



MEDIA ADVISORY - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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125 Volunteers join forces to bring The Gift of Play to Paterson Public Schools' School 8

Watch the community build the new playground in a day

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018 8:30am – 3pm

Photo/Interview Opportunities Available

WHAT: More than 125 Volunteers from Alexandra's Playground, School 8, New Jersey Community Development Corporation, and the Paterson community will join together on Sunday, June 10th to install **the new playground donated by Alexandra's Playground**. The new playground will feature state of the art equipment for ages 5-12 developed by Kompan, a global leader in playground solutions promoting child development through play.

WHEN: Sunday, June 10, 2018 (Times are approximate)
8:15am Registration
8:45am Kick-off
11am-2pm Best viewing of playground construction
2:30pm Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

WHERE: School 8, 35 Chadwick Street, Paterson, NJ

WHO: 125 Adult Volunteers, plus children

Honored Guests include:

Michael and Andrea Vitale - Co-Founders, Alexandra's Playground
Robert Guarasci, Eddie Gonzalez - New Jersey Community Development Corporation
Oshin Castillo - President of Paterson School Board
Susana Peron - Acting Deputy Superintendent
Sandra Diodonet - Assistant Superintendent of Unit II
Kemper McDowell – Executive Director of Family and Community Engagement
Sham Bacchus - Principal, School 8

WHY: Alexandra's Playground, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, works to bring the Gift of Play into the daily lives of children, particularly those growing up in under-served neighborhoods. **This will be the 25th playground they have donated to a deserving community, and their 5th donation in Paterson.**

School 8 can't wait to share their new playground with the students and families in the surrounding community. Play nurtures the strengthening of a child's body and mind as they learn to engage with new friends and the world around them. **The new playground with equipment for ages 5-12 will provide the 550 students at the school, all of whom live in a low-income urban environment, a safe place to play both during and after school.**

VISUALS: Before and after shots
Volunteers assembling, carrying, and installing brightly colored playground equipment
Volunteers moving engineered wood fiber by wheelbarrow and raking by hand
Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony with adult and student speakers to dedicate the playground

Alexandra's Playground, a NY registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is committed to creating safe environments for children to strengthen their bodies and minds. Established in 2009 to commemorate the life of their founders' daughter, Alexandra Vitale, Alexandra's Playground aims to positively impact the world in the ways they know she would have. alexandrasplayground.org [facebook.com/alexandrasplayground](https://www.facebook.com/alexandrasplayground)

Paterson Public Schools is the second largest school district in New Jersey with over 28,000 students from pre-k through grade 12. The district's mission is to prepare all children for college and career...together we can! For more information, visit www.paterson.k12.nj.us