



Shaw Family Playground, first universally designed playground, coming to Evergreen Park in 2018

Sheboygan County schools and parks currently have no fully accessible ADA playgrounds. The mission of this project is to remove every barrier possible to allow each and every child the opportunity to experience unorganized, imaginative play alongside their peers on a safe and accessible playground. For many children, so often left out on the sidelines, this will be their first experience at inclusive play and unrestrained FUN!



Ryan and Angie Shaw became parents to conjoined twins when Angie gave birth to Mateo and McHale in 2006. In September of that year, a team of 65 medical professionals spent 19 hours separating the spinal cord the boys shared. Knowing the challenges their children would encounter inspired the Shaws to build a universally designed playground, so they went into action in 2008. Now the boys are healthy, in school and have friends they want to share a playground and park with. Construction will begin in the Spring of 2018 on the southeast corner of Evergreen Park in Sheboygan.

This will be the first playground of its kind in Sheboygan County. This will be a fully accessible playground, for children of all abilities. Part of the fundraising includes the sale of fence pickets for \$100 per family and \$250 per business. The donation of a Fence picket could make an excellent and unique Christmas gift. Each fence picket has room for 17 characters for the family or business name.



The Shaw family has partnered with the Sheboygan Jaycees, who are providing support and the ability to access the group's 501-(c)(3) status, which makes all donations tax deductible. The Jaycees will also be managing the long term endowment fund the city can access to ensure the playground remains accessible and properly maintained. The fundraising effort is at 42% of their \$1,000,050 goal.

The City of Sheboygan has gifted property within the city's Evergreen Park and will provide in-kind labor for site preparation and partnership in new restroom facilities. Steven Schmitt of Jos. Schmitt & Sons is leading the Lakeshore Area Fund Raising and Community Volunteer Construction efforts together with other community leaders, individuals and organizations. A sign of the future build can be seen on the corner of Calumet and Pine Grove Avenue. For more information see the website at shawfamilyplayground.com