# Ready, Willing & ABLE. Are You?



#### **Damian Buchman**

Founder & Executive Director, The Ability Center





#### Some stuff I do



Member:
Diversity, Equity, Accessibility,
& Inclusion Committee



Member:
Outdoor Recreation Committee



Commissioner:
MKE CTY Commission
for persons with disabilities

#### Some stuff I won



2023, Chamber of Commerce, Regional Impact Award



2023, WIGCOT, DEAI Award



• 2023 & 2021, LISC, MANDI Awards



• 2022, MBJ, Diversity in Business



2019, Donald Driver Foundation, Driven to Achieve



• 2017, MBJ, 40 Under 40

# GIVE EVERYBODY THE GIFT OF HEALTH & HAPPINESS



The Ability Center works to remove the barriers that prevent people with disabilities from living active, healthy and happy lives. Everyone deserves access to staying active.







#### vision

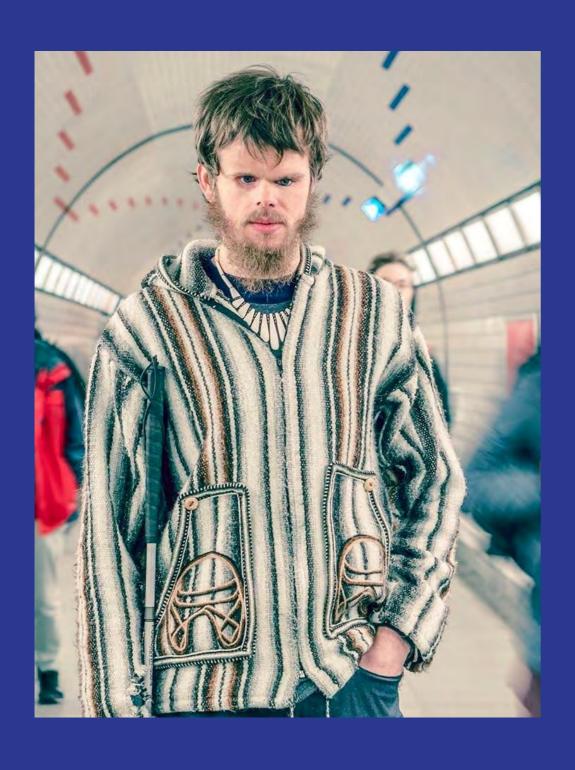
Building communities where <u>all</u> abilities are provided a universal opportunity for health, wellness, and recreation.

RampUp<sup>4</sup>
Universal Community



noun talent, skill, or proficiency in a particular arena.

# CAN'T vs CAN









# Why play matters

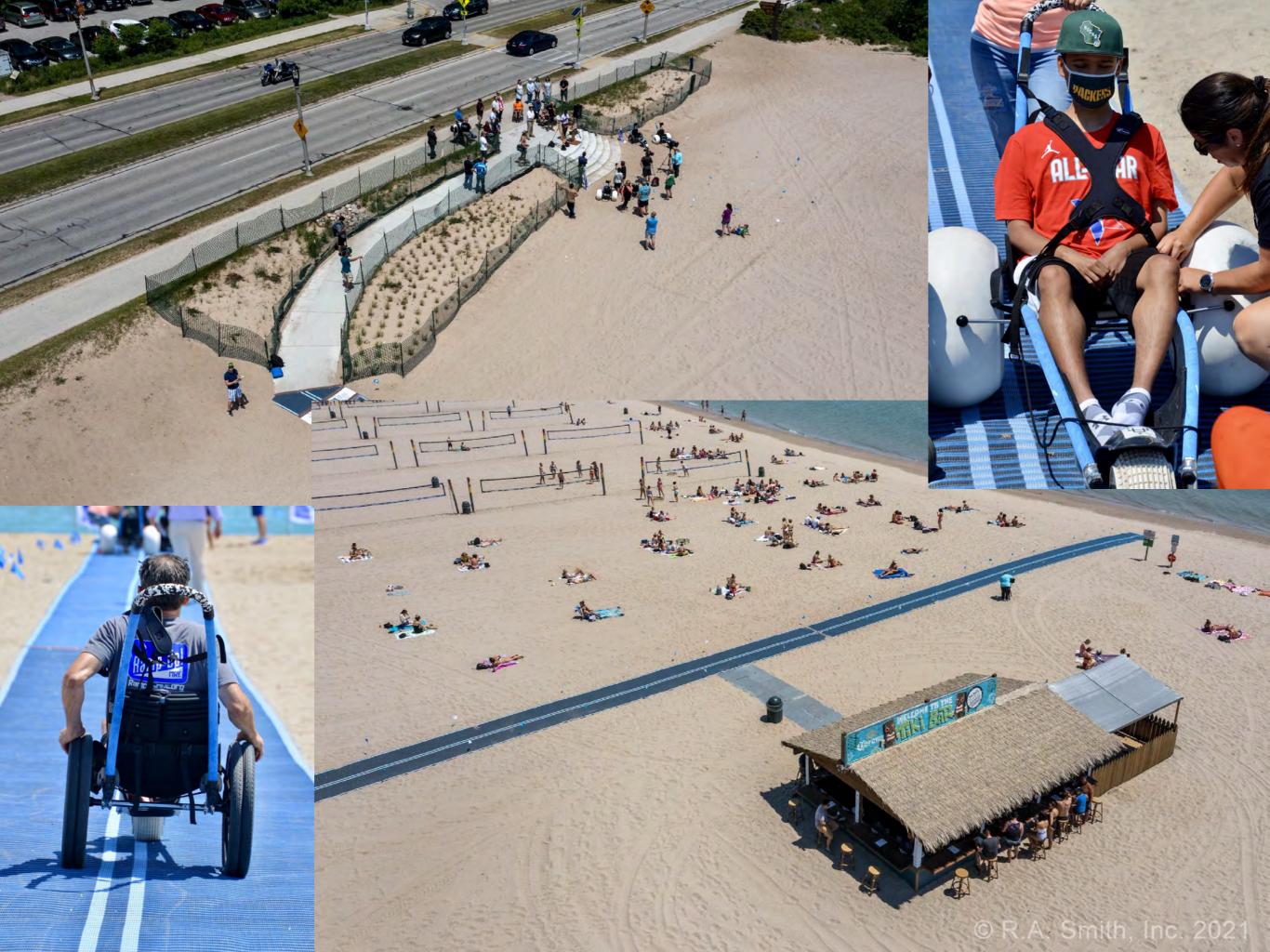
54%

Of people with disabilities engage in no leisure time.

2/7

Families are impacted by disabilities.





# RampUp<sup>4</sup> Universal Community

#### **Bradford Beach**



## TAB's

acronym

Temporarily Able-Bodied

#### DEI + A



### IDEA

acronym

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion + ....

#### VISIBLE VS NON-VISIBLE



**Gracie Jagler** 



**Brian Bell** 







"It's been good for my mental health.

It saved me from a dark place."

## Frank W.



"Uncle Andy should be able to play, too!"

# Andy + Siblings



"I didn't want to see my son in a wheelchair."

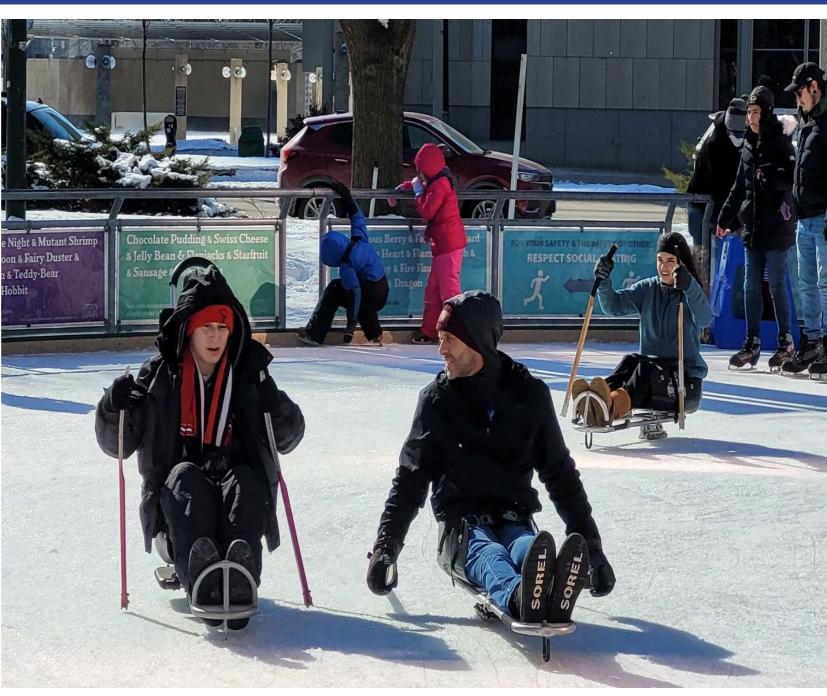
# Frank V.



"This is much more fun."

# Kristin + Gavin





### Jess

"Thanks for making my whole day/year/life!!! I was able to bike alongside my kids and husband and explore the city."



"There's certain things you think your child won't be able to do with other kids..."

# Gianni

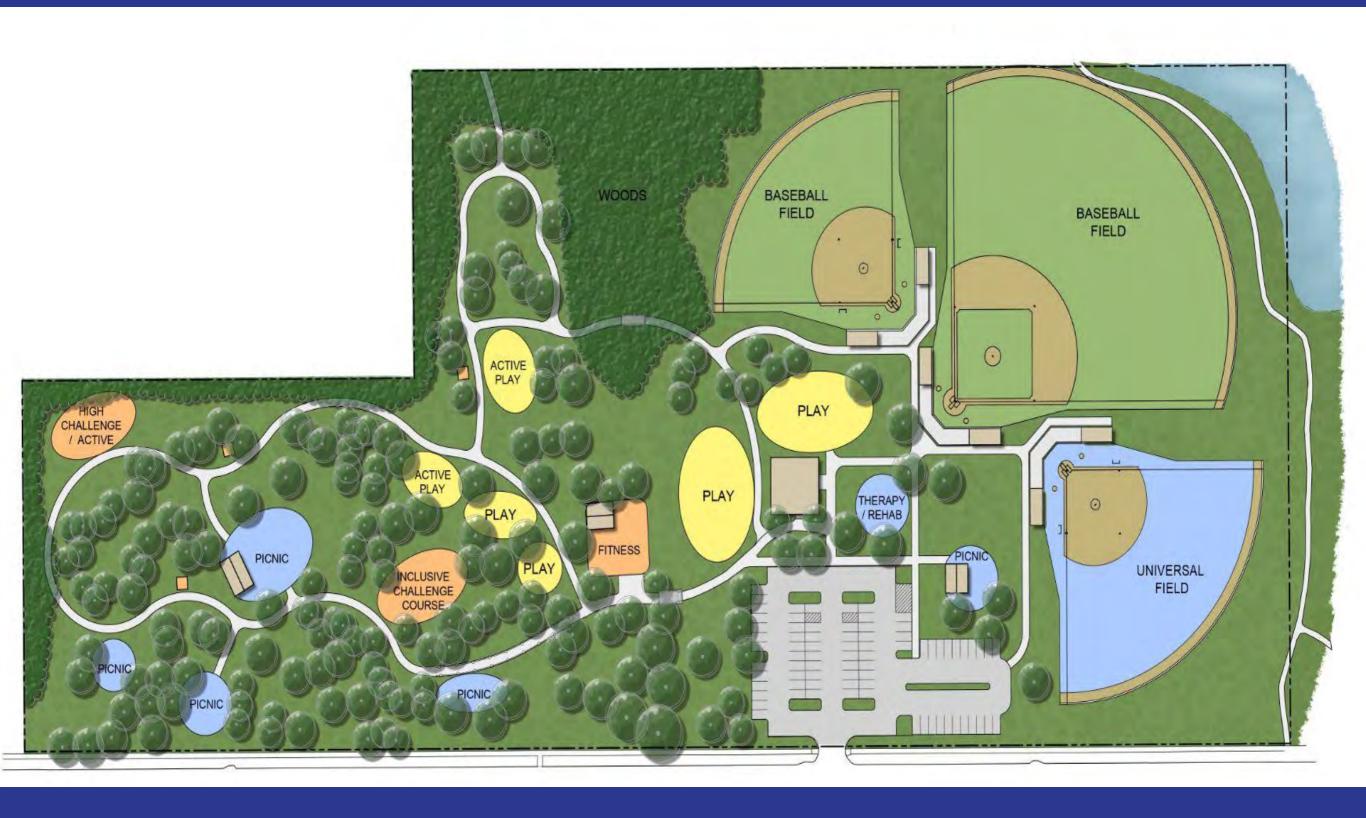




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#### Wisconsin Avenue Park





Q & A:

Find me ... I'm here to help!