



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October--, 2017

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Profinium Donates \$15,000 to Fund Local Inclusive Playgrounds

FAIRMONT, NORTH MANKATO, OWATONNA MINN., October --, 2017 – Profinium donated \$15,000 to fund three local inclusive playgrounds in Fairmont, North Mankato and Owatonna.

Each community has aspired to build an inclusive playground where all children, regardless of their abilities, can play together. From parking and entrances to surfaces and equipment, the playgrounds will allow for easy access and play for all children.

“We have a strong presence in all of these communities, and we are very passionate about this cause. We believe play shapes us all, and no child should be excluded based on ability. These inclusive playgrounds will allow all children to play alongside each other, develop important leadership and social skills, and show that everyone has value.” said Shelly Kraemer, Profinium Board of Directors. “We are proud to be a part of communities that value inclusive play”.

In North Mankato, the Fallenstein Playground will be located at Caswell Park, in Fairmont, the Adventure Playground will be located at Gomsrud Park, and in Owatonna, the We All Play Playground will be located at Manthey Park.

“Play is critical and what better place to play than an inclusive playground with fun, interactive play spaces and equipment,” said Wilbur Neushawander-Frink, Fallenstein Playground Taskforce in North Mankato.

Each group is in different stages of their fundraising efforts, with the Mankato Fallenstein Playground expected to open in 2018 and the Fairmont and Owatonna projects to be completed in 2019.

About the Fallenstein Playground and Miracle League of North Mankato:

Since opening in 1987, Caswell Park has served as one of the premier athletic complexes in the state. Caswell Park is home to Fallenstein Field, home of the North Mankato Miracle League. Opened in 2008, Fallenstein Field is a handicapped softball/baseball field for children and adults. Providing opportunities to children and adults of all abilities, Caswell Park and Fallenstein Field are an integral part of life and recreation in the greater North Mankato Area. With the addition of Fallenstein Playground next to Fallenstein Field, everyone will get to experience the joy of play at Caswell Park

About the Adventure Playground in Fairmont:

Adventure Playground began with a founding commitment from CHS to make Fairmont's playgrounds more accessible. With strong support from the City of Fairmont and impressive projects like Fallenstein to learn from, the plans for a fully inclusive playground came to life.

Adventure Playground will highlight accessibility with smooth surfacing and elevated ramping which allows those using mobility devices the chance to bring their play to new heights. It also features equipment that encourages kids of all abilities to play, cooperate, and explore together. This integrated play fosters vital lessons of compassion, awareness, and acceptance and will improve the quality of life for all families in our community.

About the We All Play Playground and Miracle League of Owatonna:

There is nothing in the world like watching the joy on a child's face when they are able to do the things they want to do right alongside their able bodied friends and family. It is also a great joy watching a child

experience a playground that meets all of their needs. We are so excited for the opportunity to bring a space like this to our wonderful community! To draw people from all over to come play at our inclusive playground and Miracle League Field and spend time in our amazing town!

Our dream is to create intergenerational playground for people of all ages and abilities. We want babies to be safe, toddlers to explore, and children and teens to be challenged.

There will be no better place for parents and grandparents to interact with amazement than on this playground!

About Profinium:

Profinium, Inc., is a locally-owned community bank focused on full financial health with full financial services. Profinium has four locations in Southern Minnesota, including Fairmont, Truman, Owatonna, and most recently, in downtown Mankato in the Profinium Place office tower. The organization has served Southern Minnesota since 1875, and provides banking, mortgage, insurance, trusts and investment services.

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