

Monday, March 26, 2018



TIME AND LOCATION

10:00-11:30 am  
 1771 S. Wiesbrook Rd. Wheaton  
 (Connection of Friends is not affiliated with Hope Presbyterian Church)  
 Upon arrival call (630) 260-0922 and we will let you in.

LOOKING FOR ENGAGING, SUPPORTED AND STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING FOR THE SUMMER?



Whether you are looking for programming to help fill hours after school or have a student that is completing their transition program, Connection of Friends can help meet your needs!

WHO WE ARE

Open since October 2012, Connection of Friends is a community-based organization which provides a place for teens, age 16 and older, and adults with special needs to gather socially with an emphasis on life skill, volunteer and fitness activities on a daily basis and Saturday evenings.

WHAT WE OFFER

*Participants sign up for 13-week sessions and select specific days and time options*

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Noon-6:00 pm  
 Noon-3:00 pm  
 3:00-6:00 pm

NEW for Tuesday

9:00 am –3:00 pm OR  
 Noon-3:00 pm

Friday

9:00 am-3:00 pm

Dinner & Dancing with Friends

Mondays 3-6:00 pm

Saturday Night Socials

6:00-9:00 pm

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

For a complete list of our activities, or to download Participant Forms visit [www.connectionoffriends.org](http://www.connectionoffriends.org).

# Session Schedule



Connection of Friends offers 13-week sessions that run consecutively. While we conduct new participant in-takes throughout the year, it is important to note the following dates if you are interested in a specific session.

Please visit [www.connectionoffriends.org](http://www.connectionoffriends.org) to download Participant Profile Forms or contact (630) 260-0922 for more information.



## Spring Session 2018

February 26-May 26, 2018

**REGISTRATION CLOSED**



## Summer Session 2018

May 28-August 25, 2018

April 6th : Registration opens for new participants

**April 16th: Registration Closes**

April 20th: LAST DAY for Spring Session in-takes



## Fall Session 2018

August 27-November 24, 2018

July 6th: Registration opens for new participants

**July 16th: Registration Closes**

July 20th: LAST DAY for Spring Session in-takes



# What Makes COF Unique?

## Socialization

All our programming is centered on socialization and finding ways to encourage and support our participants as they develop relationships with one another. Activities are supported visually and scripts are available to aide in the development of conversation skills.

## Supports

We offer a wide variety of individualized supports, (both written and visual), to help our participants remain engaged and organized. Supports include schedules, sequential "steps, (recipes, job tasks), as well as behavior supports, (Expected/Unexpected).

## Ratios

We operate primarily as a 3:1 organization but do offer more individualized, assigned support when needed. Our 3 hour section size remains small, (capping at either 4, 7 or 9 participants depending on which day), allowing all our participants to benefit.

## After School Programming

While typical peers have the opportunity to join a variety of after school clubs and activities, these options are limited for special needs students. Connection of Friends offers programming beginning at 3:00 pm Monday., Wednesday and Thursday.

## Post Transition Programming

Once transition is completed, Connection of Friends reinforces the many skills acquired including life skills, cooking skills, technology skills, volunteering skills as well as navigating within the community.

## Dinner & Dancing with Friends

Held on Monday from 3-6:00 pm, Dinner & Dancing focuses on the preparation and eating of an evening meal. Participants prepare dinner and continue to work on life skill activities including setting the table, manners, table conversation and cleaning up. Past dinners have included Shepherd's Pie, Lasagna Primavera and Pizza Casserole.

## Saturday Night Programming

Connection of Friends offers theme based Saturday Night Socials from 6:00-9:00 pm every Saturday night which includes dinner and dessert!

## Constant Communication

Connection of Friends is committed to supporting our participants so they can successfully navigate activities offered during programming. Staff speaks to families regularly to not only share successes, but to actively problem solve any challenges seen during programming.

# After School Programming



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Looking for fun and structured programming **AFTER** school?  
Connection of Friends has something for you!

## WEEK-DAY PROGRAMMING TIMES

-MONDAY-  
3:00-6:00 PM (DINNER & DANCING)

-WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY-  
3:00-6:00 PM

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## DINNER & DANCING WITH FRIENDS—MONDAYS FROM 3:00-6:00 PM

Dinner & Dancing with Friends focuses on the preparation and eating of an evening meal. Participants not only prepare dinner, but continue to work on a variety of life skill activities including setting the table, manners, table conversation and cleaning up.

### OTHER WEEK DAY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Technology & Science  
Fitness and Nutrition  
Music  
Art, Gardening and Yoga—taught by Program Volunteers  
Product Creation for Fundraisers

And don't forget about Saturday Nights!

Our Saturday Night Socials are held from 6:00-9:00 pm which allows parents and guardians a much deserved night out while participants enjoy dinner and a themed based party!

### FOCUS ON SOCIALIZATION

All our activities are adapted and supported visually so everyone is successful. We are committed to encouraging and supporting our participants as they develop new conversation skills by providing visual scripts, topics and questions.

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### HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

Visit our website at [www.connectionoffriends.org](http://www.connectionoffriends.org) to download Participant Forms. Once filled out and returned, you will be contacted by Jamie Hager Lee, Program Director, to schedule an intake meeting.



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Looking for fun and structured programming Post Transition?  
Connection of Friends has something for you!

### WEEK-DAY PROGRAMMING TIMES

-MONDAY-  
NOON-3:00 PM  
3:00-6:00 PM (DINNER & DANCING)

-TUESDAY-  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM OR  
NOON-3:00 PM

-WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY-  
NOON-6:00 PM  
NOON-3:00 PM  
3:00-6:00 PM

-FRIDAY-  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

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### DINNER & DANCING WITH FRIENDS—MONDAYS FROM 3:00-6:00 PM

Dinner & Dancing with Friends focuses on the preparation and eating of an evening meal. Participants not only prepare dinner, but continue to work on a variety of life skill activities including setting the table, manners, table conversation and cleaning up.

### OTHER WEEK DAY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Community Volunteering—Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans &  
DuPage Convalescent Center  
Community Lunches  
Technology & Science  
Fitness and Nutrition  
Music  
Art, Gardening and Yoga—taught by Program Volunteers  
Product Creation for Fundraisers

And don't forget about Saturday Nights!

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# Post-Transition Programming