

# 2025

## ANNUAL REPORT

Creating play, dignity, and social connection for children with disabilities through inclusive playgrounds and education programs that unite children of all abilities



## WELCOME

At Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration, our commitment remains strong: to ensure that every child, regardless of ability, has the chance to experience the joy of play, discovery, and growth. In this report, we invite you to reflect with us on the meaningful progress we've achieved over the past year. As we continue to expand our vision, we celebrate the strength and perseverance of the children and families who inspire us daily. Your support is vital to our mission of building an inclusive world where belonging knows no barriers. Thank you for joining us on this journey.

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# LETTER FROM OUR CEO

## **TOGETHER, WE SOAR!**

From the very first moment the idea of this organization was formed to today, with 80 playgrounds on five continents and an education program in 67 countries, every step has been guided through the principle of, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go **TOGETHER.**" This is the heart of what carries this mission forward into communities throughout the world, ensuring that every child is welcomed into the heart of their community.



We recently held a community meeting with 30 children to discover what they would love to see in an inclusive playground that is being developed for one of their local parks. We began by asking them to share their favorite memory of play. They shared about **SOARING** on swings so high they almost touched the sky, about spinning and sliding, running and laughing and, without fail, each one described a memory of playing **TOGETHER** with friends or family on a playground...something that children with disabilities are too often denied. This fact is not only heartbreaking, but also fundamentally impacts a multitude of developmental milestones physically, emotionally and socially for children with disabilities.

The mission of Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration ensures that every child's play needs are integrated into the unique design of each inclusive playground we develop. These designs are guided by our Professional Advisory Board and take into consideration a wide spectrum of children of all abilities, creating unique play environments that allow children to play **TOGETHER** in sensory rich, challenging, and engaging ways!

Our education program directly impacts thousands of children every year by bringing them **TOGETHER** on the playground following in-class workshops that explore harmful misconceptions about disabilities. These field trips, that take place on one of our inclusive playgrounds, provide critical social opportunities between children with disabilities and their typically developing peers, supporting a life skill that is rarely offered and desperately important as they learn to navigate the social terrain of play, school, and into adulthood at work! This is also a wonderful opportunity for reciprocity between children of all abilities and they learn they share far more similarities than their differences.

As a member of the United Nations with Special Consultative Status, we have an opportunity to convene with global leaders who are champions of the rights of persons with disabilities! We are honored to have this platform to raise our mission's voice on the importance of creating play and social connection opportunities that bring children of all abilities **TOGETHER** throughout the world.

None of this would be possible if we had to travel this path alone. It is only possible because we have traveled **TOGETHER**, with each of you who have made certain that this mission has been supported every step of the way for 28 years! **TOGETHER**, you ensure that every child has a chance to **SOAR**, on the playground and into a future of possibilities! We couldn't be more grateful!

Tiffany Harris  
Co-Founder / CEO  
Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration

# SOARING SUPERHEROES

My family's journey through almost 30 years in and of this community has continuously opened my eyes and my heart. Everyday I find something new to celebrate, either in my son's life or in the community - like all those who are creating from a place of love and authenticity .

My son not only happens to use a wheelchair and a talking computer to communicate, he is really into classical music and has been since he was about 4 when he saw a sesame street episode where the characters went to the Boston Pops to see the orchestra. And one of the things I have learned from my son in his journey through classical music, is all about Beethoven's masterpiece, Symphony No. 3: Eroica It starts with a call of attention, listen up, continues with a call from fate, in an uneasy progression of minor sequences that keep leading you places, down deeper. It even has a section that mocks one of his contemporaries who on one occasion made fun of him.... But the most striking part of this piece, is a chord. It is a chord that had never been heard before. It is a cord that had never been written before. It is a dissonant group of notes. Imagine, we feel today that we have probably heard everything there is to hear or at least what we would define as an unexplainable range of sound and musical style. But it was new, And it changed the course of music. It is thought that this chord is an expression of Beethoven's frustration of the onset of his deafness.



And there it is. Born out of the not ordinary there is the extraordinary. But if he had chosen to hide these feelings, we would never have had this progression. Being true and honest about who you are and how you feel and creating from that place changes the course of history.

My son was rolling down the halls of his high school one day and there were art and social studies projects being built by a class out of door frames. On one side of the door was the stereotypical view of a subject, condition, belief, religion and on the other side was the truth about that subject. There happened to be one on physical disability, stairs on one side of the door and a ramp on the other. Cool, right? On the perceived notions side there were the words disabled, dependent, hopeless, helpless. And on the true side they had written the sentence, "I wish my mind wasn't trapped in this body." My son's assistant, saw this and told the young women who were working on this project that this statement was not the true feelings of all people who happen to have disabilities, and that maybe some of their schoolmates could enlighten them. So, the interviews began and my son's response to how he felt about himself was, "I am courageous, proud, strong..." and as the interviews of other schoolmates progressed, the words flowed to include, "smart, friendly, happy and loving." The art project won first place and was shown at The Getty. That is how you change the world. That is how things change. You speak up.

We all know that when we are going to have a baby that they will change OUR world. But sometimes there is a child who comes into our lives that make us want to change THE WORLD!! And that's what Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration has done. Changed the world one acre at a time and in doing so they have changed minds, and built a doorway beyond the preconceived notions about abilities, to a world where all kids can play together! Everyone wants to have a friend or at the very least a moment of connection. Even if that's tricky, even if that's difficult. Just being together changes all of us, sharing our feelings changes all of us. Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration has proved that creating something that everyone can use and enjoy changes all of us.

Everyone wants a turn on the swing, everyone wants to get to the top of the play structure, and when its built so everyone can use it, well maybe then we can all see eye to eye.

*Laura San Giacomo*

We have had the great privilege of knowing and working alongside Allison Cameron Gray since she was 9 years old! She is one of the most diversely accomplished women we know - a playwright, actress, comedian, artist, advocate, with a degree in psychology. With a sharp, joyful wit, she never shies away from any challenge. Her keen insight into navigating the world with a disability informs our education programs and organizational growth in priceless ways. We are truly blessed to have Allison in our midst.

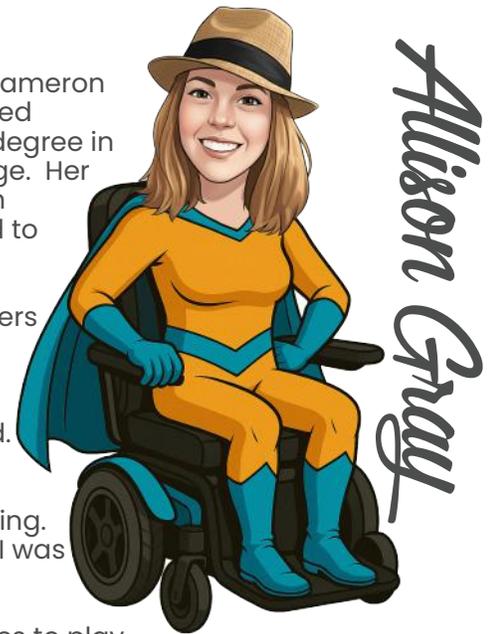
We sat down with Allison to hear more about her journey with Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration. Here's what she shared:

My first memory of being involved with Inclusion Matters is at a dreaming and design party when I was 9. I was paired with a girl who was able-bodied. I told her my ideas for my dream playground and she drew them. The most important piece of play equipment for me was having a swing with a back. I love swinging, but don't have the strength to support myself on a regular swing. When I was holding a shovel at the groundbreaking for the first playground, I was dedicated to this organization.

The most important aspects of the mission are bringing children of all abilities to play. This breaks down the biases for able-bodied children and allows children with disabilities to play without limitations. I love how the education department goes to schools and teaches students about disabilities. This normalizes having a disability.

As an intern my focus on the mission is breaking down biases about people with disabilities. The students can ask me questions before the field trip. It's good for them to hear about what life is like with a disability from someone who lives with one. It also benefits the children with disabilities to see an adult with a disability living a full life and being an active member of the community.

The mission of Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration has the ability to change the world because it breaks down barriers for children with disabilities. Through the act of play, children learn they have more commonalities than differences. An accessible playground allows a child with a disability to just be a child. They don't have to worry about whether or not their wheelchair can go on the play equipment. They are free to be themselves and play with their peers as they wish.



## Gabriele Jenkins

When Gabriele Jenkins first walked through our doors on November 14, 2011, asking to volunteer, none of us could have imagined the extraordinary gift we were receiving. Fourteen years later, she is still showing up—steadfast, dedicated, and ready to take on whatever the day brings. Gabriele quickly became our regular Office Volunteer and, over time, has become an essential part of our IMSI family. Raised in Germany and Italy, she developed a strong work ethic that later shaped a long and successful career managing a construction company. Even after retiring, Gabriele felt her work wasn't done; she still had so much to give, and we are grateful she chose to give it here.



Every week, Gabriele arrives with her trademark sense of humor, telling us to “keep the old broad busy!”—and we gladly oblige. We keep a running list of tasks awaiting the “Gabriele touch,” because she can do just about anything with skill and precision. From filing, making name tags, and organizing boxes to sorting donations, stuffing thank-you letters, and preparing invitations, Gabriele approaches each job with care and quiet excellence. She is smart as a whip, endlessly resourceful, and has a knack for bringing order to any chaos. When Gabriele is in the office, you know it—not just because work is getting done, but because Mozart or Beethoven is floating through the halls alongside her laughter.

Over the years, Gabriele has shared her stories, her wisdom, and her heart with all of us. She has been a steady, maternal presence for our staff, offering encouragement, perspective, and warmth whenever it's needed most. Her superpowers—her diligence, wit, generosity, and unwavering spirit have strengthened our organization in ways that go far beyond her volunteer tasks. We are honored to recognize Gabriele Jenkins not only for all she does but also for the extraordinary person she is. Our office—and our lives—are better because she is part of our team.

# EVENTS

There is a window from one heart to another heart. — Rumi

## Heart to Heart Gala

On March 21, 2025, Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration hosted its unforgettable Heart to Heart Gala at the stunning Taglyan Complex in Hollywood. The evening overflowed with passion, purpose, and a whole lot of heart.

The night opened with a powerful, standing ovation performance by Chelsie Hill and Paul Barris, accompanied by virtuoso violinist Niv Ashkenazi. Guests were deeply moved by the casts and directors of *The Paper Bag Plan* and *Plight*—two powerful feature films starring actors with disabilities that spotlighted authentic stories and inclusive representation.

Before dinner, the IMSI Youth Choir brought the room to its feet with a joyful rendition of "I Get By with a Little Help from My Friends." Guests then enjoyed a beautifully presented meal, followed by a high-energy live auction led by Nick Di Nieri.

One of the most heartfelt moments of the evening was the presentation of the Social Impact Entrepreneur Award to Chelsie Hill, Founder and CEO of the Rollettes. Her leadership and advocacy for women and girls with disabilities truly embody the spirit of inclusion.

The night concluded with a show-stopping performance by the Rollettes and a lively dance party.

**Save the date:** Saturday, February 21, 2026, for our next magical evening—The Roaring Inclusion Gala! Get your tickets or become a sponsor at [inclusionmatters.org/gala](https://inclusionmatters.org/gala).



## Swing for Inclusion Golf Challenge

In May, Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration proudly hosted our 11th Annual Golf Challenge: Swing for Inclusion at the beautiful Angeles National Golf Club in Sunland, California. With aloha spirit in the air, the day was filled with community, connection, and friendly competition—all in support of inclusive play for children of all abilities.

We were honored to recognize the incredible Mark Demos from Crowe for his outstanding dedication and leadership. Mark's commitment has made a lasting impact, and we are deeply grateful for his continued support.

Our heartfelt thanks go to Golf Chair Ed Czajka, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Preferred Bank, and our amazing Golf Committee: Anthony Abrahamian, Steven Bloom, Conner Boyd, Blaise Davis, Mark Demos, Jonny Mars, Kristen Mays, and Brett McClure. Their passion and teamwork made the event a true success.

Thanks to our generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers, guests enjoyed tropical-themed tastings, interactive games, and festive swag at every hole—all while raising vital funds to support our free educational and community programs.

Save the date for Monday, May 18, 2026, for our 12th Annual Golf Challenge! Whether you're a seasoned golfer or a first-timer, join us for a day full of aloha, laughter, and lasting impact.

For more information and registration, visit [inclusionmatters.org/golf](https://inclusionmatters.org/golf).



" To be included means everything to a child with special needs."

## 28th Annual Run, Walk & Roll – Mission: Inclusion

On September 14, 2025, more than 600 participants gathered at Shane's Inspiration Playground in Griffith Park for our 28th Annual Run, Walk & Roll, presented by Wells Fargo. It was a joyful day of movement, community, and inclusive play for children of all abilities.

ABC7 Reporter Josh Haskell and Inclusion Matters Co-Founder Scott Williams co-emceed the Opening Ceremony, bringing heart, humor, and purpose to the stage. Special guest Coco Atama, known as the Blind Thrasher, shared inspiring remarks about the City of Los Angeles' PlayLA adaptive sports program. A crowd favorite was the appearance by the 501st Legion and Rebel Legion—beloved Star Wars fan groups who brought smiles and photo ops throughout the park. With the help of over 150 incredible volunteers, the event ran smoothly and created a welcoming space for all.

This year, the impact extended nationwide, with satellite teams joining in from New Jersey, Iowa, Colorado, and Northern California, spreading our mission of inclusion across the country.

Thanks to peer-to-peer fundraisers and generous sponsors, we raised over \$180,000 to support our free community outreach and education programs. We're especially grateful to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, and to Jorge Ramos for his years of service.

**Save the date:** Sunday, September 27, 2026.  
Learn more at [inclusionmatters.org/runwalkroll](https://inclusionmatters.org/runwalkroll).



*"The greatest distance we cover isn't measured in miles, but in the lives we touch when we give from the heart."*

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## My PlayClub

My PlayClub is our free, bi-monthly community outreach program that brings children of all abilities together for inclusive playdates at playgrounds across Los Angeles. Each event features fun-filled activities like crafts, themed games, snacks, and—most importantly—time to play together on our inclusive playgrounds.

This year, we were grateful for the support of generous sponsors including Lakeshore, Crowe, Valley Beth Shalom Early Childhood Center, Disney VoluntEARS, Universal Studios Hollywood, and FOX, who helped create joyful memories for hundreds of families.

In March, following the Los Angeles wildfires, we hosted My PlayClub: Healing Through Play at our Pasadena playground. With leadership from Board Member Jane Park (Google Kids & Family), and in partnership with Dr. Anna Housley Juster, Ph.D., LICSW, and Sue Gaon of Lakeshore Learning, the event provided play-based support to affected families. Universal Studios Hollywood employees volunteered to bring the day to life.

In December, My PlayClub: Westwood Wonderland took place at Aidan's Place Playground. Aidan's brother, Declan Gaffney, brought FOX Sports ABLE ERG on board as a sponsor, along with a heartfelt donation from the Gaffney Family. We were grateful to FOX employees who donated \$1,750, and with FOX's 200% match, their combined contribution exceeded \$5,000. Highlights included a performance by Harvard-Westlake's Cadence for a Cause and a book reading by Chloe Chong Kim.

We are especially grateful to our teen volunteers who serve as play buddies and help make each gathering truly inclusive.

Learn more or sign up to volunteer at [inclusionmatters.org/my-playclub](http://inclusionmatters.org/my-playclub).



# PROGRAMS



## Inspiration from the Playground

Each year, Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration has the honor of bringing students with and without disabilities together through our powerful education program, Together, We Are Able. Combining classroom workshops with interactive field trips to our inclusive playgrounds, students learn to see beyond their differences and discover their common ground through the joyful act of play.

Now in its 23rd year, Together, We Are Able has impacted over 60,000 students throughout Los Angeles, the United States and worldwide! The program has been replicated globally, with our teacher training curriculum reaching 67 countries. Each field trip inspires moments of true and organic inclusion, as students begin building social and emotional connections through play. Last school year, we hosted a field trip for Notre Dame High School's Immersion Program and Lokrantz Special Education Center at our flagship playground, Shane's Inspiration, in Griffith Park. The students had never met each other before. After being introduced, they began to explore the playground together.

Halfway into the day, one Notre Dame student called everyone over to the trike path at the far end of the playground. He spontaneously set up a wheelchair race. Both schools came over to the start line. At the call, "Ready, Set, Go!"...they were off!

Notre Dame students ran alongside their new friends from Lokrantz, while others pushed their wheelchairs...bright smiles and laughter on all the students' faces. They started and finished the race together, while students cheered them on. One Lokrantz student ran the first race with his buddy and his teacher, hand-in-hand. For the second race, his teacher stood back and celebrated this moment of play while his two new friends ran with him around the track.

The day ended with high fives, hugs, and new connections that left an indelible mark on all of the students, teachers, aids, and our staff.

At Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration's playgrounds, far more happens than just a day of play. There is learning in vital moments that despite apparent differences, all children want to be seen, valued, and celebrated just as they are. All children deserve to be fully included.



## Inclusion has Stepped Up in Early Childhood Education!

During the 2024 and 2025 school year, thanks to the expert guidance of our Early Childhood Advisory Board, Inclusive STEPS was born. This self-paced, free online training tool gives early childhood educators and assistants tools to:

- Embed inclusive social/emotional learning through play, literacy, and more
- Reorganize their play spaces and classrooms to support neurodiverse learners
- Develop play-based communication strategies for children who are non-speaking
- Facilitate social inclusion and connection through play
- Create a school-wide approach to sustain inclusion

Thanks to a wonderful partnership with Lakeshore Learning, educators have access to an inclusive library, educational toys, music, and sensory tools to implement the research-backed strategies provided in the training program.

To date, 206 educators and university students have piloted Inclusive STEPS throughout Culver City and Glendale Unified School Districts and SUNY Cortland University in New York! The evaluations have reflected both the need for and efficacy of this training:

- 85% reported a positive shift in perceptions about inclusion
- 95% gained a greater understanding of best practices in social inclusion
- 95% gained inclusion tools that can be implemented today

### Some participants reflected:

*"I think I was close-minded to how many things I could do to include everyone. I didn't realize they're so many strategies that are available." – Paige*

*"I feel inclusion hasn't been implemented much in my life and by learning so much, I can see how just implementing so many things in a daily life cycle can inspire such a proactive environment so no one feels left out." – Andrew*

*"This gave me the tools to shift my practices for students that need positive interactions, new SEL techniques, and how to create adaptable environments for all students with and without disabilities." – Michelle*

This school year, Inclusive STEPS is steppin' out! We will be taking the training throughout California, meeting a critical need in early childhood centers statewide.



## LA...UNIFIED: Celebrating Students of ALL Abilities!

Teaming up for year number three, we continue to partner with the Los Angeles Unified School District across the LA region for Inclusive Schools Week 2025!

Created by the Inclusive Schools Network, this annual, nationwide initiative shines a spotlight on best practices in inclusive education. Thanks to our partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District's Division of Special Education, "Inclusive Schools Week LA...UNIFIED!" is the largest celebration in the second largest district in the nation. A total of 143 schools have participated to date.

2025's theme, "Children First: Building A Stronger Tomorrow," will inspire schools from pre-school to 12th grade to celebrate the connection and value of children of ALL abilities through collaborative art projects, music, dance, sports, play and more!

Last year, our team worked with Limerick Elementary to create a day that encouraged 760 students with and without disabilities to make some joyful noise! They drummed, played adaptive sports, explored inclusive theater, and played. Joining us were honored guests from LAUSD: Dr. Karla Estrada, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction and Anthony Aguilar, Chief of Special Education, Equity, and Access. The event was kicked off with our very own Co-Founder, Scott Williams!

The students at O'Melveny Elementary School created a playful pathway on their campus thanks to event sponsor Fit & Fun Playscapes, who donated a set of their award-winning stencils for the second year! The students were led through a universal design workshop, discovering what elements are needed to create a play space for all students. Then, they broke into groups and started designing. The winning design was painted onto the school blacktop by teachers and staff. The next day... students with and without disabilities christened the newly created space with joy, laughter, and inclusive play.

This annual celebration is a powerful testament to community, connection, and inclusion. We couldn't be more grateful to our partnership with LAUSD and to Inclusive Schools Week 2025's Sponsors and Partners: Brookes Publishing, Fit & Fun Playscapes LLC, Otter Reading, PlayLA, PlayLearn, and more!

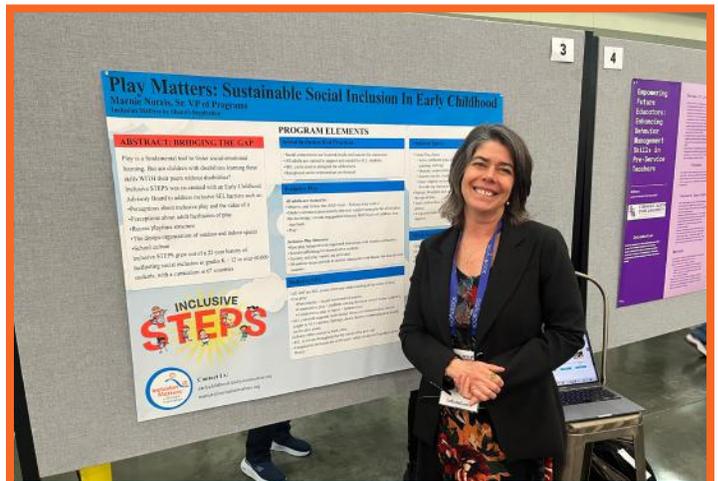


## Education in Action

Each year, we present at conferences both nationally and internationally to share best practices in inclusive design, social inclusion, play, and more. This allows us to amplify this powerful mission.

In March 2025, we were honored to present for the first time at the Council for Exceptional Children, the largest association for special education teachers and staff. Over 4,000 educators attended the conference, where we shared Inclusive STEPS, our early childhood educator training program.

We had the honor of connecting with powerful partners, like Lakeshore Learning, who created a wonderful tool kit of sensory-supportive, social emotional learning tools for teachers to utilize the research-based strategies highlighted in Inclusive STEPS.



# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



## Taylor Carty VENICE HOPE PROJECT

At Inclusion Matters by Shane’s Inspiration, we know childhood is shaped by moments of connection – racing down slides, climbing monkey bars, or laughing through a carefree game of tag. But for many children with disabilities, these everyday experiences are often inaccessible because playgrounds were never designed for them.

Taylor Carty understands this firsthand. Growing up without an inclusive playground, she often watched classmates play from the sidelines. While she later

found accessible after-school programs that supported her growth, many of her peers did not – a silent form of exclusion communicated through design rather than words. Today, Taylor is turning that experience into meaningful change.

Through the UCLA Health Equity Challenge, she is leading a thoughtful and ambitious proposal to transform Venice Hope Park – the only park serving families around California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) and the Hope Street Margolis Family Center. The need is profound: Hope Street’s 2024 Head Start report shows that 25% of enrolled children have disabilities or other functional challenges, and its 2023 Impact Report reveals that more than one-third of families with children under five live below the federal poverty line.

For families navigating poverty and limited resources, accessible recreation is rarely available – or even considered. And when new playgrounds are built, a critical question is often missed: Who are we building for?

With partners including Inclusion Matters by Shane’s Inspiration, CHMC, and Hope Street, Taylor is helping redefine the answer. Her project will bring inclusive, sensory-friendly play equipment to the park and engage local families through “Play for All Design Days” and an Accessible Build Day, ensuring the playground truly reflects the community’s voice.

These enhancements will support a broad range of physical and sensory needs, helping reduce disparities created by inaccessible environments. They foster movement, social connection, confidence, and belonging – the foundation of healthy childhood development and community wellness.

Through her leadership, Taylor demonstrates what’s possible when inclusion leads the way. She isn’t just building a playground; she’s reshaping expectations and inspiring others to imagine more equitable spaces.

Because of superheroes like Taylor, we continue to prove that when playgrounds include everyone, communities soar.

Venice Hope information:  
[inclusionmatters.org/healthequity](https://inclusionmatters.org/healthequity)



This is a draft design. Final playground design will be guided through community input.

# INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUNDS

## Elysian Park Inclusive Playground

Opening in December 2025



Look for your  
**Grand Opening**  
invitation soon!

## GLOBAL HAPPENINGS

### KwaZulu-Natal Children's Hospital



We have the gift of partnering with KwaZulu-Natal Children's Hospital Trust to create the first fully inclusive playground in Durban, South Africa. Located on the hospital grounds, directly across from the Indian Ocean, this site will serve thousands of children annually, creating an engaging, sensory rich, and fully inclusive play, socialization, and therapeutic opportunity for all children.

This \$1.5M project is scheduled to open in 2027 in memory of Dr. Arthi Ramkissoon, Founder: KZN Children's Hospital Trust. For more information on sponsoring this extraordinary project, **please contact** Tiffany Harris, CEO/Co-Founder/Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration [tiffany@inclusionmatters.org](mailto:tiffany@inclusionmatters.org)

### Parks in Development

- Seattle, WA
- UCLA
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Del Rio, TX
- New York, NY
- Henderson, NV
- Los Angeles, CA
- Buenos Aires, ARG



# We Are Coming To New York!!

## A Groundbreaking Inclusive Playground Project

### Harmony for All

**Location:** Columbus Park, New York City

**Size:** 20,000 Square Feet

**Timeline:** 2025 - 2026

**Estimated Use:** 30,000+ children and caregivers annually

**Cost:** \$3M

**Music is fundamentally about connecting, playing, and growing together.**

The first three years of a child's life are critical for the development of language, early literacy, and social/emotional/sensory skills. For children with disabilities, this window is even more essential for early intervention. The Harmony for All Inclusive Playground will give parents, caregivers, therapists, and educators rich tools to facilitate this critical development via a playground that offers music, sound play, literacy prompts, and much more.



### OUR PARTNERS

**Carnegie Hall:** For over a century, Carnegie Hall has been a hub for world-renowned artists and social impact. Its Lullaby Project pairs at-risk and incarcerated mothers with musicians to create personal lullabies, strengthening bonds and supporting maternal and child well-being.

#### NYC Department of Recreation & Parks:

Overseeing 1,700 public spaces and 30,000 acres citywide, NYC Parks maintains playgrounds, beaches, pools, and landmarks, including Central Park and Pelham Bay Park, ensuring access to nature and recreation across all five boroughs.

**Too Small to Fail:** A Clinton Foundation and Opportunity Institute initiative, Too Small to Fail promotes early brain and language development by helping parents talk, read, and sing with children from birth, turning everyday moments into learning opportunities.

Together, these partners are launching Harmony for All—a legacy of inclusion and friendship through music.

### CARNEGIE HALL

Weill Music Institute



NYC Parks



### THE CONCEPT

Imagine a playground that creates a symphony. Drums fill the air with a low and soothing beat. Children learn the scales on musical chimes. Woven throughout are literacy play panels with open-ended questions, rhymes, and songs, encouraging communication between child and caregiver. Harmony for All will provide a deeply enriching, playful space that allows parents and young children with and without disabilities to connect, create, learn, and play together. Harmony for All will be a joyful, inclusive legacy that serves hundreds of thousands for decades to come.

#### LEARN MORE:

Please visit our website at: [inclusionmatters.org](https://inclusionmatters.org)  
818.988.5676 | [tiffany@inclusionmatters.org](mailto:tiffany@inclusionmatters.org)

# Be a Change Maker

Become a Monthly Donor

## Family<sup>2</sup>Family

### Join Our Family2Family Donor's Circle

We warmly invite your family to join our Family2Family Donor's Circle, a special community of supporters committed to building a more inclusive world for children of all abilities.

By becoming a part of this circle, your family will help provide critical childhood development skills through social, recreational, and educational opportunities — changing lives and strengthening communities.

### Your family's gift will:

- Support the development of inclusive playgrounds that offer safe, engaging spaces for all children
- Help dissolve harmful misconceptions about disabilities by fostering friendships among children of all abilities
- Reduce bullying through inclusive education initiatives
- Welcome families of children with disabilities into the heart of their communities

**Together, we can ensure that no child is left on the sidelines.**

Donate \$85 a month or more and join our Family2Family Donor's Circle Club and make a lasting impression!



In June 2002, we watched as our first school bus arrived at Shane's Inspiration Playground in Griffith Park. The children who stepped off that bus—many with disabilities—were filled with laughter, curiosity, and awe. For some, it was their very first time on a swing.

**Since that unforgettable day, Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration has:**

- Provided transportation for over 60,000 children to our inclusive playgrounds
- Reached more than 250 schools through our education program, reducing bullying and promoting empathy
- Expanded our programming to over 67 countries around the world

**This impact is made possible by people like you.**

We invite you to become part of that ongoing story by joining our 365 Club — a group of dedicated supporters committed to giving \$1 a day (or \$365/year) to ensure that children with disabilities can continue to play, connect, and grow.

### Your support will help us:

- Cover bus transportation for schools that cannot afford it
- Provide inclusive play and education experiences to students of all abilities
- Continue offering what one Special Education teacher called, "Our only field trip of the year. My kids won't go anywhere else without this."

Join the 365 Club today and help us make inclusion possible — every single day of the year.

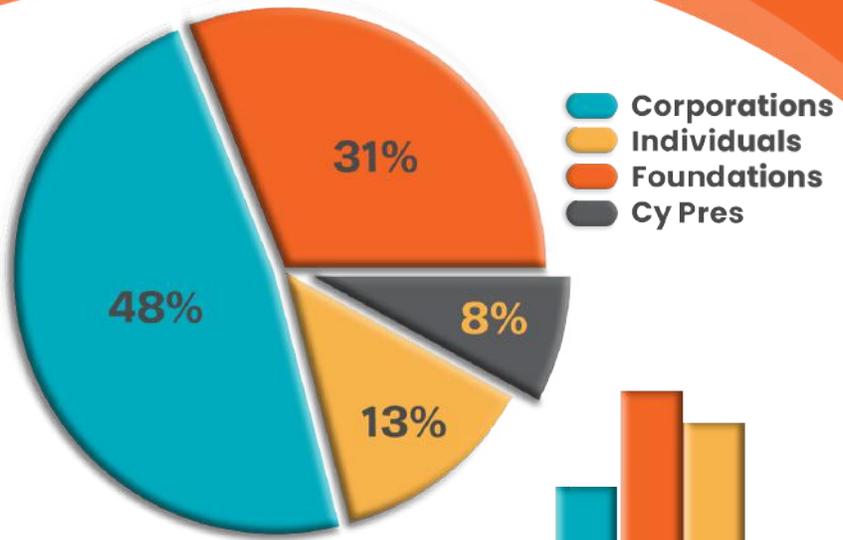


# OUR TIMELINE

- 1998  
Opened our flagship playground, Shane's Inspiration
- My PlayClub launch
- \$9.5 million inclusive playground initiative
- Received GE Heroes for Health Award
- Together, We Are Able Social Inclusion Education Program Launch
- 2003  
Survived the recession!
- Olympic partnership on first inclusive playground in Canada
- Opened first inclusive playground in Mexico
- 2011  
Opened first hospital inclusive playground
- LAUSD historic integration initiative partnership
- Opened first inclusive playground in Ecuador (second continent)
- Olympic partnership on first inclusive playground in Russia (third continent)
- 2014  
50th Playground Opening!
- Opened first inclusive playground in Israel (fourth continent)
- Too Small to Fail early childhood literacy design partnership
- Launched development of inclusive playground in South Africa (fifth continent)
- 2016  
Education program requested in 65 countries
- Launched key partnerships with Carnegie Hall and Fred Rogers Center. Released 10-part digital Social Inclusion Training Series
- 2018  
Celebrated 20 years of inclusive play
- UN Presentation
- Global Conference in Argentina
- 2020  
Opened 75th Playground
- Launched COVID-19 Response Programs that reached 18k
- Survived the pandemic!
- 2023  
US Embassy Grant to bring Inclusion Training to Universities in Ecuador
- 2024  
Received United Nations Special Consultative Status
- Early Childhood SEL Program Launch

# 2025 IMPACT

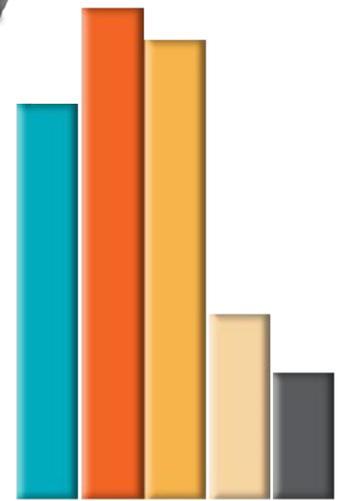
Funding Sources for Revenue



- Corporations
- Individuals
- Foundations
- Cy Pres

Cost Allocation for Expenses

- Playground Development
- Education
- Community Outreach
- Fundraising
- Management



80 Playgrounds Opened

1 million+ Annual Visitors

60k students served  
250 Schools  
67+ education program distribution countries



# THANK YOU

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."  
- Margaret Mead

## PLAYANTHROPISTS®

Ani Aghaeian  
Madelyn Alfano  
Tracy & Jeff Apploff  
Andrew Bethany  
Lena Bouton  
Catherine Curry-Williams  
Ed Czajka  
Ryan D'Arcy  
Blaise Davis  
Andrea & Frederick DeMann  
Mark Demos  
Brian Dietzen  
Stacy & Thomas Fraser  
Mary Ann Hunt-Jacobsen & Eric Jacobsen  
Nadim Karim  
Richard Kessler  
Stephanie & Rick Kinney  
Steve Lathrop  
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Debie & Kurt Marsden  
Jamie & Christopher McGurk  
Aramais Paronyan MD  
Dinah Ruch  
Gina Goldman & Walter Schupfer  
Michelle Schumacher & J.K. Simmons  
Leigh & J.P. Shelly  
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Scott Williams  
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The Goldhirsh Foundation  
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Universal Studios Hollywood's Discover A Star Foundation  
We Benefit Children

THANK YOU  
*Volunteers*



We are deeply grateful to our extraordinary volunteers whose passion and commitment continue to bring our mission to life. Your kindness, energy, and unwavering dedication turn dreams of inclusive play into reality—transforming parks and programs into places where every child belongs. Through your hands and hearts, you build more than playgrounds; you build communities of connection, joy, and compassion. Thank you for standing beside us as we create a world where all children can laugh, play, and thrive together.

## GOT STOCKS?

Your broker may electronically transfer your gift to our account at City National Securities:

DC # 2039 to  
Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration's  
Account # BHS-297798  
City National Bank, 400 N. Roxbury, Ste 700,  
Beverly Hills, CA 91210. 310.888.6376

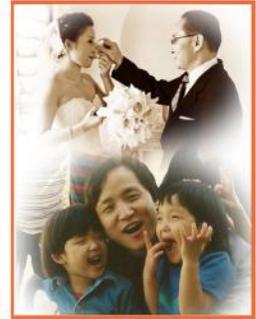
DAFs, mutual funds, bond donations  
gratefully accepted.

# IN MEMORY

## HYON MAN PARK

In loving memory of Hyon Man Park  
 Father of our IMSI Board Member Jane Park.  
 He was a loving father and grandfather and  
 will be forever remembered for his kindness,  
 wisdom, and the gentle strength he brought  
 to every life he touched.

*So, I close my eyes  
 To old ends  
 And open my heart  
 To new beginnings*



## JAMES GAFFNEY



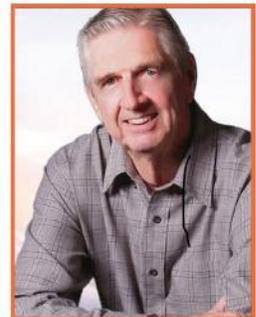
Loving husband, father, and grandfather  
 to many, including Aidan Gaffney, who  
 inspired our second playground,  
 Aidan's Place.

Thank you for your unwavering support  
 and belief in our mission.

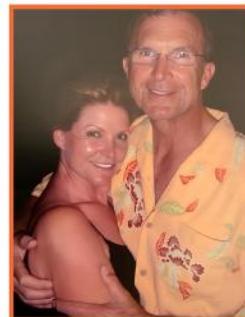
## WALLY HOLLENSTEIN

Wally, beloved father to IMSI board member  
 Tommy Hollenstein, touched many lives  
 with his compassion, generosity, and  
 steadfast, humble service.

We are grateful to have known him and to  
 have had the gift of his support of this  
 important mission for over two decades.



## SHARON BENNETT



Beloved wife of Mike Bennett, our longtime  
 Landscape Structures playground  
 contractor, who helped us create over 40  
 California inclusive playgrounds.

Sharon was an accomplished photographer  
 and world traveler. She brought her  
 adventurous spirit and artistic eye to  
 beautifully capturing many of these special  
 places.

# Cy-Pres

A Cy Pres award is a distribution of leftover funds from a class action lawsuit or other court case to a charitable organization when it's not possible to distribute the funds directly to the intended beneficiaries. The term "Cy Pres" means "as near as possible" in French, reflecting the principle that the funds are used for a purpose as close as possible to the original intent.

**Why Choose Inclusion Matters:**  
 Cy Pres funds provide critical support for the children and families we serve through inclusive social, recreational and educational programming.

**Proven Track Record:**  
 Approved by California courts for various cases.

**Smooth Process:**  
 Our team assists attorneys and judges to ensure a seamless experience.

**Eligibility:**  
**Child Advocacy Non-Profit:**  
 Eligible for almost any Cy Pres/Residual funds under California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 384.

**Broad Impact:**  
 Aligns with cases involving: Discrimination, Disability, Access, Employment Equality, Transportation Access, Consumer, Pharmaceutical, Family, Construction, Product Liability, Toxic Torts

**Our Impact:**  
**Global Reach:** Established over 80 inclusive playgrounds on five continents.  
**Educational Programs:** We have served over 60,000 students in 250+ schools across 67 countries.

**Please consider connecting us with a Class Action Attorney!**

For additional information, please visit  
[inclusionmatters.org/cy-pres-awards](http://inclusionmatters.org/cy-pres-awards)  
**Contact:** Valerie Hambas [Valerie@inclusionmatters.org](mailto:Valerie@inclusionmatters.org)

## SAVE THESE DATES

You are invited to join us at any of our upcoming events! Your support helps us create play, dignity, and social connection for children with disabilities through inclusive playgrounds and education programs that unite children of ALL abilities worldwide. Be included!



### My PlayClub



Saturday, December 6, 2025 at Aidan's Place, Westwood  
 Saturday, January 24, 2026 at Elysian Park near Dodger Stadium  
 SUNDAY, April 19, 2026 at Rocket's Universe in North Hollywood  
 Saturday, June 13, 2026 at Glen Alla in Marina Del Rey  
 Saturday, October 24, 2026 - Sepulveda Park in Panorama City



### Roaring Inclusion Gala

Saturday, February 21, 2026  
 Taglyan Complex in Hollywood



### Golf Challenge

Monday, May 18, 2026  
 Angeles National Golf Club in Sunland



### Legendary Bingo

Wednesday, July 15, 2026  
 Hamburger Mary's in West Hollywood



### Run, Walk & Roll

Sunday, September 27, 2026  
 Griffith Park in Los Angeles



For more info, contact: [marci@inclusionmatters.org](mailto:marci@inclusionmatters.org)  
[inclusionmatters.org](http://inclusionmatters.org)

# 2025

## Annual Report

© 2025 Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration

Co-Founders  
**Catherine Curry-Williams**  
**Scott Williams**  
**Tiffany Harris**

Board President  
**Kurt Marsden**

Board Vice President  
**Katherine Bell**

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**Ed Czajka**

Secretary  
**Georgianna Junco-Kelman**

### Board Members

Jeff Apploff  
Tiffany Harris  
Tommy Hollenstein  
Jonny Mars  
Jane Park  
Kat Scudder  
Benjamin Valencia  
Vinisha Vijayarajan  
Anita Wright

Co-Founder / CEO  
**Tiffany Harris**

Sr. VP Outreach & Events  
**Marci Moran**

Sr. VP Programs  
**Marnie Norris**

Sr. VP Design  
**Diane Scanlan**

Director Dream Fulfillment  
**Valerie Hambas**

Education Program Manager  
**Blanca Villareal**

Special Projects Manager  
**Tonya Wilkinson**

Outreach & Events Assistant  
**Victoria Villareal**

Inclusion Facilitator  
**Jade Schierenberg**

Intern  
**Allison Cameron Gray**



**Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration**  
15213 Burbank Blvd.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91411

TEL: 818-988-5676  
inclusionmatters.org



[inclusionmatters.org/donate](https://inclusionmatters.org/donate)