

Northeast Indiana Guide of Community and Recreation Activities for People Who Have Special Needs

Activity Clubs

- **Easter Seals Arc Community Recreation:** Activities are scheduled evenings and weekends for adults (18 years and over) with an intellectual disability. You decide what activities you would like to participate in such as; bowling leagues, ballroom dancing, sporting events, dances, summer camps, concerts; Special Olympic basketball, swimming, track and field, bocce ball; game nights, festivals and fairs. Sign up memos for each activity are mailed to individuals on the Recreation Mailing List. Individuals that want to be on the Recreation mailing list can call (260) 456-4534 ext. 430 to sign up.
- **Dream Team:** At the Caylor-Nickel YMCA in Bluffton kids with special needs are encouraged to participate in various monthly activities. Contact www.fwymca.org

Bowling

- **Crazy Pinz Special Needs Bowling League:** Contact for information (260) 490-2695.
- **Georgetown Bowl:** \$2.00 per game for people with disabilities, fee includes shoes. Accompanying staff are free. Contact for information (260) 749-9610.

Camps

- **Camp REYOAD:** is a place where volunteers, staff and campers with special needs come together for a special week each summer at Epworth Forest Conference Center in North Webster. Learn more about our ministry, facilities, resources, and Camp REYOAD at www.impact2818.org/reyoad Contact (260) 715-3601 or rdepew@sf.edu or call the Epworth Forest CC Office at (574) 834-2212.
- **Camp Lutherhaven:** is a 4 day/3 night camp designed for persons with a developmental disabled located in Albion, Indiana. Contact (260) 636-7101 or www.lutherhaven.org
- **Camp Lake Luther:** is a 4 day/3 night camp is designed for persons with developmental disabilities located near Angola, Indiana. Contact Mark Radlof at mark@lomik.org or (260) 667-7750.
- **Camp PossAbility, Inc.:** exists to give high functioning young adults with physical disabilities an opportunity to relax, refresh, let their guard down, and enjoy a week at a camp adapted just for them. This one week summer camp is designed specifically for young adults ages 18 to 35 who have a physical disability and use any type of adaptive

equipment—walker, wheelchair, cane, etc. Campers may also use communication boards if needed. Campers must have a high school diploma or equivalent to attend. Contact (260) 415-6967 or www.CampPossAbility.org

- **Red Cedar Camp:** where individuals of all abilities come together to learn, explore, play and grow. 3900 Hursh Rd, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Contact (260) 637-3608 or www.campredcedar.com

Choir

- **Friends in Focus:** Choral Group A Capella composed of blind and visually impaired singers. Contact (260) 444-1609 or mstyg2014@yahoo.com
- **Joyful Songsters:** Designed to provide an integrated choral experience for individuals with disabilities, senior citizens, and other teens and adults in Huntington County. Contact <http://childrenschoirofhuntingtoncounty.org/joyful-songsters>
- **One Heart Bells and Voices Choir:** One Heart started a special needs choir where they can come and learn new songs, sign language, and even bells. Contact <http://oneheartdisabilityministries.org>

Dance

- **Easter Seals Arc Ballroom Dance Program:** Collaboration between Easter Seals Arc, Special Olympics and Fort Wayne Dancesport. Weekly one hour dance lessons at a local studio. Volunteer ballroom dancers without disabilities are paired with adults with disabilities throughout the duration of the program and participate in a competition. This program provides socialization, community integration, values, lifelong friendships and exercise. Ballroom dancing experience is not required. Call (260) 456-4534 ext. 240.
- **Fort Wayne Dance Collective:** provides an alternative, non-competitive approach to studying dance. Classes are open to persons of all disabilities. Contact (260) 424-6574 or www.fwdc.org
- **Premier Dance Company:** Contact (260) 625-3874 or www.premierdancecompany.com

Drums

- **ADD Drumming 4 Joy:** This class is a six-week drumming class for young people with ADHD and their parents/caregivers. Kids will experience the cognitive benefit and joy of drumming while their parents gain valuable ADHD information on parenting. Contact Cheryl at (260) 225-3435 or www.addjoyoflife.com
- **Bang the Drum:** Combines aerobic movement and rhythm, no experience necessary. Contact www.fwymca.org
- **Meaningful Day Drum Circle:** Music therapy drum circle. Contact Alison Asbury at musicali81@hotmail.com or www.meaningfulday.com

Educational Interests

- **Science Central:** will adapt most any program to fit your needs, they have hundreds of different activities. They will also host six Special Abilities Days in 2017. Contact (260) 424-2400 or www.sciencecentral.org

Gymnastics, Tumbling, Jump, and Cheer

- **Our Little Nita Class at The Summit Academy of Gymnastics:** Enables the children to experience their own capabilities; many activities/stations with a wide range of abilities, so all can enjoy a feeling of success. Call (260) 482-2511 to register and visit website at www.summitacademyofgymnastics.com/ to download release form before class.
- **Sky Zone:** Indoor trampoline Park. Special Friends Night welcomes children and adults with special needs and their sibling, family and friends to jump for 60 minutes for \$8. Contact (260) 483-5867 or www.skyzone.com/fortwayne
- **Tumble X:** Cheer and tumble classes for children and adults with developmental delays. Contact (260) 478-1709 or www.txtrainingcenter.com
- **Whitley County Dazzlers:** At the Whitley County Family YMCA this group is open to males and females in grades K-12. Contact vanessawccf@gmail.com or www.fwymca.org

Horseback Riding

- **Dare to Dream Youth Ranch:** Offering horseback riding lessons and therapy. Contact (260) 489-3859 or www.daretodreamyouthranch.com

- **Dusty Dreams:** Therapeutic recreation and certified riding instructors. Call (260) 750-5748 or www.dustydreams.org
- **Magical Meadows Therapeutic Horseback Riding Center :** 4767 N. 375 E. Warsaw, IN. Contact (574) 265-3085 or www.themagicalmeadows.org
- **Oak Hill Farm Therapeutic Riding:** Promoting horseback riding for people with disabilities. Contact (260) 672-8199 or www.oakhillfarm.org
- **Summit Equestrian Center:** Therapeutic horseback riding and equine assisted learning. Call (260) 619-2700 or www.summitequestrian.org
- **Therapeutic Riding Center of Steuben County:** 8952 West 150 North Angola, IN. Contact (260) 829-6519 or Trsc_03@yahoo.com Serves: DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, and Steuben counties.

Ministry

- **One Heart Disability Ministry:** focusing on reaching people with disabilities and their families with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Weekly bible studies, game nights, bell and voice choir. 1400 W. Washington Center Rd, Fort Wayne. Contact (260) 338-6608 or www.oneheartdisabilityministries.org
- **OurLife Special Needs Ministry:** OurLife Ministry is committed to opening doors and building bridges in Life, Community, and beyond so that all may worship, serve, be served, learn, and grow together in the presence of God as a valued disciple of our Community. 7222 W. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne. www.lifefw.com/ourlife

Parks

- **National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass:** This is a free, lifetime pass available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States that have been medically determined to have a permanent disability – that provides access to more than 2,000 recreation sites managed by five Federal agencies. You can learn more at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html>
- **Buckner Park:** Accessible playgrounds/splash pads. Located at 6114 Bass Rd. Fort Wayne. Contact (260) 427-6000 or www.fortwayneparks.org

- **Kreager Park:** Includes Taylor’s Dream Boundless Playground, a truly inclusive space where children of all abilities gain the important developmental and physical benefits of unstructured play. Located on North River Road, Fort Wayne. Contact (260) 427-6000 or www.fortwayneparks.org

Recreational Equipment

- **Be Adaptive, LLC:** We are committed to producing the highest quality adaptive hunting, shooting and fishing equipment for all disabled outdoorsmen. Contact 877-595-5634 or <http://www.beadaptive.com/>

Performing Group

- **Jesters:** Performing group composed of individuals with mild to severe developmental or physical disabilities ages 6 and older. art.sf.edu/community-programs/jesters

Self-Advocacy

- **Kiwanis International Aktion Club:** A community service club for adults with disabilities ages 18 and older. Contact Delia Falk at (260) 485-3200 or dfalk@esarc.org

Sensory Friendly Shows

- **Sensory Friendly Showings:** Offers monthly showings at NCG Cinemas in Auburn. Contact (260) 925-2800 or www.ncgmovies.com/auburn
- **AMC Sensory Friendly Films:** <https://www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films>
- **Fort Wayne Civic Theatre Project Lights Up:** No cost, special sensory performances. Contact www.fwcivic.org
- **Regal Entertainment Group My Way Matinee:** <http://www.regmovies.com/mywaymatinee>

Sensory Supplies

- **Sensory Critters:** Sells products for Oral Motor, Language, Apraxia, Early Intervention, Literacy, Motor Planning, Fine Motor, Gross Motor, Tactile, Proprioception, Visual, Exclusive Weighted Hoodie, Vests, Lap Pads, and Blankets. Also creates Multi-Sensory Environments. www.sensorycraver.com

- **CapeAble:** is an extensive and innovative offering of weighted garments, accessories, blankets, and toys. www.capeable.com

Sports

- **Turnstone:** The sports, recreation and leisure programs are designed to improve overall health and wellness, increase physical activity level, socialization opportunities and independence. The programs are planned, coordinated and provided by a Turnstone staff member, a certified recreation therapist. Contact (260) 969-7678 or rio@turnstone.org
- **Special Olympics:** Provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in more than 20 Olympic-type sports for people ages 8 and up with intellectual disabilities, reaching more than 11,000 athletes across Indiana. www.soindiana.org
- **TOP Soccer Fort Wayne Sports Club:** Designed to bring the opportunity of learning and playing soccer to kids, ages 8-19, who has a mental or physical disability. Call (260) 693-1921 or www.fortwaynesportclub.com/youth-soccer/topsoccer
- **St. Joe Soccer:** A club for players of all abilities. www.stjoesoccer.com
- **C3 Sports:** Offers an Integrated Soccer League to kids age 4 through 4th grade. Contact c3sports.net
- **Fort Wayne Curling Club:** The Curling Club is offering Special Needs Curling as an integrated activity for individuals ages 10 and up with physical or intellectual disabilities and their families, friends or peers. Curling is a sport ANYONE can play regardless of their disability and is a great family activity. Contact info@fortwaynecurling.com
- **Challenger Programs, a division of Little League Baseball:** The programs include baseball and basketball for kids with special needs starting at age 6, depending on their skill levels and availability for that level. Contact Pat Reibs for baseball at (260) 484-1338 or Addie Colley for basketball at (260) 403-0513.

Support Groups

- **Adult ADHD Support Group:** Living Your Life, BEYOND the Diagnosis! Contact Cheryl Gigler (260) 436-2556 or www.addjoyoflife.com
- **Asperger Social Group:** For adults with Asperger's syndrome. Contact Sue Christman at (260) 456-4534, ext. 271 or schristm@esarc.org or John Graham at (260) 402-7591

or cole_man2001@yahoo.com. On Facebook: [Asperger's Group at Lutheran Hospital](#). Parents, family members, and professionals are also welcome to attend.

- **Autism Society of Indiana:** Encourage Empower and Enjoy the Autism Spectrum (EEE Support Group) is an open forum for caregivers to talk and share ideas. Contact Kelly@inautism.org about the group and to also sign up for their newsletter.
- **Boundaries Crossed Youth Group:** Fun, casual and meaningful for middle and high school youth with Asperger's or similar functioning. Contact Tommy Guest at Tommy@PartnersAutism.org or (260) 446-6532.
- **Brain Injury Support Group:** Teens 'n Twenties Lutheran Hospital Neuro-Spine and Pain Center, 7956 Jefferson Blvd. Fort Wayne. Contact (260) 435-7001
- **Child Life Center Sponsored Support Groups of Parkwood Church of God:** Open to all parents/caregivers/others involved with affected children. Groups for ADD/ADHD, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Genetic Syndrome. Contact Mary Douglas at (260) 493-1149 or marysgandg@frontier.com
- **DSANI- Down Syndrome Association of Northeast Indiana:** For resources, family support, and advocacy services, prenatal to adulthood. Offers a number of different support groups and activities for its members. Contact (260) 471-9964 or www.dsani.org
- **Epilepsy and Seizure Disorder Support Group:** For meeting information, contact Danielle Brewer at fortwayneepilepsy@gmail.com
- **Mental Health America:** M8connections Youth Group includes food, talk, and activities. Get to know other teens who have struggled with their emotions, feeling's or personal challenges. Contact (260) 422-6442 or reservation@mhaac.com
- **NAMI- National Alliance on Mental Illness Family Support Group:** is a peer-led support group for family members, caregivers and loved ones of individuals living with mental illness. Contact (260) 447-8990 or www.namifortwayne.org
- **Parkview Brain Injury Support Group:** The group is designed for survivors of brain injury and their family, friends, caregivers and service providers. Contact Kristin Smith OTR at (260) 452-4943 or Kristin.Smith@parkview.com
- **Sibshops:** A support group for brothers and sisters of children with disabilities or special health concerns. Three age groups; grade school, middle/jr. high, and high

school. Meets six times a year. Contact Sue Christman at (260) 456-4534, ext. 271 or schristm@esarc.org

- **Turnstone Support Group's:** Offers primary caregivers of children with disabilities group, Parkinson's group, Parkinson's caregiver group, and Fort Wayne Amputee group. Contact (260) 483-2100

Swimming

- **Turnstone:** Swim Lap Club is designed for children with disabilities ages 4 to 12. Participants are divided into teams based on their level of skill. Contact Kristin at (260) 483-2100.
- **YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne:** Adaptive Swimming Lessons at 5 branches designed to help gain in confidence in the water. Contact hereforyou@fwymca.org

Volunteering

- **Volunteer Center:** Volunteering builds work skills, self-confidence and is fun. Contact (260) 424-3505 or www.volunteerfortwayne.org
- **Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation:** We offer volunteer opportunities in a variety of areas. No matter your talent or interest, there's a volunteer job fit for you! Contact (260) 427-6000 or www.fortwayneparks.org

This list is for informational purposes only and not an endorsement of any organization or service provider. If you have updates or suggestions or would like to receive the most updated version, please contact Sue Christman at schristm@esarc.org or Lydia Morris at lydia_morris@fwymca.org

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