Joy Playground Project, in Collaboration with Parents for Joy

The Vision

What Is Parents For Joy?
Parents for Joy is a group of parents and families of children with special needs in and around the small town of Atascadero, California. The group is working on designing and building a playground that accommodates the needs of their loved ones. This playground will have features that are accessible to people of all degrees of mobility and agility, and that promotes safety and inclusivity.

Mission Statement
*Parents For Joy is a group of parents, families, and friends living in and around the small town of Atascadero, who have children with special needs. Our community is in need of a playground that will enhance the safety and involvement of children with special needs, such as Autism and Spectrum Disorders, Sensory Processing Disorders, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Visual Impairment, just to name a few. Our vision is to one day see our children playing together with other children, raising awareness, and building friendships. And, of course, having fun! This playground isn’t just for children with special needs, it’s for everybody!*

The Product
The project required a lot of close communication with subcontractors. Because of the large amount of donations provided to fund the project in finances and materials, close contact and communication with subcontractors and owners was required throughout the projects entirety. However, the hard work paid off and the final product delivered to stakeholder expectations by achieving all their requested special accommodations. The children, our biggest stakeholders, were enthralled by the playground and all of the different methods of accessible entertainment it had to offer.

The Site
Goal: to create an inclusive playground that will allow all children to do what most kids take for granted: to simply play.

Special Equipment

Renderings

The Project
1. $1,100,000 Playground provided by Parents for Joy to the City of Atascadero.
2. Fully accessible “Treehouse” play structure with ramped entrance.
3. 12 Swings including several special and adaptive versions.
4. Several play structures objects accommodating wheelchairs.
5. Pour-In-Place Rubber provides accessibility across entire playground while maintaining safety from abrasion.

The Purpose
1. Provide a playground which enhances the safety and involvement of children with special needs.
2. Provide Atascadero Community the first entirely accessible playground area on the Central Coast.
3. Build a community playground which allows severely disabled children to enjoy as many parts of the park as possible, regardless of individual needs.
4. Design-Build a park that respects the requests of hundreds of stakeholders including the City of Atascadero and Investors.

On behalf of Nicholas Vollucci and Harrison Tucker, we would like to thank everybody who helped with the project, most notably, our sponsors and fundraisers. In addition, the Parents for Joy organization raised money and extended their generosity in time and hard work. We would like to thank our advisor, Phil Barlow for his assistance and direction on this rewarding opportunity. We also would like to thank Taylor Hamill, Cal Poly alumnus and lead project manager, for being a close mentor and giving us a great ‘Learn by Doing’ approach to our Senior Project. It was an honor to be involved.

OCTOBER 2018 - GROUNDBREAKING

FEBRUARY 2019 - ERECTION OF MAIN STRUCTURE

APRIL 2019 - GRAND OPENING