



project playground

where fun meets learning



What's Project Playground?

It started with a dream, and it's quickly becoming a reality. Project Playground is a fundraising project for an exciting prospective addition to the Heartspring campus: An autism-friendly school playground!

For many years, we have dreamed of adding a special needs-adapted playground to our school. The more we saw the need, the more we wished we could one day give this gift to our students. Today, we are excited to announce we have a plan. We have partnered with ATHCO, LLC to design and build the playground of our dreams.

The addition of this playground is more than just a new swing set, climber, and slide; it signifies infinite possibilities for children ages 5-21 to continue learning and growing in a safe—and fun—environment.

Our goal is to start construction July 1st, 2019.

What is an autism-friendly playground, and why is it important?

For the children served at Heartspring, play is a critical component of their education. Our school serves children impacted by autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other developmental disabilities. We provide an educational setting where children can reach their highest potential and find a path to greater independence.

What makes this playground unique is the mindful design for children of all ages and sizes, the natural color choices, and spatial design allowing for group or individual play. With more than 20 sensory activities, children can create their own adventure.

Through play, children at Heartspring learn to appropriately and safely socialize with their peers, practice language skills, and even partake in certain daily-living activities such as mobility, safety, and leisure time and recreation.

This playground is also an important opportunity for those children who cannot attend outings. Due to safety, some children do not get to join their peers on recreational trips. However, with this playground, children will have the chance to continue learning and having fun with their peers, siblings, and family in a safe, controlled environment.

What's the fundraising goal?

The project in itself is **\$200,000** for the main area. This includes a state-of-the-art rubber surface and adapted playground equipment to ensure the safety of students.

We have **\$100,000** set aside for the project, and we hope to raise an additional **\$100,000** with the help of our generous donors, community supporters, parents, and partners.

With an additional **\$65,000**, we make our dream playground even better and include the second area with the stepper rock climber, peak rock climber, and wglay fun glider.

With your support, students can learn, have fun, and live the lives they deserve.

Join us in fundraising for Project Playground, an exciting promise of hope, discovery, and endless possibilities for the children of Heartspring.



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[Heartspring.org/playground](https://heartspring.org/playground)