

# Municipal Partners for Inclusive Recreation

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## Partner Cities:

Ballwin

Crestwood

Des Peres

Ellisville

Kirkwood

Manchester



# Purpose

- To welcome and facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities in to existing programs offered by participating cities.
- To assist with compliance of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when participating municipal facilities and parks are newly created or renovated



# History

- In 1992 Ballwin, Des Peres, Ellisville and Manchester applied for a grant from the Productive Living Board of St. Louis County to hire a full time coordinator for inclusive recreation
- In 1993 and 1994 the cities of Fenton, Crestwood and Kirkwood joined the group
- As grant dollars phased out cities budgeted funds to share the cost of the inclusion coordinator and overhead for the program
- There is a written contractual agreement between the cities which is amended when needed



# History

- In 1997 the cities joined together to create a governmental agency known as the Municipal Partners for Inclusive Recreation.
- Between 1997 and 2005 MPIR acted as the employer of the Inclusive Recreation Coordinator. In 2006, because of the cost of liability insurance and medical insurance issues, Des Peres agreed to serve as employer with reimbursement by participating cities. The City of Fenton then left the partnership not wishing to share the liability issues.



# Present Day Operations

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- Currently six cities cover 75% of the cost with 25% funded from a PLB grant.
- The Parks and Recreation Directors of participating cities serve as the governing board. A Board president and officers are elected annually.
- Participating cities are philosophically in agreement about the purpose and operation of MPIR.
- Des Peres Director oversees payroll, invoices, etc.
- Current operating budget \$68,000
- The cities pay for their own support staff, interpreters etc.

# Benefits

- About 150 people with disabilities participate in community programs annually.
- Each of the cities has built a major recreation or aquatic center in the last 7 years and has had the benefit of ADA oversight by the coordinator during the design and construction process
- The stories of individuals and their families both with and without disabilities



# Sam's Story

