

Bennett's Village

Bennett's Village is named after a little boy named Bennett. He had an amazing rock collection and spent endless hours sorting his rocks—he knew every single one by its color, shape, and size. He adored his big sister as they shared snuggles, disco bath parties, and racing. Bennett lived with Spinal Muscular Atrophy. He had an amazing capacity for joy (and mischief) that was infectious and far exceeded the limits of his body.

Bennett also *loved* to play. His power wheelchair gave him amazing independence. But local parks and playgrounds are not designed to allow folks in wheelchairs to easily play side by side with their peers. Bennett dreamed of a place in his community where he could play with his family and friends. When he passed away suddenly, his community decided to help make his dream come true.



FROM THE COMMUNITY

"My daughter, Darlene, is a three year old full time AAC [Augmentative and Alternative Communication] user. She gets so excited every time we go to Pen Park and she sees the communication board! She loves that it has symbols/words that match her device—there are no other public places where she has this experience. Darlene really enjoys when other kids engage with her using the board. Having the communication board is a great step in creating a play environment that supports the inclusion of all children!"

- Tricia Wilkins

When we design for the most vulnerable/least considered, we design for all.

Join us in spreading Bennett's light by helping to make his vision of a place for ALL to play a reality in Charlottesville. Community support in the form of donations, volunteering, and advocacy is essential to this project, as we are raising over \$6 million dollars to create this extraordinary 4-acre playspace. Won't you help Bennett's dream come to life?



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| 1 Little People Area | 4 Balance Challenge | 8 Nature Play |
| 2 Splash Pad + Water Play Area | 5 Adult Mobility Area | 9 Merry-Go-Round |
| 3 Hide and Seek Playspace | 6 Sensory Play | 10 Zipline |
| 4 Swings and Green Space | 7 Treehouse | 11 Parkour Track + Climbing Tower |

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