

Together,
we've built
Ontario's first
public park
for people
of all
abilities.

Marydale Park
Because every child deserves to play



Impact Report to our Donors



At Marydale Park, people of all ages and abilities come together to enjoy the simple outdoor activities that many of us take for granted.



Thank you

for your incredible support of the
Catholic Youth Organization's
campaign to build Marydale Park.

With your help, Marydale Park, Ontario's first barrier-free, fully accessible recreational facility gave 32,000 children, youth and adults a safe place to play last year. This was no small feat, and we simply couldn't have done it without you. Thank you!

“Since the park is barrier-free, Molly is able to get to many things herself. Because of this, camp staff said that Molly was able to 'graduate' from the one-to-one program. She attended camp for an additional four weeks as a 'regular' camper! She still needs help with some things, but with a caring and thoughtful staff, off Molly went.”


Christina, Molly's mother



2,763 children attended Camp Marydale last year.

Marydale Park is now the permanent home for Camp Marydale, winner of the Hamilton Spectator *Reader's Choice Platinum Award* for the **Best Summer Day Camp** in 2014, 2015 and 2016!

Camp Marydale's one-to-one program for children with disabilities ensures a warm and inclusive camp environment. A dedicated counsellor provides assisted-care to enable these campers to participate in our programs.



Last year, 3,521 people attended corporate and community events at Marydale Park and 180 company employees visited Marydale Park via staff training and retreat days.

If the environment isn't barrier-free, going for a swim, having a picnic, going on a nature walk, or playing sports is challenging or impossible. Not at Marydale Park. Here, no one is left out.

With your support, we've done so much...

With generous contributions like yours, C.Y.O. raised \$4 million to support the construction of Marydale Park, with the balance of the construction costs financed by the Agency with support from the Diocese of Hamilton. With this generous funding, we succeeded in building these barrier-free facilities:

Event Space & Administration Building

This building (pictured on page 2) accommodates the park's year-round staff, summer camp and outdoor recreation and educational programmers, while also offering fully accessible community rooms and office space to community organizations (like Community Living Hamilton, AbleLiving and the Canadian Paraplegic Association of Ontario). The access, parking and event space allows Marydale Park to host 1,500 visitors per day!

Pool Complex

Marydale Park's pool complex is completely accessible. The main pool has a sloped beach entry and parallel railings as well as traditional ladders, which allows everyone, including those with mobility challenges, to enjoy a refreshing swim on a warm summer day. Our hydrotherapy pool's water is heated to 36°C making it a perfect place for gentle rehabilitation exercises and programs for people of all ages and abilities.

Outdoor Amphitheatre

Marydale Park's amphitheatre (pictured on page 2) is a large, central performance space surrounded by ascending and fully accessible seating areas, offering an open-air venue for presentations, concerts, and theatrical performances.



Boating & Outdoor Education Ponds

Our Outdoor Education & Environmental Education Programs are offered to both elementary and secondary students. The focus of these programs is to provide students with hands-on, outdoor education experiences that meet the Ministry of Education guidelines.

In the winter, the pond is used for ice skating, hockey and other fun winter activities.



Marydale Park's large boating pond provides a safe environment for our junior campers to learn canoeing and other boating skills.

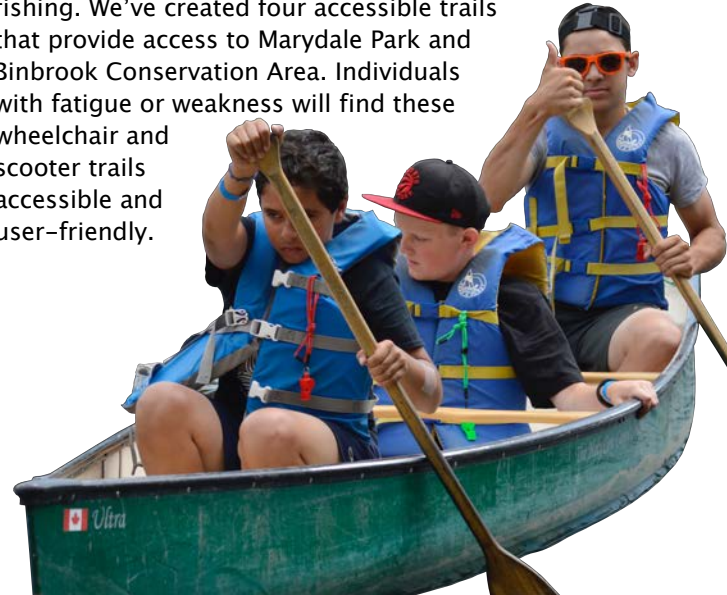
Last year, 8,000 children from Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board's Outdoor Education Program visited Marydale Park.

Last year, 4,822 students from Hamilton, Halton, Brant County, Niagara, Grand Erie and Dufferin-Peel School Boards attended Marydale Park on elementary and high school field trips.

Last year, 277 children enjoyed our new school holiday and P.A. day camps.

Dock & Nature Trails

Marydale Park's dock provides access to Lake Niapenco, a 430-acre reservoir located in the Binbrook Conservation Area. During the summer months, the dock allows for canoeing, sailing, windsurfing and fishing. We've created four accessible trails that provide access to Marydale Park and Binbrook Conservation Area. Individuals with fatigue or weakness will find these wheelchair and scooter trails accessible and user-friendly.



Playing Field and Archery Range

Apart from being fun, sports play a vital role in helping children remain active, contributing to physical and mental well-being, health and happiness.



Last year, 15,000 participants attended two cross country events at Marydale Park.



Snoezelen Therapeutic Relaxation Room

The large, therapeutic and recreational Snoezelen Room is used by both children and adults with sensory, cognitive and physical disabilities.

This fun, multi-sensory environment is designed to help individuals with developmental disabilities through recreational elements and activities featuring smell, touch, sound, colour and light.

Thank you for making Marydale Park a reality!

Without you, families from Burlington to Grimsby to Caledonia and all points in between wouldn't have a fully accessible, safe, outdoor space to play, learn, and explore. Your generosity has given Laura, and thousands of other children a safe place to learn, grow, and most importantly, to play!

But we're not done yet!

Although we raised over \$4 million dollars, the Marydale Park campaign came slightly short of our original goal, which means we couldn't build everything as originally planned. But that hasn't stopped us!

Our new C.Y.O. CAMPAign is raising funds to build indoor programming spaces, a high ropes course, and sun shelters to protect our campers and staff from inclement weather – fully accessible amenities that will be enjoyed by everyone who uses Marydale Park.

Catholic Youth Organization

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