



**Bennett's
Village**
a place for ALL to play

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BENNETT'S VILLAGE RECEIVES \$100,000 MATCHING GRANT FROM
PERRY FOUNDATION**

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – November 2, 2023– Bennett's Village, a non-profit dedicated to building a multigenerational, all-abilities play space at Pen Park in Charlottesville, Virginia has received a \$100,000 matching grant from the Perry Foundation. Bennett's Village must match Perry's grant with an additional \$100,000 in new funding for this project. When the match is met, Bennett's Village will have raised the half million dollars needed to complete Phase One of the project—an accessible treehouse and path through the woods behind the current playground. Groundbreaking for the treehouse is scheduled for next spring.

"We are so excited by this news," says Kara McClurken, Bennett's Village President. "The Perry Foundation has a reputation for investing in community projects that have lasting community impact. The treehouse and accessible path is the first part of our plan to build a truly accessible outdoor play space in Charlottesville."

To date, Bennett's Village has raised \$58,000 of the \$100,000 needed to complete the match and intends to raise the remaining funds by the end of the calendar year.

Bennett's Village is named after Bennett McClurken-Gibney, a five year old who had a dream of a community play space where he could play independently in his wheelchair with his family and friends. Bennett passed away in 2018 but his dream is coming closer to reality with every dollar raised.

For more information on how you can help Bennett's Village meet the \$100,000 matching grant, visit us online at <https://bennettsvillage.org/donate>.