



Contact: Clara Sanderson  
Phone: 907-777-0103  
Email: [csanderson@thearcofanchorage.org](mailto:csanderson@thearcofanchorage.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **The Anchorage Teddy Bear Picnic Celebrates Inclusive Play** *Free Community Picnic Emphasizes Play for Everyone*

*ANCHORAGE, AK, July 15, 2016* - Bears are coming to Cuddy Family Midtown Park—teddy bears that is! Families, community members, and their favorite stuffed animals are invited to The Anchorage Teddy Bear Picnic on Saturday, July 23, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Cuddy Family Midtown Park, 201 E. 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Anchorage.

The Anchorage Teddy Bear event features a free picnic lunch along with activities and entertainment for everyone. The event is a celebration of inclusive play in Anchorage parks that presents a day filled with fun, imagination and the exploration of a world full of potential for kids and teddies of all abilities. Special guests and activities include live music, local bear mascots, face-painting, bounce houses, a teddy bear parade and much more at this free family-fun event.

Why all the fun?

*“We know that play is for everyone, and we want to make sure to include kids and people of all abilities in the fun. We’re proud to co-host this event to highlight the importance of inclusive play and build momentum to bring more inclusive playgrounds to Anchorage.”*

*- Beth Nordlund, Anchorage Park Foundation*

*“Everyone is welcome to this event, to come together as a community and see that inclusive play is a great opportunity for ALL.”*

*- Barbara Rodriguez-Rath, The Arc of Anchorage*

### **Anchorage Teddy Bear Picnic**

**Free and open to the public**

**Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm.**

**Cuddy Family Midtown Park**

**201 E 40<sup>th</sup> Ave., Anchorage, AK 99503**

This event is made possible by a joint partnership with the Anchorage Park Foundation, The Arc of Anchorage, Ted Stevens Foundation, Anchorage Parks & Recreation, Alaska Health and Disability Program, Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special Education, Parks For All, and Healthy Futures. The Anchorage Teddy Bear Picnic is also sponsored by the Anchorage Municipal Employees Association, Lisa Murkowski for

U.S. Senate, PIP Printing, iHeart Media, and Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska. For more information about the 2016 event, visit: [www.anchoragetteddybearpicnic.com](http://www.anchoragetteddybearpicnic.com).

For a full list of entertainment, performances and activities for 2016:  
<http://anchoragetteddybearpicnic.com/activities.html>.

For more information about inclusive play parks in Anchorage:  
<http://anchorageparkfoundation.org/programs/parks-for-all-2/>

-END-