# Planting the Seeds of our Parks Transformation





# Amplifying our impact in Pearland

To the City of Pearland, Parks & Recreation, Administration and Council Members,

In 2021, our entire community continued to persevere into the second year of our global pandemic, underscoring the importance of our parks and public spaces for Pearland's recreation needs.

And despite the challenges of the pandemic, it was a transformational year for the work that the Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland has been able to do with your tireless encouragement and support.

We were humbled to not only grow the impact of our foundation, but also grow the dedicated volunteer support that makes up our board.

We onboarded four new board members – David Schneider, Lisa Cashbaugh-Sanchez, Kamra Kilmer, and Jeff Webb – and were fortunate to rely on the support of many dozens of volunteers to help keep our organization focused on fulfilling its mission.

We continue to be grateful for the community support of our mission and of our largest-ever adopted goal to give the gift of inclusive play to the children of Pearland through the inclusive playground planned for The Sports Complex at Shadow Creek Ranch.

This playground, paired with the Miracle Field that Pearland is opening in 2022, provides a new world for those children in our community who need inclusive play opportunities.

We finished 2021 nearly at our fundraising goal, with the expectation we will see this wonderful effort over the finish line and into reality in 2022.

In addition to our inclusive playground commitment – which you can read more about in the pages of this Annual Report – we also exceeded our commitment to provide funding to the Parks and Recreation Department's financial assistance program.

On behalf of the Foundation's board, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the City of Pearland, its Parks department, and our volunteers, sponsors, and partners for the continued collaboration on these important projects and events.





**Kelly Moody** 

This playground, paired with the Miracle Field that Pearland is opening in 2022, provides a new world for those children in our community who need inclusive play opportunities.

I'm also so grateful for our founding board members
— Katie Daggett, Bunny Denton, Lonzie Helms, Frank
Ross, and Fred Weary — and past board members
of the Foundation who planted the roots deeply in our
community so that these amazing projects could grow
and flourish today.

As we look to the future, we are incredibly excited to open Pearland's first inclusive playground in 2022 and continue supporting these vital projects that bring the joy and access of our parks to the entire Pearland community.

Kelly C Moody

Kelly Moody President Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland

#### **OUR GOVERNANCE**

#### **Executive Committee**

Kelly Moody President

Richard Vaughan Vice President

JoAnne Knodel Treasurer

Maria Albrecht Secretary

Ex-Officio Board Members

Carry Capers
Director, Pearland Parks & Recreation

Dennis Jackson Chair, Pearland Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board

Rose Hinojosa-Mandola Resource Development, Pearland Parks & Recreation

Honorary Members Lonzie Helms Frank Ross Fred Weary

# Past Board Members and Ex-Officio Members

Members
Beatrice Aguilera
Katie Daggett
Bunny Denton
Mike Doleski
Donald Hayes
Michelle Graham
Lata Krishnaroa
Shuang Leng
Ted Mittica
Dustin Nitz
Jason O'Mara
Keith Ordeneauz
Dr. Christopher Orlea
Alicia Rodriguez

David Rosenthal Kelly Shannon Reagann Shulke

## Our Foundation's mission

Our Mission is to partner with the City to establish premier parks, facilities, and programs in Pearland.

We are a group of community volunteers partnering with the City of Pearland Parks & Recreation sharing a common vision to enrich lives through the development of and accessibility to parks and recreation.

Together, with support of community partners, sponsors, donors, and volunteers we are working to establish supplemental income streams that will provide funding to expedite the development of parks, facilities, and programs to meet the needs and expectations of our residents.

## 2021-2022 Board of Directors



Kelly Moody



Richard Vaughan



JoAnne Knodel



Maria Albrecht



Lisa Cashbaugh-Sanchez



Bill Eisen



James Jiang



Nikki Kamkar



Kamra Kilmer



Olivia Quintanilla



Bianca Reed



David Schneider



**Buck Stevens** 



Jeff Webb

# Making play in Pearland accessible for all

After years of laying the groundwork, the Forever Parks Foundation kicked off its biggest-ever fundraising effort: Building our community's first-ever inclusive playground at the Shadow Creek Sports Complex.

In January, Foundation board member Nikki Kamkar was honored to join the groundbreaking event for the Sports Complex of Shadow Creek Ranch Phase II to share the vision of the Inclusive Playground.

We finalized the playground designs and proposal in partnership with Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration before kicking off our official fundraising campaign in May 2021. The designs provided an amazing vision that helped our supporters understand the value of the playground and the theme.

Texas State Representative Ed Thompson helped secure a \$750,000 grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for this playground, and we received the Brazoria County Community Foundation Lowery grant for \$10,000 and a Davis Days Foundation grant for \$10,000, as well. The Christopher & Dana Reeves Foundation provided a \$25,000 grant that will fund the We Go swing for the playground; that grant represents the first national grant the Foundation has applied for and received in our history.

Our initial fundraising target was \$750,000 for this project, and we approved an adjusted \$960,000 target to accommodate increased scope. Our sponsors, partners, and donors in the community helped us reach our \$960,000 adjusted target, but inflationary pressures and supply chain challenges that have impacted the world also affected this





project, as well. The Foundation is working to complete its new \$1.2 million fundraising target that will complete this project for our community. With your support, there is no challenge too large to overcome.

We are excited to complete the fundraising in 2022 and break ground during the summer before opening the new playground during Fall 2022!

## We are so grateful to our sponsors & partners to make this inclusive playground a reality



Thank you to the following sponsors of Pearland's First Inclusive Playground who made commitments in 2021!

- Special partner: Inclusion Matters by Shane's Inspiration
- Gold Sponsor: Pearland Volunteer Fire Department
- Silver Sponsors: Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, TIRR Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation & Research
- Champion Sponsors: HCA Houston Healthcare Pearland, Tejas Imagery & Media Services, The Community Foundation of

- Brazoria County, Davis Days Foundation, Rotary Club of Pearland
- Partner Sponsors: Mayor Kevin Cole, Dow Chemical Company, iRun Productions, Pearland Chinese Association (AYLUS), Pearland Police Officers Association, Sharon Prentice
- Advocate Sponsors: Bill and Janice Eisen,
   The Joe Miller Family, Vaughan Interests, Inc.

We want to thank the dozens of local businesses, families, and individual donors. We could not make this amazing facility possible without all of your support!

# Having an impact on our community

Achieving our Foundation's most ambitious and largest-ever fundraising project in our history required an amazing level of commitment and engagement from our community. That's why our board created multiple opportunities to share the story about our mission and the impact our work has in the community, while cultivating opportunities for people to financially support these goals.

#### **Pints for Parks**

In July, we hosted what will become a signature event for the Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland with our Pints for Parks event at Vallenson's Brewing Company in Pearland. The event contributed more than \$13,000 of donations to help support our Inclusive Playground project. The event featured live music, kids activities, raffles, a silent auction, and special sponsor tables to show our appreciation for the generous support from the community. This will become an annual fundraising event for the Foundation that we are pleased to continue.

#### **Tour de Lites**

The Foundation was excited to continue the now 28 consecutive year tradition of the Tour De Lites holiday lights bicycle tour, which began in December in Independence Park and continued through neighboring communities, including Green Tee. The ticketed event included special contests for best-decorated bicycles and costumes.

And a big part of Tour de Lites is giving back, too. Thanks to generous donations from our sponsors, we were able to present 71 children from qualifying families with new bicycles during the event. We would like to thank the City of Pearland, Councilman Woody Owens, Pearland Parks and Recreation, Academy Sports and Outdoors and our generous sponsors Ardurra, Pepper Lawson Waterworks, GC Engineering, Reytec, CDM Smith, Freese and Nichols, and Terracon for their support.

#### **Express Feedback for Good**

With many community members limiting in-person interaction during the COVID-19 pandemic, we offered a unique way to financially support the Foundation in a virtual environment that could be done from anywhere in the world. We launched an Express Feedback for Good campaign, which enabled people to register to complete up to 75 surveys over a 30-day period and earn \$2 per completed survey that would be donated to the Foundation.

There were 172 participants who designated the Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland as their beneficiary organization, which helped generate \$11,696 in donations to the Foundation in 2021.







#### **OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT**





Our Foundation board members invested hundreds of hours to support and volunteer at various community events, whether it was staffing a table, preparing materials for race participants, or helping the children in our community literally plant seeds in potting soil just as community members helped plant the financial seed for our inclusive playground project to blossom.

During Friday nights in May and June, the Foundation met with residents during the Pearland Parks and Recreation Department's **Concerts in the Park** series to talk about our projects and offer up raffle prizes.

During the **Celebration of Freedom**, we offered children in the community the opportunity to grow their own impact by planting seeds in small potted containers and shared the plans for the inclusive playground at Shadow Creek Ranch Sports Complex.

During the **Trick or Treat Trail** event at Independence Park on Oct. 31, the



Foundation welcomed thousands of community members and handed out more than 3,000 pieces of candy.

This event sparked \$2,000 in donations as a direct result of the outreach about the inclusive playground.

The Foundation also helped assemble participant registration bags for Pearland **Turkey Trot**, which provides financial benefits to the Foundation through our partnership with iRun Productions.

#### 2021 FINANCIAL SUMMARY **Opening Balance** 16,207 Revenue **Donations** 25,438 Inclusive Playground \$ 136,716 **Fundraising** Grants 40,000 **Total Revenue** \$ 231,991 **Expenses Projects** 4,313 30,739 **Operations Total Expenses** 35,052 **Closing Balance** \$ 213,128





# Our 2021 goals and future aspirations

In 2021, the Forever Parks Foundation of Pearland amplified its impact in the community by taking on its largest project, helping to fund Pearland's first inclusive playground. But it wasn't the only project we delivered in the year.

#### **Financial Assistance**

Our Foundation continued its goal of raising funds to help support underserved families in need of financial assistance to fully experience our community's parks programs.

After a full year with limited operations during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the needs became greater in our community and we overdelivered on our commitment.

Our board approved a \$3,857 donation, which exceeded our annual \$2,500 target, to help support access for everyone to these important programs.

#### **Operational Maturity**

As the impact of the Foundation grew, so did our organizational maturity. In 2021, we implemented Bloomerang as our donor management system platform, which helps us to streamline our foundation's operations, ensure better communication with stakeholders, and provide a platform for secure online donation transactions.

This will provide a step-change in our development ability moving forward.

#### **Board Development**

Bloomerang also offers best practices and online development programs for our board members to learn how best to support the mission of the Foundation and to maximize their contribution to the community overall.

Our board members are also leveraging learning and development resources through our affiliation with the National Association of Parks Foundations, or NAPF, to stay informed about the latest trends and challenges facing parks foundations nationwide.

## Our Partners

City of Pearland

Delores Fenwick Nature Center

Pearland Convention Center & Visitor's Bureau

Pearland Parks & Recreation

Pearland Police Department

Pearland Rotary Club

Inclusion Matters By Shane's Inspiration

Pearland Bicycles

Tejas Imagery and Media Services

iRun Productions

# Our Sponsors

A&A Cleaning

Walter and Maria Albrecht

Mayor Kevin Cole

Community First E.R.

Helen Beckman

Friendly Faces

H-E-B

Houston Pink Box Food Truck

Nikki and Alex Kamkar

The Joe Miller Family

Pearland Bicycles

Pearland Parks and Recreation

Pearland Parks. Recreation & Beautification

Board

**Pearland Pediatrics** 

Pearland Police Department

Douglas Reed, Realtor

Scooter's Coffee

Constable Buck Stevens

Tejas Imagery & Media Services

Texas Advantage Community Bank

Helen Todd

Vallensons' Brewing Co.

Vaughan Interests, Inc.

## Our Donors

Edward and Lisa Albrecht

Maria Albrecht

Karri Axtell

Jace Bauer

Helen Beckman

Cody Blalock

Carry Capers

Roy & Virginia Castillo

Daryl Catching

Mona Chavarria

Kevin Cole

Chris & Michelle Coomer

William Eisen

Jessica Gardner

Robert Gardner

John Graham

Bruce Honore

Nikki Kamkar

Janet Kelly

John Kelly

JoAnne Knodel

Karen Layton

Barbara Lenamon

Gloria Milena Loewy

Sam Long

Veronica Longoria

Sheila Lucas

Daniel Matt

Joelene McKenzie

Sally Mercer

Thomas & Kelly Moody

Tiffany Needham

Geoff Nykin

Leigh Otey

Sharon Prentice

Chris & Kelly Robles

Sarah Salvato

David Schneider

Dennis Seith

Joseph Shulke

MK & Travis Spiegelhauer

Gayle Steinberg

**Buck Stevens** 

Nancy Ta

Richard Vaughan

Jeff Webb

Meredith Wheeler

James Wilson

Colby Wright

Melissa Zilembo

Above & Beyond Veterinary

Hospital, INC.

**AYLUS Pearland** 

Camp Gladiator

Childrens Doctors

Community Foundation of Brazoria County

Coomer Ballet Conservatory

**Davis Days Foundation** 

Dow Chemical

**EHRA ENGINEERING** 

First United Methodist Church

HCA Houston Pearland

iRun Productions

Methodist Children's Program

Pearland 288 Animal

**Emergency Clinic** 

Pearland Chinese Association

Pearland Pediatric Dentistry

Pearland Pediatrics

Pearland Police Officers

Association Charities Inc.

Pearland Volunteer Fire

Department

Perdue, Brandon, Fielder,

Collins & Mott

PRD Land Development

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Tejas Imagery & Media Services

The Rotary Club of Pearland

TIRR Memorial Hermann

# **THANK YOU**

for your incredible generosity & support!

## Our Volunteers

AYLUS Pearland
Mayor & First Lady Cole
Daryl Catching,
Pearland Bicycles
Pearland Police
Department
Seantele Foreman
Scott Foreman
Aaron Wu

Aila Jiang
Alvin Zheng
Andrew Du
Andy Gu
Andy Jiang
Ashley Zhuang
Ayyan Rehman
Bharat Salvady
Bing Bai

Carol Li
Catherine Bai
Chen Wang
Derek Zhu
Eddie Fu
Edwin Gao
Edwin Ling
Elaine Zhu
Eric Gao

Eric Qi
Eric Zhang
Ethan Gao
Evan Du
Hannah Sang
James Jiang
Jayden Lu
Jonathan Niu
Jordan Zheng

Juyan Chen Kara Li Karen Xu Kate Liu Katlyn Zhuang Matthew Li Matthew Niu Michael Meng Richard Chen

Sasha Kuzmenko Sean Yu Sharon He Shouchen Liu Sophia Fu Thomas Liang Yu Wang Zide Liu