

# Will You Be My Friend?

Please Check One.

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**If only creating meaningful lifelong friendships were this easy and effective!**

Circle of Friends is one of the programs offered by Center for Disability Services, and is unique to Licking County.

The Circle of Friends program is focused on providing opportunities for friendships between primary and intermediate school age individuals with developmental disabilities and their peers who do not have developmental disabilities.

**"Wherever we are, it's our friends that make our world."**  
- Henry Drummond

## Additional Programs

*Offered by Center for Disability Services.*

- **Adult Day Services**
- **Adaptive Socialization**
- **Creative Housing**
- **Non-Medical Transportation**
- **Supported Living**

## Mission Statement

To provide infants, children, and adults who have, or are at risk for developmental disabilities, the support, training, opportunities, and facilities needed to achieve their highest degree of



Center for Disability Services  
*Enhancing Lives Every Day*

## Contact Circle of Friends

Amanda Amyx

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Honor Project Grant  
Licking County Foundation

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Center for Disability Services  
is proud to partner with:



Equal Opportunity Employer/Provider

# Circle of Friends



Center for Disability Services  
*Enhancing Lives Every Day*

175 S. Williams Street, Newark, OH 43055

[www.centerds.org](http://www.centerds.org)

## Smile and Say Hello

### *Nurturing Social Skills*

Effective and appropriate social skills or cues do not come naturally for every individual.

Circle of Friends provides interactive activities designed to build and reinforce the skills necessary to build successful friendship relationships.

- Empathy
- Awareness & Tolerance
- Trust
- Cooperation
- Effective Communication

## Make New Friends

### *Activities to Encourage Friendship*

Our program is designed to provide opportunities for students to experience positive social experiences and to interact successfully with their peers.

Roller Skating	Pizza & Games
Karaoke	Photo Journaling
Crafts	Sporting Events

Center for Disability Services' goal is that these shared experiences will transform into meaningful and lifelong friendships.

## For Educators

### *Friendships boost academic achievement*

Academic achievement and peer social interactions have been shown to be closely related. Circle of Friends is here to support you. We will provide the programming and resources needed to establish a successful program at your school! We can accommodate lunch period, after school and weekend activity times.

We welcome any primary or intermediate school age student with or without developmental disabilities to participate in the Circle of Friends program.

Do you know students that:

- Find making friends an area of difficulty?
- Could benefit from gaining confidence and support?
- Has experienced bullying?
- Are at-risk?

If you know a student that could benefit from the support that Circle of Friends can offer, please contact us to learn more about getting a program started at your school!

“So long as the memory of certain beloved friends lives in my heart, I shall say that life is good.”

- Helen Keller

## For Families

### *Rest Easy. Safety & Compassion are included components of our program.*

Our experienced staff is dedicated to providing a safe and supporting environment for your child.

In addition to providing engaging programming for the Circle of Friends program, our staff will be hands on in monitoring and supporting all activities and developing relationships.

The Center for Disability Services ensures all staff successfully complete in-depth and ongoing training to best serve the individuals we serve. Training includes, but not limited to:

- All CDS staff undergo ten (10) different background checks, as well as drug and alcohol screening.
- CPR & Basic First Aid
- Confidentiality & Individual Rights
- Behavior Management
- Seizure Awareness
- Operating Accessible Vehicles

## Circle of Friends

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