



Maryland Developmental
Disabilities Council



October 18, 2023

Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council and Maryland Department of Disabilities Create Inclusive Playground Framework

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council (Council) and the Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD) released the Framework and Toolkit for Inclusive Playgrounds in Maryland.

The Council and MDOD worked together to develop this framework. It details all of the benefits of inclusive playgrounds and includes a toolkit for how to expand inclusive playgrounds in communities across Maryland.

While Maryland has many “accessible” playgrounds, these spaces often just meet the minimum access levels required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This means people with disabilities can access a part of the playground, but not all of it. The state needs more truly inclusive playgrounds that allow people with and without disabilities to learn and play together without barriers.

“This framework will help communities across Maryland create more spaces that are truly welcoming and inclusive so all Marylanders can learn and play together,” said Rachel London, Executive Director of the Council. “We are excited to partner with MDOD and make our state a leader in inclusive recreation.”

“We are pleased to make this resource available to local neighborhoods and communities, cities and counties, and private and faith-based organizations,” said Carol A. Beatty, Secretary of MDOD. “We want to be a partner in creating spaces where everyone can come together and have fun.”

The framework is available to the public at www.md-council.org/inclusive-playground-framework. Please contact Chris Rogers (crogers@md-council.org) or Kimberly McKay (kimberly.mckay1@maryland.gov) with any questions.