

Sign-Up And Be A Part Of Making **Miracles** Happen!!!

(Ages 5 Through Adults)



THE **MIRACLE**[®] LEAGUE



2025 Spring Registration Opens

* City Residents * Non-Residents - February



What Is The Miracle Baseball League of Alexandria?

Provides children with mental and/or physical challenges an opportunity to play baseball with the opportunity to hit, throw, catch a ball, and score a run. The Miracle League of Alexandria players are assigned "Angels in the Outfield Buddies" who assist them in hitting the ball and "circling" the bases. Buddies can be fellow family members, schoolmates, parents, college students, business leaders or anyone who wishes to volunteer their time to give a child the gift of baseball. The MLA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Check us out at www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com



For information or questions about the Miracle League of Alexandria, contact **Mac Slover, Chair** at mac.slover29@outlook.com. Additional program details on registering, game dates/times, volunteering or donating, see the reserve side.

www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com





Mission of Our Program

- Provide opportunities for children between the ages of 5 - 17 and adults 18 years & up with mental and/or physical challenges to play Miracle League Baseball, regardless of their ability.
- Promote community support and sponsorship of Miracle Leagues of Alexandria.
- Promote the construction of special facilities that meet the unique needs of Miracle League players and their families.

History of Our Program

- The Miracle League of Alexandria (MLA) is a group of private citizens who banded together to work to help develop outdoor recreational opportunities for Alexandria's special needs community. The MLA was formed in 2010 when Mac Slover, then with the City's Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities approached citizens with the idea of a Miracle Field Program for the special needs community. Slover retired from Alexandria in 2018, but still runs the program voluntarily to this day.
- A Miracle Field is a rubberized surface baseball diamond designed specifically to allow wheelchairs and walkers to be used in a safe and pleasant environment to play sports. The field is geared towards baseball, but many other sports and activities can be played on it – adaptive soccer and wheelchair basketball are just two examples. And while it is designed for special needs players, it can also be used by others as well – T-ball players; senior exercise classes; therapeutic sessions; etc.
- When we formed the MLA, we wanted to make it a collaborative effort. We wanted to work with the City of Alexandria, the Kelley Cares Foundation (a sister charity helping the therapeutic recreation community), and the private sector in a public/private partnership. The City had tentatively scheduled a Miracle Field to be built in ten years at a cost to the City of \$585,000. The MLA was able to work with private sector donors to raise over \$300,000 of that cost and have the field built within 2 years.
- The Kelley Cares Miracle Field was built and dedicated in the Fall of 2012 – just two years after the effort started. Our players love it! Baseball games are held in the spring and fall seasons, with the field being used year-round for other sports. The Miracle League also operates an outreach program with the Alexandria City Public Schools through the Office of Inclusion. They offer six days each spring and fall season that allows school's SPED classes to come to the Miracle Field for a field trip to play a simulated baseball game like the regular league players play.
- Building on the success of the Miracle Field, the MLA and its partners just finished paying for a fully accessible playground near the field and in the fall of 2024 we installed a LED Video Scoreboard. Our work continues as we support the City-run Miracle League Program. Our members provide volunteers to help the players at the games and continue to raise funds to support the program. In 2021 we celebrated our 10-year anniversary of the program and in 2022 we will celebrate our 10th anniversary of the Kelley Cares Miracle Field. We also host an annual 9/11 First Responder's Day Game, special games with other Miracle Leagues and much more. MLA is also a sister partner to the newly formed league in 2022 in Prince William County. MLA is now in its 14th year and still growing!

Spring Season 2025

Youth Games - Wednesdays, April 23 – May 28, from 4:30 - 5:30 pm.

Adult games - Saturdays, April 12 – May 31, from 1 - 2:30 pm.

Games Location - played at the Kelley Cares Miracle Field at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Inclement Weather Days – games held at the Nannie J. Lee Recreation Center (across from the Kelley Cares Miracle Field).

Volunteer “Angels In The Outfield Buddies” and Coaches Needed

We are looking for “**Angels in the Outfield” Buddy Volunteers** – Ages 12 years and older to volunteer. All Buddies must sign up on the Miracle League of Alexandria web site at www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com.

Who Can Sign Up?

The Miracle Baseball League of Alexandria is open for any person with mental and/or physical challenges who reside in the City of Alexandria or are non-residents. Children who participate in any Recreation Department Therapeutic Recreation program, Alexandria City Public School System program or with any agency/organization in the City are eligible to participate.

Registration Process and Program Fee

- Register online at the MLA web page - www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com to link to the Recreation Department's web site, at www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or in-person at the Lee Center Registration Office (1108 Jefferson Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314). Age of participants as of April 30 each year. **The fee is \$65.00 per person** and payment is made by credit card, check or money order to the City of Alexandria. **Alexandria Parks & Rec, VA - Splash (myvscloud.com)** then look under **Sports** at the bottom of the page.
- Registered Players receive an official Washington Nationals Major League jersey and hat.



**Contact Mac Slover, Chair - MLA at mac.slover29@outlook.com
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