

Monday, October 8, 2018



TIME AND LOCATION

10:00-2:00 pm
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 WINTER?



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

Dinner & Dancing with Friends

Mondays 3-6:00 pm

Tuesday & Friday

9:00 am –3:00 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.

2018-2019 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 to download Participant Profile Forms or contact (630) 260-0922 for more information.



Fall Session 2018

August 27-November 24, 2018

REGISTRATION CLOSED



Winter Session 2018-2019

November 26-February 23, 2019

October 5th: Registration opens for new participants

October 15th: Registration Closes

October 19th: LAST DAY for Winter Session in-takes



Spring Session 2019

February 25-May 25, 2019

January 11th: Registration opens for new participants

January 21st: Registration Closes

January 25th: LAST DAY for Spring Session in-takes

Individual schedules are now available on our website, (both written and visual versions), at www.connectionoffriends.org.

Here are some programming highlights for this fall!



DINNER & DANCING WITH FRIENDS

- VEGETABLE SALAD
- TACO SALAD
- GROUND BEEF FAJITAS
- BAKED FRENCH TOAST
- MINISTRONE SOUP
- PIZZA CASSEROLE
- LASAGNA PRIMAVERA
- BAKED CHEESE OMELET
- SLOPPY JOE'S
- WAGON WHEEL PASTA BAKE
- MEATLOAF AND MASHED POTATOES
- CHILI AND CORN BREAD

PRODUCT CREATION

- BARKLICIOUS DOG BISCUIT
- COF HEART & SOAP
- PINE CONE ORNAMENTS
- TREE BRANCH ORNAMENTS
- WICKEDLY GOOD CANDLES

WEEK-DAY PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS FALL SESSION 2018

- PROGRAMMING AT THE MORTON ARBORETUM (TUESDAY AND FRIDAY)
- YEAR OF SERVICE PROJECT—CHRISTMAS IN JULY FOOD DRIVE
- COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING (TUESDAY AND FRIDAY)
- GARDENING ON SITE—3 RAISED GARDEN BEDS

ACTIVITY SERIES

- UNWRAPPED SERIES—THIS WEEK IN HISTORY SERIES
- ONCE UPON A TIME SERIES—SOCIAL TRENDS SERIES
- DANCE, DANCE SERIES—CONDUCTING WITH TERRY—SHOW TUNES
- ART AROUND THE WORLD SERIES—ARCHITECTURE SERIES

FALL SESSION SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL THEMES

- I HEART FOOD—HOME ON THE COF RANGE—NAME THAT TUNE
- SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS—COF ANNIVERSARY PARTY—MAD HATTER DAY
- MONSTER MASH HALLOWEEN PARTY—NATIONAL CANDY DAY
- HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD—HAPPY BIRTHDAY MICKEY MOUSE—PAINT NITE



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, 6 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.



DINNER & DANCING WITH FRIENDS

Does your son or daughter love to cook?
Are you looking to introduce new recipes?
Consider joining us every Monday for Dinner & Dancing with Friends!



Dinner & Dancing with Friends focuses on:

- The preparation and eating of an evening meal;
- Working on life skills including setting the table, manners, table conversation and cleaning up.

Dinner and Dancing is an excellent opportunity for participants to improve kitchen skills as well as learn how to navigate a recipe with support provided by COF staff. Each participant is provided either a written or visual recipe of the meal being prepared and is assigned cooking jobs upon arrival. As dinner is cooking, other activities include product creation, group activities and art. The evening concludes with dancing and a recipe review completed and emailed by each participant.

Dinner & Dancing Details

- Held every Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm
- Pre-determined menu
- Menu is listed on the registration form
- Flat fee—dinner and dessert included
- Small ratio—only 4 participants each Monday



Gluten-free or other dietary considerations not available.

For more information, please visit our website at
www.connectionoffriends.org or call 630/260-0922.

After School Programming



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

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:

Activity Series
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.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE?

Visit our website at 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.



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 & FRIDAY
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

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

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

OTHER WEEK DAY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Community Volunteering—
Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Humanitarian Service Project &
DuPage Care Center
Community Lunches & Desserts
Community Outings—Morton Arboretum and Glen Ellyn Public Library
Activity Series
Technology & Science
Fitness and Nutrition
Music
Art, Gardening and Yoga—taught by Program Volunteers
Product Creation for Fundraisers

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Post-Transition Programming