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# Playground backers



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Local Red Lion Hotel employees Nanette Triplett, right, and Richy Gaona help raise funds for the proposed all-access Brooklyn's Playground in Pocatello by offering free car washes in exchange for playground donations.

## Hotel workers raise funds for proposed site

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POCATELLO — Sporting white Brooklyn's Playground T-shirts, Red Lion Hotel employees greeted every willing vehicle with splashes, suds and vigorous scrubs while gathering donations for the all-accessible playground Friday afternoon.

About half of Red Lion employees volunteered their time for the quarterly service project, according to general manager Amy Moriarty.

"We thought doing something for Brooklyn's Playground would be a lot of fun," Moriarty said. "It's summertime. A lot of times we don't get the opportunity in the hotel to be outside. We thought it would be a fun way to get the associates involved and have a good time."

The four-hour car wash raised \$858.65.

With a noticeable community effort already underway to gather money for the future playground in Pocatello's OK Ward Park, the hotel director of

housekeeping Lesa Phelps said she wanted to do something.

She said Brooklyn's Playground will offer opportunities for children to meet and play with children they would not

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# Car Wash

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normally be able to play with in a typical playground setting.

As there are only a few months left until the Sept. 19 build date for the playground to be built in OK Ward park, area businesses and individuals are being asked to take on the July 300 campaign to exceed the \$300,000 mark by the end of the month.

Tim Forhan, the Valley Pride president, said it is crucial for the project to reach that benchmark.

"We need to be at \$300,000 by the end of July in order to begin ordering the equipment," Forhan said. "We have to be confident to get to our \$400,000 goal."

Forhan said the July 300 is to challenge 300 individuals or businesses to donate \$300 each toward Brooklyn's Playground.

Anyone interested can make a donation at [www.brooklynsplayground.org](http://www.brooklynsplayground.org).

Brooklyn's Playground is also enrolled to win a \$50,000 grant from the Pepsi Refresh Project. The goal is to get as many votes as possible. To vote visit [www.brooklynsplayground.org](http://www.brooklynsplayground.org) and click on the Pepsi Refresh challenge link.

To aid in the collection of votes, people can collect yellow Pepsi caps or cartons carrying the yellow "Power Vote" designation. To enter the "Power Vote" code online, follow the same process above and click on the yellow "Power

Vote" link. Cap up to 100 extra

As of Friday ground was No. three spots si day. If Brook ground lands i of the 280 pro running, it w \$50,000. Votin

quire setting up or use a Facebo Votes can be through July 31

Businesses in collecting the can e-mail Prc pion Jonny Fisl anfish@hotmail