



*****PRESS RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release

December 20, 2017

**PLAY SOCCER NONPROFIT INTERNATIONAL AWARDED \$15,000
FROM U.S. SOCCER FOUNDATION
TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS AT DONNELLY HOMES, TRENTON HOUSING
AUTHORITY PLAYING FIELD**

Trenton, NJ – [PLAY SOCCER Nonprofit International](#) (PSNI) today announced it has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the [U.S. Soccer Foundation](#), the national model for sports-based youth development programs in underserved communities. PSNI was one of eight organizations to receive a U.S. Soccer Foundation grant.

This grant will fund lighting at the playing field at the Donnelly Homes, [Trenton Housing Authority](#), in Trenton, New Jersey. PSNI has been offering free summer soccer programs for girls and boys at Donnelly Homes since 2015. Trenton Housing Authority officials welcomed the lighting project and the additional soccer activities that will take place at Donnelly Homes.

[Trinity Health](#), one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health systems in the nation, provided the required match funding for this grant through [St. Francis Medical Center](#) and the [Trenton Health Team](#) (THT) as part of the Transforming Communities Initiative (TCI). Through TCI, St. Francis Medical Center and THT aim to positively impact public health outcomes in Trenton and create health and wellbeing in the community through policy, systems, and environmental change.

Judy McPherson, the Executive Director of PSNI, a development through sport organization, said “This is a wonderful award that will allow greater use of the Donnelly field by the community and provide opportunity for more children and youth to enjoy the sport of soccer, engage in healthy exercise and learn skills that support their development on and off the field.”

“We are grateful for Trinity Health’s support of the Trenton community,” said Elena Cromeyer, Project Director of TCI for THT. “By providing match funding for this grant we are able to create safe places to play and opportunities to increase physical activity, which will help to improve health among the City’s children and youth.”

This grant was awarded as part of the U.S. Soccer Foundation's *Safe Places to Play* program. Across the country children in underserved communities face an acute shortage of safe places to play largely because there isn't enough space in which to create them or funding to maintain them. *Safe Places to Play* gives kids safe and accessible areas to play by funding the costs of design, construction, surfacing and enhancement in these communities.

Since its inception in 1994, the U.S. Soccer Foundation has awarded more than \$100 million in grants to non-profit organizations in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Support for the U.S. Soccer Foundation's grant process is provided by the Foundation's corporate partners, including AstroTurf, Hunter Industries, Kwik Goal, Musco Sports Lighting, Soccer.com, and Sport Court.

About PLAY SOCCER Nonprofit International (PSNI)

PSNI was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in New Jersey in 1999. Its award-winning program uses recreational sport to invest in the development of children, youth and communities, teaching soccer, health, and social skills. In Trenton, New Jersey it provides free afterschool programs at Trenton public schools and at the centers and parks of the Trenton Division of Recreation.

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