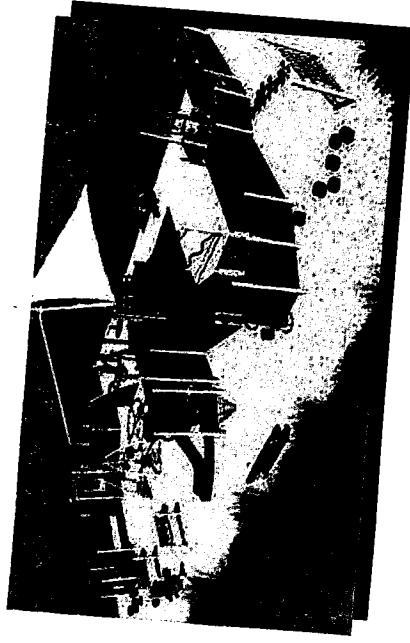


## Our Mission Statement

We will create a safe and accessible outdoor playground that fosters imaginative play and developmental learning. This will enhance the quality of life of all children and especially those with disabilities. At this playground, differences disappear and children share experiences with their peers, while exploring equipment and learning at their own level.

***It just makes sense!***



## Who are we?

- We are a dedicated group of volunteers.
- Crossing Abilities is a project of the Pocono Alliance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works to connect the community in Monroe County, PA.
- We began as an offshoot of the Monroe County Challenger program, which allows children of all abilities to play baseball and basketball.



## How can YOU help?

We need involvement from you, the:

- ◇ Community Leaders
- ◇ Special Needs Experts
- ◇ Parents & Children with Disabilities
- ◇ Media Relations
- ◇ Corporate Supporters
- ◇ Financial Benefactors
- ◇ General Contractors
- ◇ Laborers / "Lay People"
- ◇ Volunteers...



Visit us on the web at:

[www.crossingabilities.org](http://www.crossingabilities.org)

Email us at:

[information@crossingabilities.org](mailto:information@crossingabilities.org)

Join us on:

**facebook**

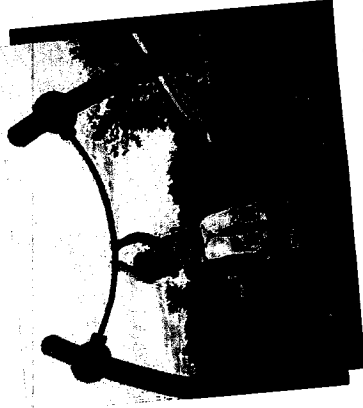
(570) 517-3953

Photos courtesy of Landscape Structures



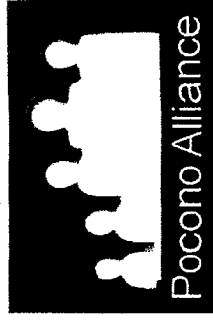
# Crossing Abilities

Monroe County's All Inclusive Playground



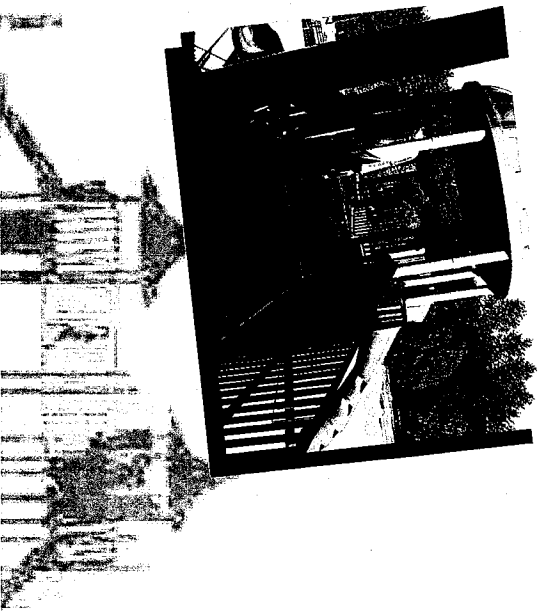
*A community-led effort  
to build a playground  
in Monroe County  
for children and parents  
of all abilities.*

**It just makes sense!**



A Pocono Alliance Project





## *It just makes sense!*

Learning is developed by the five core senses: touching, hearing, smelling, seeing, and tasting. These senses help regulate how we grow and learn. We will develop a universally-inclusive playground that will stimulate all the senses to help all of our children develop their motor planning, sensory, and social skills through a child's natural method of learning...play. The goal is to make this playground a fun learning experience, increase brain stimulation, promote social interaction, and improve a child's development.

## **Where will it be built?**

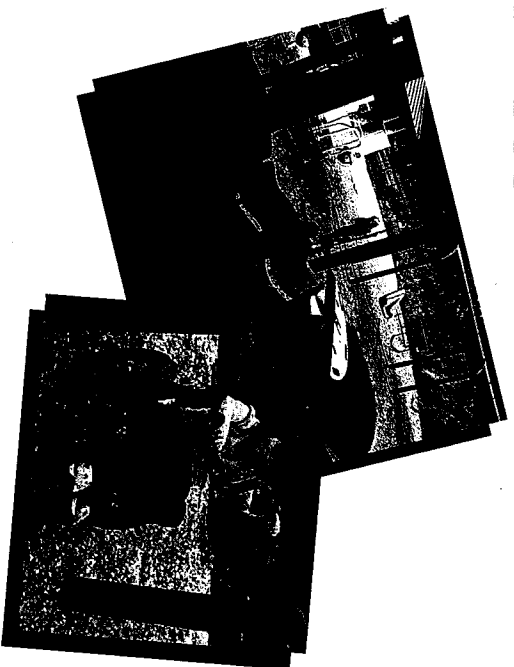
At the new HJP Regional Park in Bartonsville, at the center of Monroe County, PA.



## **Why build a universally accessible playground?**

- There are more than 5,400 children with disabilities in Monroe County alone
- There is no universally inclusive playground currently in Monroe County
- Children with disabilities need to be integrated with their peers
- Parents with disabilities need a place to bring their children

*It just makes sense!*



Crossing Abilities Chairman Neal Gallagher (L) talks with Scott Eck (R), designer of Firefly Field playground in Matamoras.

## **Plans for Construction**

- A phased project - each phase will create a fully operable playground.
- The first phase is projected to open in 2013.
- One possibility under consideration is to make this a community-built playground.

## **How will the playground be funded?**

- Corporate grants and sponsorships
- Fundraisers
- Government grants
- You...the community at-large in Monroe County

