



# ISRAEL PARASPORT CENTER LUSKI AQUATIC CENTER

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN  
JULY 2025



# Israel ParaSport Center

The Israel ParaSport Center has been a hub for adaptive and rehabilitative sports for 65 years. Founded in 1960 to support wounded veterans and children affected by polio, the 4-acre campus now serves nearly **3,500** Israelis with disabilities and their families through sports and social services. At The Center, children and adults build confidence, develop skills, and form lifelong friendships, while elite para-athletes train to proudly represent Israel on the world stage.

## Rehabilitation & Recovery

Offering physical therapy, emotional support, and life-changing rehabilitation

## World-Class Sports Training

Helping athletes achieve their dreams, break barriers, and represent Israel on the world stage

## Empowering the Next Generation

Providing specialized sports training and support for young children with disabilities through our kindergarten and children's programs

## Community Building

Creating a supportive, inclusive environment that fosters independence and connection among athletes, families, & supporters

*"The Center is a place where G-d kissed & never left...  
there's a sense of belonging that doesn't exist anywhere else."  
-Lori Komisar, Past National President*





# The Power of Swimming

**For many, swimming is not just a therapeutic activity—it is a lifeline.**

Years of experience and research confirm our belief that swimming serves as the foundation for adaptive sports, and at The Center every rehabilitative journey begins in one of our pools. The strength and confidence that is built through swimming serves as the foundation for exploring other sports and long-term success.

Beyond its physical benefits, swimming lets people of all ages experience the joy of movement, something many of our participants cannot do on land. In the water, limitations seem to dissolve, and they experience a sense of liberation as the ripples flow around them. This freedom of movement, combined with its ability to build strength, makes swimming one of the most impactful sports for people with disabilities.











# The Luski Aquatic Center

Among its many state-of-the-art facilities, the Israel ParaSport Center has two pools: The semi-Olympic Atlanta Community Pool and the Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool.

The Atlanta Community Pool was built in 1966, and just two years later, served as a venue for the third-ever Paralympic Games in 1968. In 2006, the pool was renovated, with a roof built over it, allowing for year-round use.

The Jimmy Caplan Children's pool was constructed in the early 1980s and hosts our swimming school for children and essential hydrotherapy program.

Our pools serve nearly 1,000 people every week, providing freedom, therapy, and joy to individuals of all ages and abilities. Those who benefit from our pools include:

-  Young children from our kindergarten
-  People on the autism spectrum
-  Adults with cerebral palsy
-  Adults with visual impairments
-  Adults with Parkinson's disease
-  Nova Festival survivors and other [Shesek participants](#)





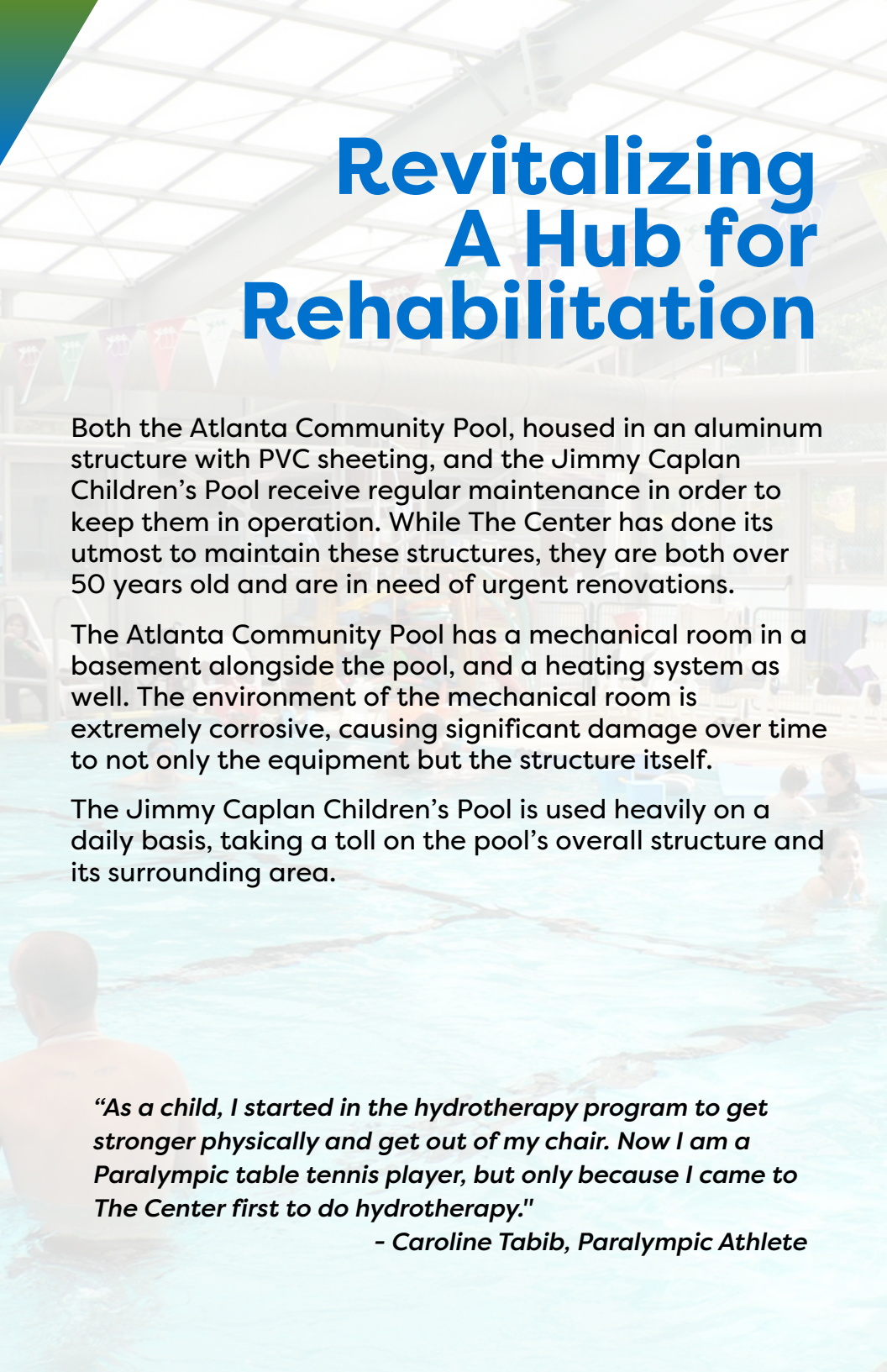


# Revitalizing A Hub for Rehabilitation

Both the Atlanta Community Pool, housed in an aluminum structure with PVC sheeting, and the Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool receive regular maintenance in order to keep them in operation. While The Center has done its utmost to maintain these structures, they are both over 50 years old and are in need of urgent renovations.

The Atlanta Community Pool has a mechanical room in a basement alongside the pool, and a heating system as well. The environment of the mechanical room is extremely corrosive, causing significant damage over time to not only the equipment but the structure itself.

The Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool is used heavily on a daily basis, taking a toll on the pool's overall structure and its surrounding area.



*"As a child, I started in the hydrotherapy program to get stronger physically and get out of my chair. Now I am a Paralympic table tennis player, but only because I came to The Center first to do hydrotherapy."*

*- Caroline Tabib, Paralympic Athlete*



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## Revitalizing A Hub for Rehabilitation (cont.)

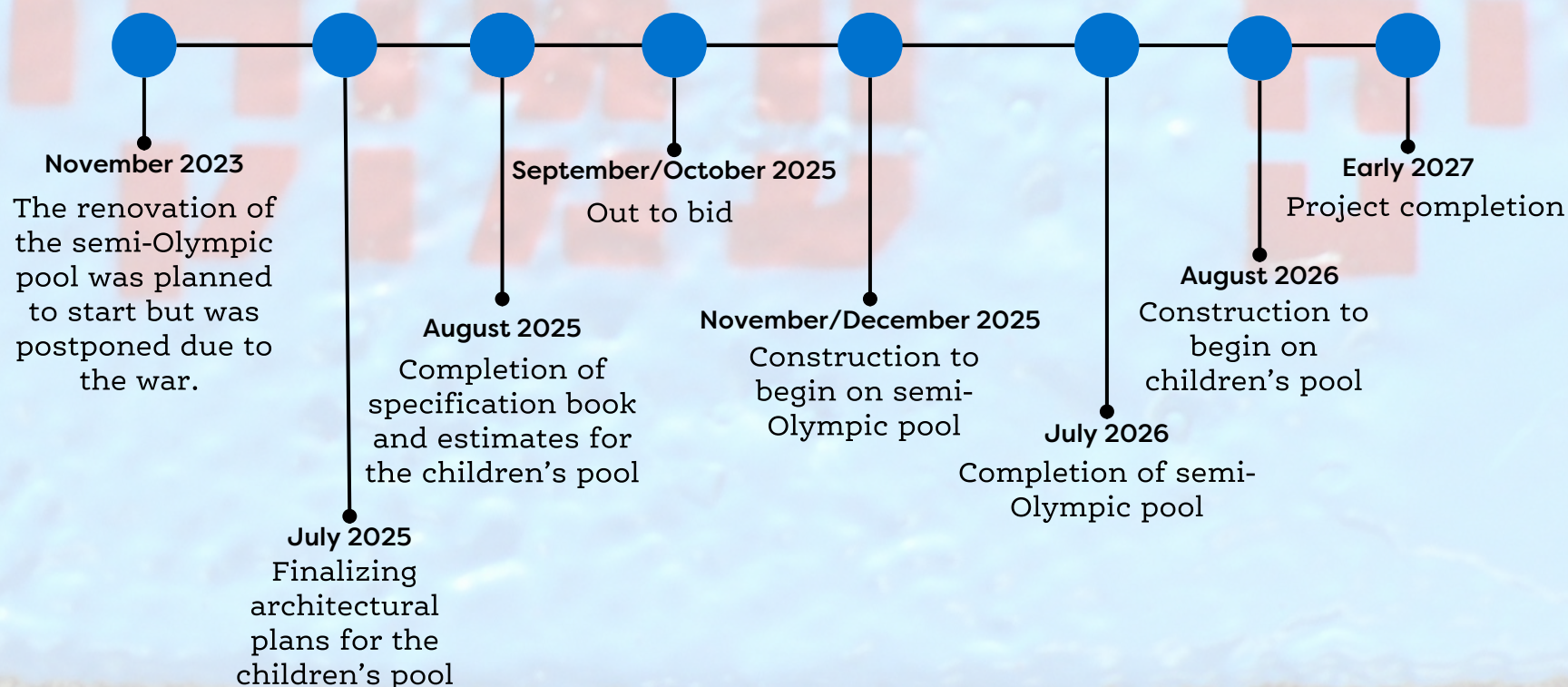
In order for The Center to continue to provide its essential swimming programs and to keep this important part of our community operating in the long-term, a complete renovation of both pools is being conducted.

This renovation will include:

- Resurfacing the pool basin and infrastructure of both pools
- Upgrading the mechanical systems: filtering, heating, pipes, controls
- Overhauling the basement mechanical room, including essential repairs and reinforcement of the building infrastructure
- Renovating the pool premises, from upgrading flooring and fencing to accessible doorways. These renovations will include further accommodations for people with disabilities and bringing the Aquatic Center into compliance with accessibility regulations.
- Renovating the changing rooms with new flooring, ceiling, showers, toilets and infrastructure.
- Installing solar panels to provide cost-efficient and sustainable heating



# Projected Timeline\*



\* This timeline represents a two-phase project where the pools will be reconstructed one after another. Final decisions on phases will be made by the project committee after the bids.



# Funding Needs

Our project to revitalize the Aquatic Center was initially planned to begin in 2024, with an initial \$2.9 million raised, but, due to post-war financial turbulence, a surge in construction costs has slowed renovations down. In order for us to complete the project, we require a total of \$5.4 million. We are also seeking an additional 20% in order to create a maintenance fund for the pools, bringing our total need to \$6.5 million.

**A generous donor has stepped up to help us reach our goal, donating \$1 million already while offering to match any donations toward the final \$2 million needed.**

## BUDGET

Children's Pool Surface & Foundation Renovation	\$1,200,000
Semi-Olympic Pool Surface & Foundation Renovation	\$3,000,000
Accessibility Enhancements	\$500,000
Safety & Hygeine Upgrades	\$400,000
Energy Efficient Solar Heating Systems & Equipment	\$300,000
Structural Repairs and Finishing	\$400,000
Additional Miscellaneous Costs	\$600,000
Maintenance Fund	\$1,100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,500,000</b>



# Make a Splash with the Double Dive Matching Campaign

Thanks to years of generous support, we've already raised two-thirds of the funding needed to bring the Luski Aquatic Center's renovation to life. But we need your help to cross the finish line.

**With the generous support of Cathi & David Luski and Family, all donations toward the Luski Aquatic Center will be matched. Help us raise the final \$2.4 million and double your impact!**

## Naming Opportunities with the Luski Aquatic Center

The Luski Aquatic Center offers a range of meaningful naming opportunities to honor your generosity. From essential infrastructure to inviting community spaces, each naming opportunity plays a vital role in renewing this hub of healing, movement, and possibility. Whether you choose to name a lane, a bench, or a building feature, your gift will directly advance the project.

**All naming gifts will be matched through the Double Dive Matching Campaign.  
Opportunities can be found on the following pages.**

To learn more and make a donation, visit [www.IsraelParaSport.org/aquatic-center](http://www.IsraelParaSport.org/aquatic-center)

- or -

Contact Jackie Shapiro at [jackie.shapiro@israelparasport.org](mailto:jackie.shapiro@israelparasport.org).



# Naming Opportunities: Atlanta Community Pool

OPPORTUNITY	GIFT AMOUNT	AVAILABLE
Engine Room	\$250,000	1
Main Lobby and Entry	\$150,000	(RESERVED)
Main Pool Deck	\$150,000	1
Locker Rooms	\$125,000	2
Main Internal Pool Entry	\$100,000	1
Accessible Private Changing Room	\$75,000	2
Pool Lane	\$50,000	6
North, West or South Entry	\$50,000	3
Elevator	\$50,000	1
Life Guard Station	\$25,000	1
Hydraulic Lifts	\$12,500	(RESERVED)
Diving Block	\$5,000	6

## Accessible Private Changing Rooms

These private, fully accessible spaces, highly visible along the eastern deck of the Atlanta Community Pool, provide individuals with disabilities the comfort, safety, and dignity they need. Naming one of these rooms is a powerful way to champion empowerment and ensure everyone can participate fully.





# Naming Opportunities: Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool

OPPORTUNITY	GIFT AMOUNT	AVAILABLE
Parent's Observation Deck	\$125,000	1
Staff Lounge	\$100,000	1
Accessible Private Changing Room	\$75,000	6
Building Entry & Lobby	\$100,000	1
Pool Entry	\$75,000	1
Childrens Pool Office	\$50,000	1
Medical Station	\$25,000	1
Hydraulic Lifts	\$12,500	RESERVED
Changing Bench	\$5,000	4
Locker	\$2,500	40

## Parent's Observation Deck

Surrounding the Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool, this dedicated space allows parents and caregivers to watch their children and cheer them on as they gain strength and confidence in the water. Comfortable and accessible, the deck is where many families discover hope and grow in pride. Naming this area honors the vital role families play in every healing journey.





# Naming Opportunities: Community Spaces

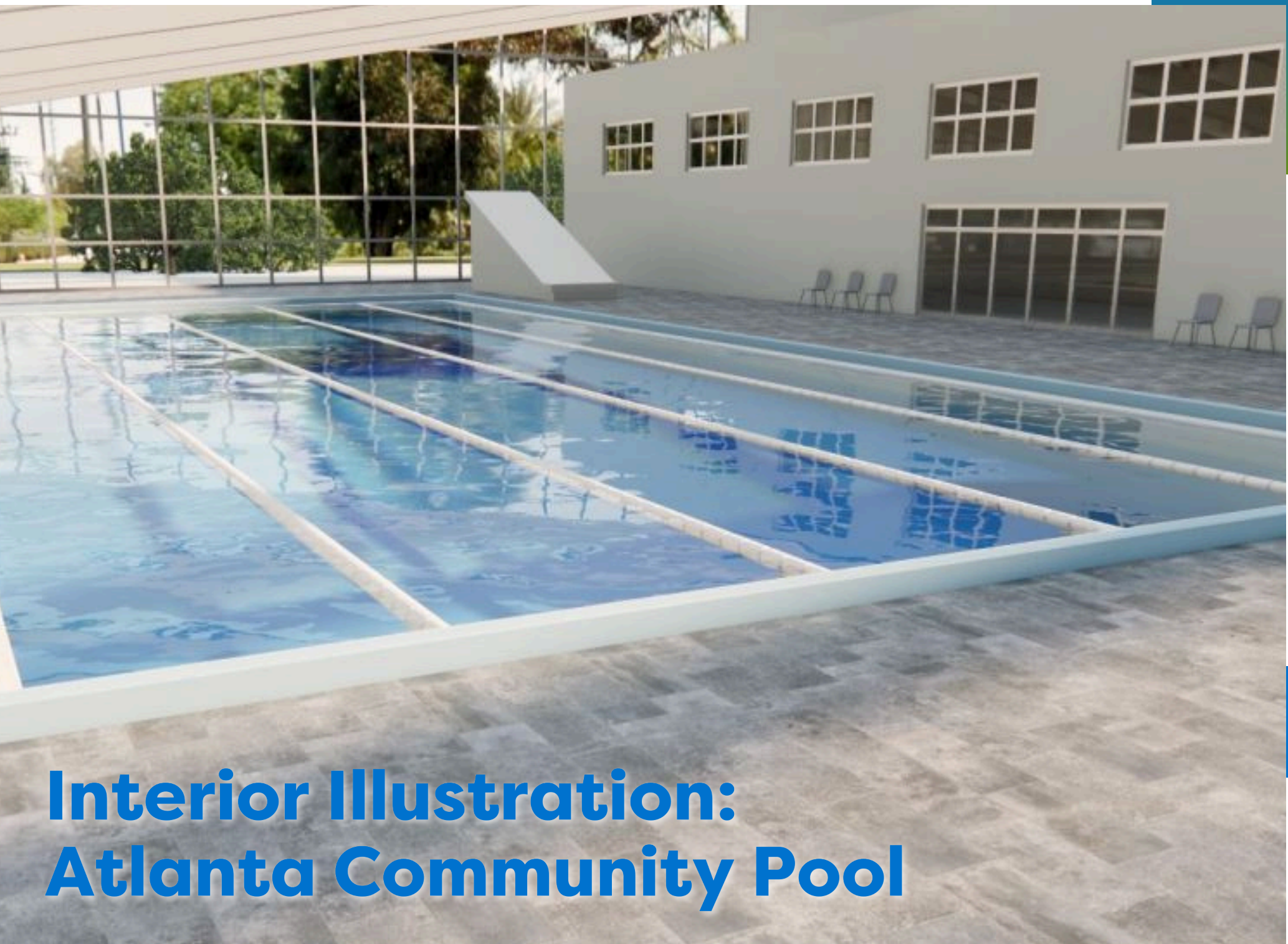
OPPORTUNITY	GIFT AMOUNT	AVAILABLE
Shelters	\$200,000	(RESERVED)
Swim Boulevard	\$100,000	1
Garden Space	\$18,500	4
Picnic Table	\$12,500	2
Outdoor Bench	\$10,000	9
Mezuzot	\$3,600	40

## Swim Boulevard

A major thoroughfare of our campus, this tree-lined street connects the Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool, the Atlanta Community Center, and our Expo Tent. It's a scenic and social hub where families stroll, friends gather, and visitors take in moments of rest and reflection. Naming Swim Boulevard places your name at the heart of the Luski Aquatic Center, offering a meaningful, lasting legacy.



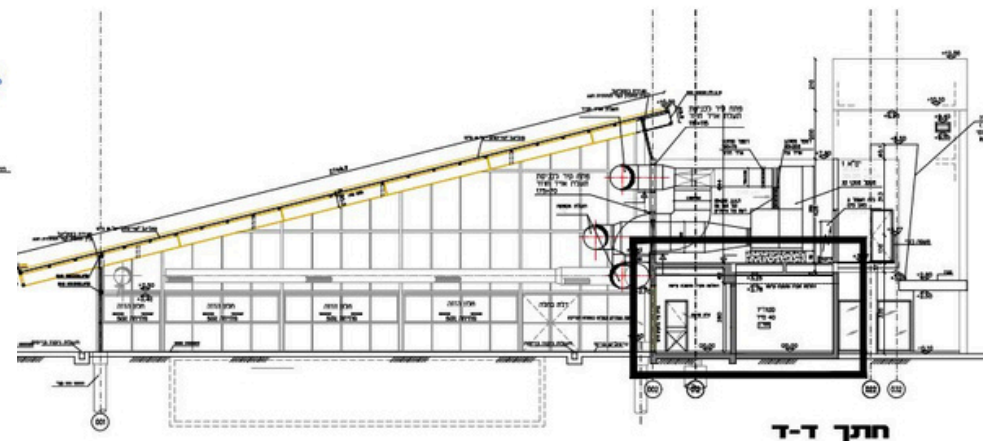
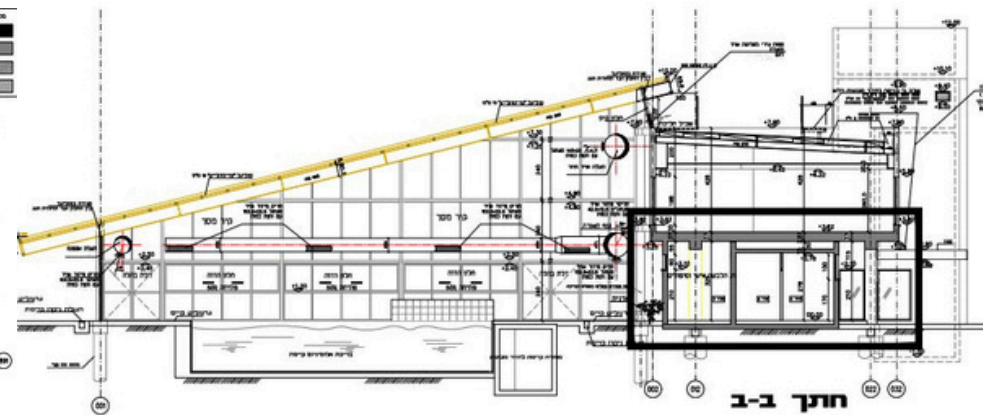
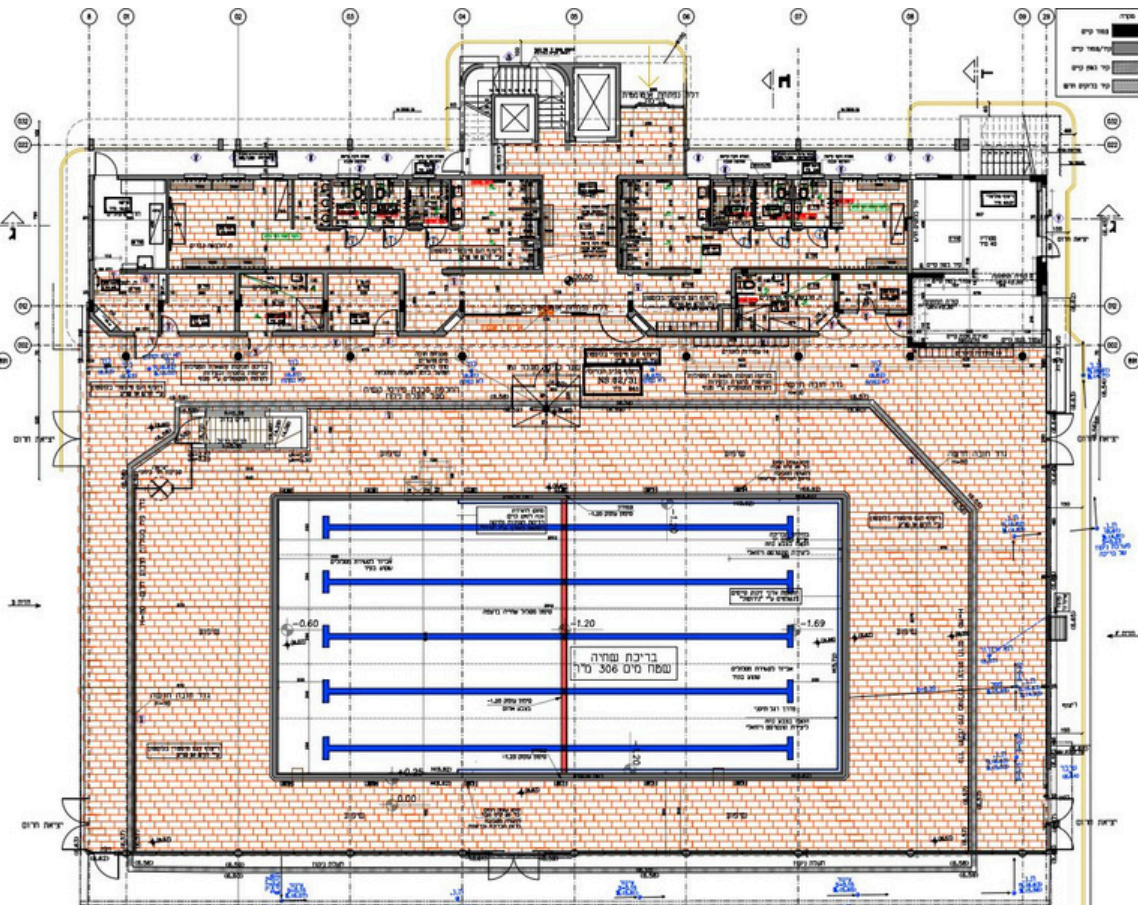




# **Interior Illustration: Atlanta Community Pool**



# Architectural Plan: Atlanta Community Pool



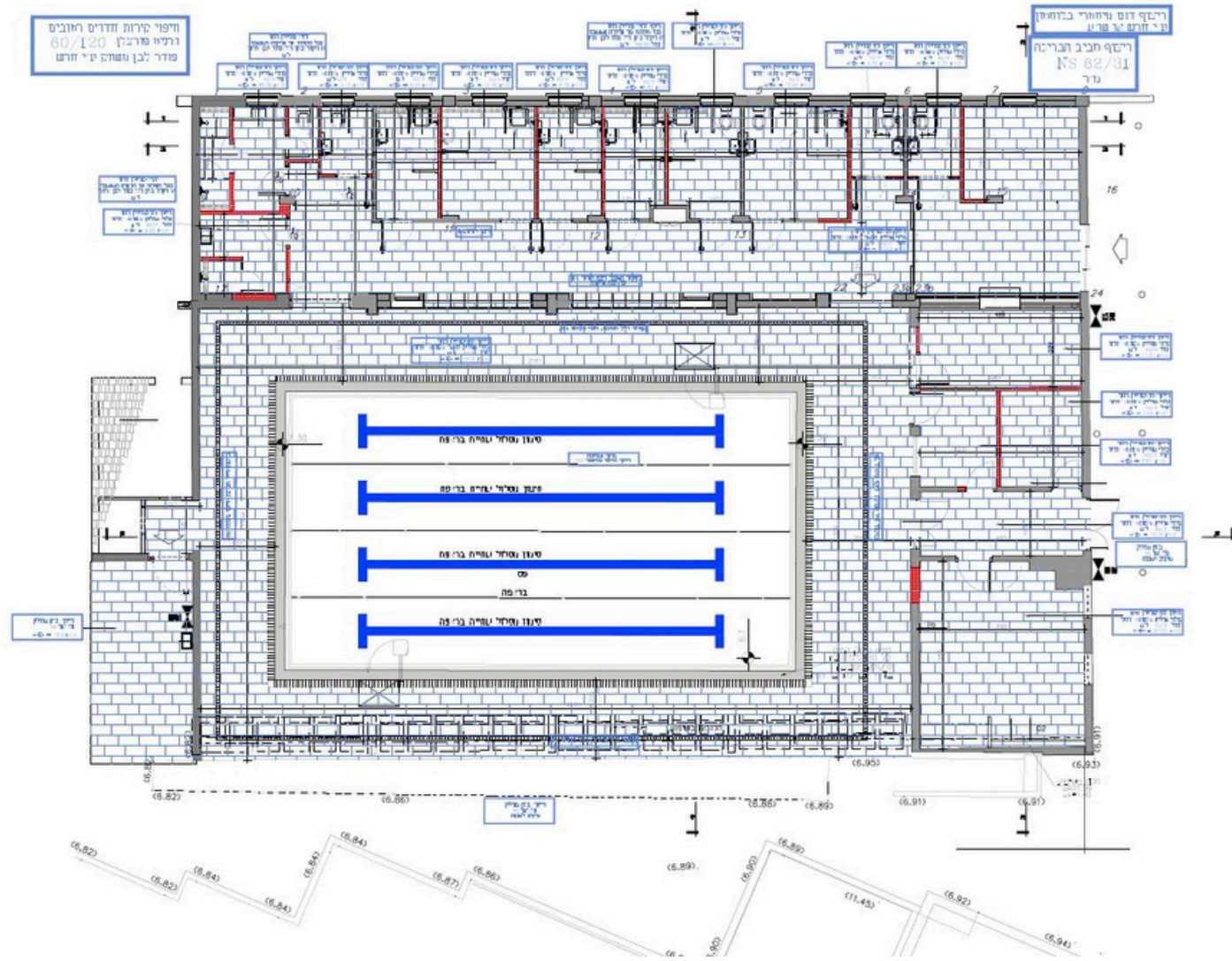




# Exterior Illustrations (TBD): Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool



# Architectural Plan: Jimmy Caplan Children's Pool





**Israel ParaSport Center - US**  
**Jon Michelin - National President**  
**Jennifer Flink - Executive Director**

**Israel ParaSport Center - Israel**  
**Jacob Ben Arie - Chairman**  
**Boaz Kramer - Executive Director**



**ISRAEL PARASPORT CENTER**

*Celebrating 65 Years of Life Without Limits*