

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 6, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT
Jennifer Mackethan
Jennifer.Mackethan@TrilliumNC.org
1.866.998.2597

New Inclusive Playground Opens in Columbus County

Joins 31 other playgrounds launched by Trillium

WHITEVILLE, NC: A new, all-inclusive playground at the Columbus County Playground opened today. Equipment includes a rubber surface to allow for smooth transport with wheelchairs, doublewide ramps to access slides and other elements, and equipment that will appeal to children with sensory issues. The playground will provide an opportunity for individuals of all ages and abilities to play together outside.

Trillium provided \$500,000 to the Columbus County Parks and Recreation Department for the playground, located at 131 Government Complex Rd. GameTime®, the recreation and playground installer selected for the project, uses research-based programs and education to deliver the most tailored play and recreation environments in the world.

"This is an exciting day for Columbus County ... kids at heart can come out here to smile and have fun," shared Julie Strickland, Director of Columbus County Parks and Recreation. "This is a stepping stone for anyone who wants to play. This is a playground for everyone."

Children, their families, county employees, and Trillium staff enjoyed snow cones and music by DJ Smooth after the ribbon cutting.

Trillium first offered these grants in 2015, and has since constructed 31 playgrounds across our region. Each location received a grant amount appropriate for the scope of work and land space allocated for developing or updating a playground. To learn more, <u>please visit our website</u>.

ABOUT TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES

Trillium Health Resources is a leading specialty care manager (LME/MCO) for individuals with substance use, mental illness and intellectual/developmental disabilities in 28 counties in eastern North Carolina. Trillium's mission is to transform the lives of people in need by providing them with ready access to quality care. We take a person-centered approach to health and wellbeing, coordinating care across multiple systems to achieve improved health outcomes, quality of care and efficient use of resources. Trillium is investing in innovation to



meet the unique needs of the individuals and communities we serve, and remains focused on delivering the right services, in the right amount, at the right time. For more information, visit www.TrilliumHealthResources.org.

###

