



PRESS RELEASE
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NIH Federal Credit Union Is Proud To Support A New Playground at a Place Like Home

Bethesda, MD – The National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union (NIHFCU) announced their ongoing support of The Children's Inn at NIH to help design and build The Inn's new playground.

The Inn, which marked its 20th anniversary in 2010, has long wanted to update its playground and outdoor play area, which sits on a hill. The location has made it difficult for physically challenged children and older caregivers to easily access the playground. Through re-grading and thoughtful alignment, the new pathways will create a journey through various interactive play stations while being more accessible to all.

“We are tremendously grateful to the NIH Federal Credit Union for this generous support,” said Kathy L. Russell, The Inn's Chief Executive Officer. “The mission of The Inn is to provide a ‘Place Like Home’ where kids can just be kids. What better way than to offer a place to play – a place to swing, to slide, and to smile.”

The NIH Federal Credit Union has pledged support of the new playground over a five-year period. “The credit union is so proud to be working with The Children's Inn on this important project,” said Juli Anne Callis, NIHFCU Chief Executive Officer. “With more than 70 years of serving the NIH and the dedicated men and women who care for millions of children worldwide, this is a truly special opportunity to give back to the NIH community that has supported us over so many years.”

The opportunity to support The Children's Inn on the playground has additional personal meaning to Ms. Callis who lost a young child to a rare heart disease.

The Inn's new, modern playground will be designed to appeal to all children, regardless of age, physical strength or abilities. The entrance to the playground from The Inn will be a "garden path" that will include the following features:

- Walking paths with seating for children and families
- Mazes and labyrinths
- Interactive sound and music elements
- A tree house
- Lawn and garden areas
- Playhouses
- Swings and a jungle gym
- Art and sculpture, such as whirligigs and wind socks
- Creative night lighting

Specifically, the credit union's participation in this endeavor will cover the costs of installing decorative wind poles within the playground, as well as several paths, bridges and elevated walkways connecting The Inn to the playground.

The Inn is committed to building an environmentally conscious playground. Adjacent to the NIH Wildlife Conservation Area, the playground design will relate strongly to the natural setting and will include the use of recycled materials. The site plan will also include careful management of drainage and storm-water run-off.

Families travel from across the country and around the world to stay together at The Inn while participating in groundbreaking medical research at NIH. Families stay free of charge no matter how long the research study lasts. Since opening in 1990, more than 10,000 children and families have stayed at The Inn. The Inn can accommodate up to 59 families.



(From left) Steve Levin, vice president of marketing, NIHFCU; Juli Anne Callis, chief executive officer, NIHFCU; Kathy Russell, chief executive officer, The Children's Inn; Fern Jennifer Stone, director of development & public relations, The Children's Inn; and Vi Mars, The Children's Inn yellow Labrador therapy dog.

About The Children's Inn at NIH

Since opening in 1990, more than 10,000 seriously ill children and their families from more than 82 countries have stayed at The Inn. For more information about The Children's Inn, please contact Meredith Daly, 301-451-3075 or visit our website at www.childrensinn.org.

About NIHFCU

The National Institutes of Health Federal Credit Union (NIHFCU) is one of the largest credit unions in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and the nation's largest serving the biomedical and healthcare industries. With 10 branches, more than \$520 million in assets and over 43,000 members, NIHFCU provides a full range of convenient, high-quality financial products and services to meet the needs of a growing and diverse membership in Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia and West Virginia. For more information, visit www.nihfcu.org.