



The Colorado Health Foundation™



Boys & Girls Clubs
of the San Luis Valley

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Partners Join Forces to Put Kids First by Increasing Opportunities to Play in Alamosa
200 Community Volunteers Unite to Build a New Playground at Friends Park

Volunteers from the Colorado Health Foundation, Boys & Girls Clubs of San Luis Valley, City of Alamosa and the community will join KaBOOM! on Saturday, August 11th to transform Friends Park into a kid-designed, state-of-the-art playground in just six hours. The new playground will help make play the easy choice for kids and families in Alamosa.

Play is essential to physical, creative, cognitive, social and emotional development. Friends Park is the most used park on the South side of Alamosa, serving over 100 youth and dozens of families every day. Yet, the equipment is not sufficient to support the needs of the community. We are excited to offer equipment for older community members and BGCSLV! Members. Through this project, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley and the City of Alamosa will work with the Foundation and KaBOOM! to make a difference in their community and address the most urgent needs of kids.

In June, kids from the surrounding community came together to draw their dream playground. The playground is based off their drawings and will provide more than 1,400 kids in Alamosa with a great, safe place to play.

This playground is part of the Foundation's [locally-focused work](#) that is designed to harness ideas that are generated at the local level and reflect the community's needs. Through this partnership, KaBOOM! and the Foundation are creating an oasis where kids feel valued and loved, and where their potential is supported, nurtured and celebrated.

WHEN: **Saturday, August 11**
8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Kick-off ceremony
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best viewing of playground construction
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Final construction phase
2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Ribbon-cutting ceremony
(Times approximate)

WHERE: **Friends Park**
1115 10th St
Alamosa, CO 81101

WHO: Hundreds of community volunteers

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About Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley

The [Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley, Inc.](#) (BGCSLV) is the premier youth organization serving the 8,000 square mile area of the San Luis Valley (SLV). In 2017 it celebrated its 25th year in the SLV. It is engaging a higher number of youth and seeing a greater return on investment to help build strategies relevant to today's youth of the San Luis Valley. BGCSLV provides affordable, high quality out-of-school time activities in a safe setting for young people, particularly for those most at-risk. The Club's roots trace back to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on 1988 when a group of high school students petitioned Alamosa CityCouncil for an after-school gathering place for yout and teens.

About the City of Alamosa

Alamosa, which means “cottonwood” in Spanish, is the hub of the San Luis Valley region of Southern Colorado. The City of Alamosa works to provide a welcoming environment for its citizens, businesses, and visitors while maintaining and promoting respect for our rich heritage of ethnic and cultural diversity as we foster a framework for positive interactions with our community partners.

About the Colorado Health Foundation

[The Colorado Health Foundation](#) is bringing health in reach for all Coloradans by engaging closely with communities across the state through investing, policy and advocacy, learning and capacity building. For more information, please visit www.coloradohealth.org

About KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! is the national non-profit dedicated to giving all kids – especially those living in poverty – the childhood they deserve through great, safe places to play. KaBOOM! inspires communities to make play the easy choice and works to drive the national discussion about the importance of PLAYces. KaBOOM! has collaborated with partners to build or improve more than 17,000 playspaces, engaged more than 1.5 million volunteers and served over 9 million kids. To learn why play matters for all kids, visit kaboom.org and join the conversation at twitter.com/kaboom, facebook.com/kaboom and instagram.com/kaboom. #playmatters #PLAYceforKids