



July 2008

Mr. Kevin O'Donnell

Dear Kevin:

I wish you could have been with me recently. I was on a short trip to Lake Worth Park, in nearby Lindenwold. The park, long abandoned, has just begun renovation by the Camden County Parks Department. Along with some of Build Jake's Place Board members, I walked a beautiful wooded area overgrown with weeds. Looking closely I could see the signs of new orange paint on the ground. You can see the park on our website: [www.buildjakesplace.org](http://www.buildjakesplace.org).

One orange bound area indicates where the parking lot with 80 spots and a bus turnaround will replace some overgrown asphalt. The picnic pavilion is already restored, only awaiting many tables inside and barbeque grills to surround it.

Another trail will become a wheelchair friendly path leading to a shaded spot with large pines overhead. I closed my eyes. I know what this will be. The orange on the ground there will someday be replaced by the playground made possible by people like you, the Camden County Freeholders, and all the friends and supporters of Build Jake's Place.

Because of you and so many others, our Friend Raiser on July 9, 2008 was a huge success. Though it poured from the heavens, 300 came and stayed to hear that the Camden County Freeholders gave us this first site at Lake Worth. They heard all our hopes and dreams for the first "Boundless" playground in NJ. When we started talking to the crowds about this dream, the rain stopped and the sun came out. As the Marlton Special Needs Karate Club gave us a demonstration of their talents, a rainbow appeared in the sky. It was awesome!

Build Jake's Place has begun because of you and your generous gifts of tents, tables, chairs, etc. which I know would have cost us \$2,000, if we had to pay for them. Your gift allowed us to invite hundreds of families to come for free and their generous donations now are proof that they, too, want to partner in this dream. One day we will hear the happy voices of children, abled and disabled, doing what kids do best-playing. Thank you so very much!

I know in the near future, we can stand together where once orange marks and weeds were, and listen to the kids play. I look forward to it.

Gratefully,

Kate Cummings

Jake's Mom and Co-Founder of Build Jake's Place