,000

Event/Project Description

1. Describe the purpose of the event/project/organization for which funds are being requested. Bass Lake Regional Park is an incredible opportunity for our community to build/host the first ALL-ABILITIES playground in our County. This type of playground is more costly than traditional playgrounds, so our organization, Walk with Austin, has committed to help raise the additional funds needed to ensure this playground is as inclusive as possible for our entire community and all those who will visit BLRP.
2. How will the event/project support or produce a public benefit to El Dorado County. An ALL-ABILITIES playground would serve our community in all the ways a traditional playground would - exercise, play outside, gathering place - but with the added bonus of serving members of our community who aren't typically able to utilize standard playgrounds. Key differences such as rubber rock ground surfacing, adaptive swings, slides, rampe play structures and sensory friendly equipment all cost more, but allow more of our community to play together in the same place.

\$30k Grant Finalist: Walk with Austin Project: Inclusive Playground at Bass Lake in El Dorado Hills

IMAGINE...

- Being the child who is confined to the sidelines of the playground because of a disability
- Being the able-bodied sibling who can't play on the playground with a disabled brother or sister
- Being a disabled parent or grandparent who cannot accompany a child to the playground to enjoy the fun or supervise
- Being the family who has to go to multiple playgrounds to accommodate the varying abilities of the family members

It is our goal to overcome these obstacles by building the first inclusive playground in El Dorado County at the new park at Bass Lake in El Dorado Hills



Austin Reinger, 4 yo
El Dorado Hills

Inclusive playground in Fort Worth, TX

Dream Park
July 5, 2016 77575-1-8-6



Who benefits from an Inclusive playground?

- Kids with mobility differences who utilize canes, walkers or wheelchairs
- Families who feel out of place at standard playgrounds
- Grandparents who want to accompany their grandchildren to the playground, or who want to utilize the equipment themselves (swinging helps tremendously with the vestibular system)
- Kids with extra sensory needs
- All of us!

What makes a playground “Inclusive”?

- Goes above & beyond ADA requirements
- Poured-in-place rubber surfacing for even terrain
- Ramp systems, transfer stations, special seating
- Full fencing for utmost safety
- Elements that promote parallel play
- Adequate shading and respite spaces



Inclusive playgrounds encourage play, which leads to a mutual understanding, friendships, and a true feeling of community.

