



**"Play....Shapes the brain, opens the imagination, and invigorates the soul."**  
Stuart Brown, M.D.



## Vision & Mission

Unlimited Play is an award winning non-profit organization that builds universally accessible playgrounds to promote health and wellness while transforming communities by providing the freedom of play for ALL children and families.

The majority of playgrounds around the world deny children, adults, and Veterans with disabilities the opportunity for recreation, enrichment, and social interaction which other people enjoy. In fact, only a small percentage of fully accessible playgrounds exist within our nation and these are insufficient to serve the 56.7 million Americans with Disabilities – 18.7% of our population. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010)

Unlimited Play addresses this shortfall by providing a place where people of all abilities play together, learn from one another, value differences and find strength to overcome challenges.

## Our History

Unlimited Play was founded in 2003 by Natalie and Todd Blakemore, inspired by their son Zachary who was unable to play on typical playgrounds. Their mission was to build the community's first universally accessible playground in Lake St. Louis. After opening what soon became a destination playground, the need for more playgrounds like Zachary's quickly became obvious.

More groups are recognizing the differences between a typical playground and an Unlimited Play Playground. Unlimited Play is happy to extend our design expertise, community engagement strategies, and fund development services to communities throughout North America.

**"We need to see more playgrounds like this, in as many communities as possible so there is never a time when someone can't use a playground."**

*Brent, father after sharing his experience of being an adult with a disability unable to play with his children on the playground*





**"Playgrounds make me feel powerful."**  
 Brendan, age 9  
*namesake of Brendan's Playground*



### Playground Development and Design

Together, we can create your destination playground that will greatly impact your community for generations to come. Our partnership includes assembling a local team to lead the project and together outlining the process from start to finish. Unlimited Play has become the expert in universal design through first-hand experience of having children with both disabilities and critical illnesses. Additionally, valuable insight has been collected from children, parents of children with disabilities, Veterans, therapists, and play experts. Our design is very mindful of the many challenges that people face and is dedicated to creating a play space for every person regardless of what they can or cannot do.

### Playground Fundraising for an Unlimited Play Playground

Unlimited Play has a growing number of donors and mission focused partners that can help fund the costs of your Unlimited Play Playground. Mobilizing resources by exploring, identifying and securing project funders are valuable services that can make an Unlimited Play Playground within your reach. Unlimited Play will assist you to leverage key opportunities to raise both awareness and funds. Helping to coordinate special events including Project Kick-off, Community Build and a Dedication Ceremony are all great opportunities to engage and educate the community, banding together for a common cause.

### Play Makers' Training & Workshops

Unlimited Play offers formal trainings, webinars, and informational kits addressing our successful models and the challenges we have overcome along the way. We specialize in helping businesses, schools, organizations and any other groups fully understand the importance of both inclusive play spaces and inclusive play experiences.

### Play Day for ALL Programming

Play Day for ALL Programs bring children of abilities together as well as wounded Veterans so they too can enjoy the benefits of playtime with their children. Unlimited Play works with teachers, youth leaders, parent groups, Veterans groups and other members of the community to greater embrace Unlimited Play's inclusive principles. Teaching the next generation the importance of understanding while honoring one another's life circumstances leads to powerful life changing experiences.

## What We Offer

**We believe that an Unlimited Play Playground should be within REACH for every community, every family, and every child.**

Our goal is to help communities plan, design, fundraise, build and celebrate fully accessible playgrounds. We understand the cost and commitment it takes to create a play space such as this and can help every step of the way. We offer a wide variety of services to educate stakeholders, engage the community, and support a successful project. We promise to help you...



- R**ally the community around the project with use of media, events, and speaking engagements
- E**ducate stakeholders on the benefits of play, exercise and accessibility
- A**ccess resources within your community including philanthropic funding sources
- C**reate a custom design that is above and beyond ADA standards, truly bringing the benefits of play and joy of inclusivity to EVERYONE
- H**elp and Support the entire project management - from design to build to opening!

Unlimited Play does not take a cookie cutter approach and tailors our services to meet the unique needs of each community and their project goals.



*Community Build, Brendan's Playground*



# Community Impact

Unlimited Play has already had a powerful impact on over 500,000 children's lives and their families by giving ALL children the chance to play and ALL families the opportunity to play alongside their children.



Brendan's Playground, O' Fallon, MO, was dedicated to a crowd of 1,300 people including the many stakeholders and donors who supported its development. Unlimited Play Playgrounds quickly become a destination playground attracting schools, organizations, therapy professionals, and families from over 100 miles away.

**"City of O' Fallon installed Brendan's Playground, the most popular and unique playground in the City, and Unlimited Play helped to lead the entire effort and complete the project in an incredibly short time. More importantly, the playground continues to be filled by hundreds of families with children of all abilities on a daily basis."**

Honorable Bill Hennessy, Mayor of O' Fallon



Zachary's Playground opened in Lake St. Louis, Missouri in April 2007. The largest and the very first Unlimited Play Playground at approximately 15,000 square feet. This award winning playground has an imaginative castle/ship theme, small children's theatre, water splash pad, small shelter, a pavilion and more.



Discovery Playground is located in St. Charles, Missouri and opened in October 2012. This adventurous themed playground is approximately 8,000 square feet and includes a water play splash pad that resembles the Missouri bluffs, chess tables sheltered by a Pergola, 2 small shelters, one large pavilion, a metal artistic apple entwined by fruit bearing vines, and more.



Tree Top Playground is located in Clayton, Missouri and opened October 2010. At approximately 7,500 square feet, this playground has a whimsical tree house theme and includes a water splash pad, sensory garden, harmonic musical instruments, pavilion and more.



Brendan's Playground is located in O' Fallon, Missouri and opened October 2011. Voted #1 by a local magazine, this approximately 9,000 square feet zany themed playground includes 2 picnic shelters, large surface piano, harmonic musical instruments, water splash pad and more.

**"You can tell a lot about a community by what it provides for its children. Unlimited Play playgrounds speak volumes about what a community values and believes in."**

Victoria, Community Engagement Director





## JOIN THE MOVEMENT:

Together, let's make an Unlimited Play Playground within reach for every community, every family, and every child and greater enhance the understanding for inclusivity and respecting differences

- Donate to support the mission
- Sponsor an inclusive playground, piece of equipment or a Play Maker Training/Workshop
- Provide in-kind valuable services and materials (Wish List available)
- Volunteer your time and talents

**"More Veterans are returning home from war with more injuries than ever before. They too need a place to take their children to play."**  
Veterans group organizer

## CONTACT US:

To learn more about teaming up with Unlimited Play and our valuable services of:

**Playground Development and Design**

**Playground Fundraising for an Unlimited Play Playground**

**Play Makers Training and Workshops**

**Play Day for ALL Programming**



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**"I am totally going to have a dream about this playground."**

Addie, age 8  
after visiting Zachary's Playground,  
Lake St. Louis, MO

**"Where limitations are forgotten, and differences are celebrated."**

All gifts are tax deductible.