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Marshall Co. Parks Department: Miracle League of Western KY

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Marshall Co. Parks Department: Miracle League of Western KY

Ragan Harris Winters OTD/S
Faculty Mentor: Kristin Mecha, OTD, OTR/L, BCP, CLC
Expert Mentor: Britney Hargrove, Marshall Co. Parks Director
School of Occupational Therapy, Belmont University



School of Occupational Therapy

Mission Statements

- ❖ The mission of the Marshall County Parks Department, my agency, is to provide an environment conducive to leisure activities, recreational opportunities for total family enjoyment, unique trails for walking enthusiasts and facilities that are clean, safe, and well maintained, all of which meet or exceed expectations of the community and the Fiscal Court.
- ❖ The mission of the Miracle League of Western KY is to provide opportunities for children with disabilities to play Miracle League baseball, regardless of their abilities. Promote community support and sponsorship of Miracle Leagues. Promote the construction of special facilities that meet the unique needs of Miracle League players and their families.

CFSB Field of Dreams



"We cannot change or cure the medical issues life has dealt children with disabilities. What we can do is provide them with an opportunity to experience the joy and benefits that come from playing our national pastime—baseball."

Diane Alford

Agency Needs

- ❖ Volunteer training materials for Miracle League of Western KY "buddy" volunteers.
- Promotion and advocacy for upcoming Miracle League season and next phase of facility expansions.
- ❖ Fundraising assistance for the Miracle League of Western KY.
- *Recommendations to promote inclusivity and accessibility throughout Mike Miller Park.

Project Goals

Learning Objectives:

- Student will collect data from staff and community members to further explore the needs of the agency.
- Student will create a list of recommendations with research to support changes to be made to the Marshall Co Parks to promote inclusivity and accessibility for individuals with all different disabilities.
- Student will develop training materials for volunteers participating in upcoming baseball seasons of the Miracle League of Western KY.

Individualized Objectives:

- ❖ I will further develop professional networking and independence.
- ❖ I will strengthen my communication skills through collaboration with agency staff and community members.

Acknowledgements

- Britney Hargrove, my expert mentor, who provided me guidance and support throughout this project.
- ❖ Dr. Kristin Mecha, my faculty mentor, who provided me encouragement and guidance throughout this project.

Capstone Outcomes

- Volunteer Training Video for Miracle League Buddies
- ❖ The 2024 Miracle League Gala raised over \$120,000 for the upcoming seasons and the next facility expansion phases.
- ❖ Developed an extensive list of contacts to promote each season of the Miracle League. Distributed promotional materials to contacts across Western KY, Northeast TN, and Southern IL.







