

What the Miracle Leagues Means:

"Growing up with my brother, who endured both mental and physical disabilities, I understand the importance of having a place to go where you are accepted. The Miracle League of Northampton County will be the link that completes the circle of our community, enabling every child to play baseball with their peers within a complex of fields and activities for all children. I am proud to be part of this great organization."

Debbie Young
Palmer Township, PA

"Based on my 30 years as a volunteer for Special Olympics I feel that every person, regardless of their abilities, should have the opportunity to participate in sports and to feel the sense of belonging, the sense of joy, and a sense of pride and respect. The Miracle League will allow a whole new world of community to open for these children, along with their families. I cannot wait for "Opening Day!"

Richard Agretto, President
Miracle League of Northampton County
Special Olympics Volunteer

"As a parent of a child with special needs it will be wonderful to have the opportunity within our community for our children to play baseball with their peers.

It is hard to imagine your child not having the chance to meet friends and share fun times but unfortunately that is the case for many. A Miracle League playing field will be just that place!

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to open up our children to experience fun and good times, meeting new friends and making lifelong family memories!"

Kelly Taylor
Mt. Bethel, PA

"Other than Special Olympics, my eleven year old autistic son is relegated to spectator status at all other athletic events. The Miracle League will help fill a large void by providing much needed competition for my son and others like him. My son and I look forward to the fun and challenges the Miracle League will provide."

Gary Fagan
Palmer Township, PA



Donations to the Miracle League of Northampton County will be gratefully accepted. Please send them to the address noted below.

We thank all of the people, organizations and business who have generously contributed to this project on behalf of the special children who will be able to play baseball at this special facility.

For more information about our special facility please visit our web site
www.miracleleagueofnc.org

Questions? Contact Dan McKinney at:
(610) 252-1505

The Miracle League of Northampton County
P.O. Box 3424
Palmer, PA 18043-3424



Every Child Deserves a Chance to Play Baseball

Please give us that chance



Brian Schneider - Philadelphia Phillies
Honorary Chairman

The Love of the Game

America has a rich sports history but no sport is more intricately woven into our nations fabric than baseball. Baseball's roots go back to 1845 when the first recorded game was played in New Jersey. One hundred and sixty five years later baseball remains "America's pastime."

Many of us grew up playing baseball or softball. We played in organized leagues or pick-up games in the "sand lots." We ran in the grass outfield to catch a fly ball and darted across the base paths trying to "touch them all." What an exhilarating feeling that was! Now try to think of yourself in a wheelchair or walker trying to create that same feeling on a dirt and grass field that you cannot play on.

There are many children and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities who cannot enjoy the game because of the barriers a normal field presents. There are thousands of children in greater Northampton County who are not disabled who enjoy the game on fields in every community. However, there is not one field in the county that is designed for children and adults with disabilities.

Twelve years ago the first Miracle League field was built in Conyer, GA and today there are 250 in the nation and growing. The nearest field is located in northern Lehigh County. **We are building this type of field in Northampton County.**

What is the Miracle League?

It is Hope, Determination and a display of Human Spirit that is unequaled. And, of course, there is **baseball.**

There is something about playing the game that lights up a youngster's eyes. But for children with serious physical and intellectual disabilities that opportunity can often be difficult to achieve. Baseball diamonds were not exactly designed with wheelchairs, walkers and crutches in mind.

The Miracle League removes the barriers that keep children with disabilities off the baseball field and lets them experience the joy of America's favorite pastime. Since the barrier for these children arise from the natural grass fields used in conventional youth league, Miracle League teams play on a custom designed field with a rubberized surface that accommodates wheelchairs and other assisting devices while helping to prevent injuries.

But it's more than playing a game. It is about making new friends, building self-esteem and being just like other kids.

Miracle League of Northampton County

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization has been formed to build a Miracle League field that will serve the greater Northampton County area. This field will be centrally located at the Charles Chrin Community Center complex in Palmer Township. The location is easily accessible for residents of Northampton County, Monroe County, upper Bucks County and Warren County, NJ. Also, the site was selected because the field will be part of recreational complex where children of all ability levels will be playing side by side with their siblings, friends and classmates in a truly integrated recreational facility.

The mission of the Miracle League of Northampton County is to:

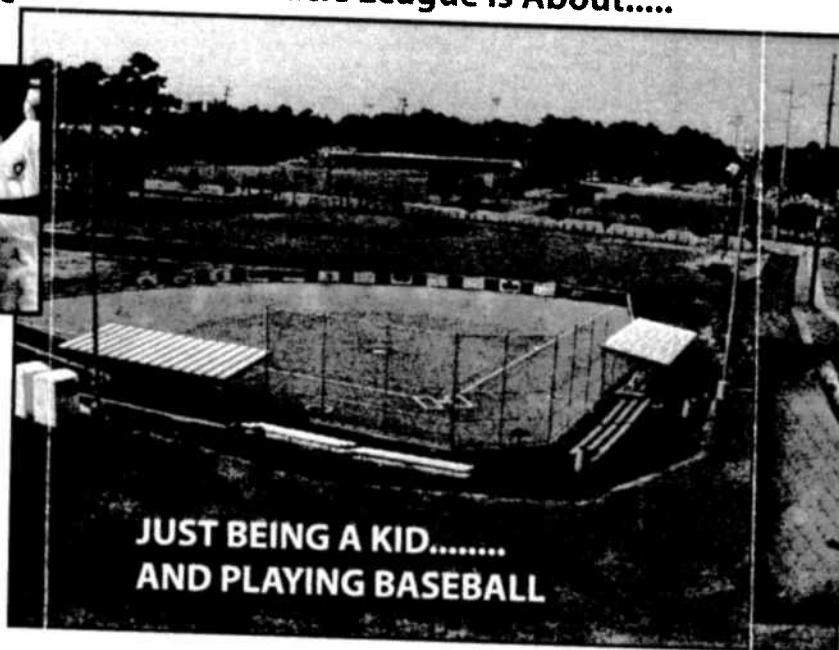
Provide an opportunity for children and adults with disabilities to play baseball at a facility that meets the unique needs of the players and their families.

The Miracle League Is About.....

HOPE



HUMAN SPIRIT



**JUST BEING A KID.....
AND PLAYING BASEBALL**

SELF-ESTEEM



FRIENDSHIP



DETERMINATION