



Warren Special Recreation Association

100 S. Greenleaf St., Gurnee IL 60031

Inspiring People With Disabilities Through Meaningful Recreation

Warren Special Recreation Association (WSRA) Inclusion Services

Inclusion Goals

1. To provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate safely and successfully alongside peers in Member Agency*.
2. To provide access to the goals, benefits, and overall experience that all participants in the program receive through reasonable, least restrictive, accommodations which do not fundamentally change the recreation program.
3. To provide positive recreational experiences which contribute to the growth and development of every individual.

Steps to Receive Inclusion Services

1. A family member registers a participant with a disability in a Member Agency* program and indicates the need for specialized services on the registration form.
2. The Member Agency* sends WSRA an inclusion request that includes the participant's contact information.
3. WSRA staff will contact the family and set up an intake meeting (if the participant is new to WSRA).
4. After the intake meeting, WSRA staff (in conjunction with Member Agency) will determine the level of support necessary.
5. If it is determined that a support staff member is needed; a WSRA staff member will start the process of assigning/hiring and training an inclusion aide.
 - WSRA needs a minimum of three weeks from the Member Agency program start date for successful inclusion staff pairing
6. In the case that an inclusion aide is not available, the participant will be placed on a waitlist. **Program fees paid will be pro-rated as need based on how many missed program dates per discretion of Member Agency**

Member Agency: Grandwood Park Park District, Gurnee Park District, Lindenhurst Park District, Warren Township, and Wildwood Park District

Serving residents of Grandwood Park Park District, Gurnee Park District, Lindenhurst Park District, Warren Township and Wildwood Park District



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Accommodations Provided Through Inclusion Services

Accommodations provided by WSRA staff members will be reasonable, least restrictive, and will not fundamentally change the Member Agency* program. Accommodations and levels of support will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Services may include:

- Trainings for Member Agency* staff
- Providing resources to the family and/or the Member Agency* (i.e activity adaptations, behavior management, etc.)
- WSRA visiting and observing Member Agency* program to provide support, hands on training, activity adaption suggestions, etc.
- Provide an inclusion aid to assist with the individual

Inclusion is:

- Providing recreation activities and experiences
- Providing active participation of individuals who have special needs in the same community activities as individuals who do not have special needs
- Looking at recreational needs and interests of participants instead of diagnostic labels
- Providing individuals with reasonable accommodations that will enhance the recreation experience
- Providing positive recreational experiences which contribute to the growth and development of every individual
- Developing positive community support
- A 1:1 aide is assigned to provide inclusivity for individuals diagnosed with intellectual/developmental disabilities and help them gain better coping mechanisms, more independence, and self-advocacy within a variety of settings and activities



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Inclusion is not:

- Forcing all individuals who have a disability to participate in member agency recreation programs
- Placing individuals who have a disability into community recreation programs without necessary accommodations
- Assigning a staff member to solely assist with only medical and personal care needs

Inclusion Aide Assignments

WSRA cannot guarantee that an inclusion aide will be available. Needs will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Staff will be assigned based on availability and skill level required. Due to the high quantity of inclusion aides needed, the same inclusion aide cannot be guaranteed from each program. WSRA encourages our Member Agencies to support integration of WSRA Inclusion Aides into the camp program environment. We welcome opportunities for our staff to thrive and engage with Member Agency teams to continue to provide meaningful experiences for all participants.

Attendance

If the assigned inclusion aide is unable to work due to emergency or illness, every effort will be made to place an appropriate staff member in their place. If an alternative staff is not available, the participant may not be able to attend the member agency program until an inclusion aide is secured. *Effective for WSRA on January 1, 2024, part-time, short-term, and seasonal employees are eligible to earn and use up to forty (40) hours of paid leave per year per the Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act (PLFAW Leave). Please contact the WSRA Administrative Office for more information.*

If a participant is going to be absent from a program, the family must communicate this to the Member Agency* and the WSRA Inclusion Manager as soon as possible.



WSRA
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Family Cooperation

Inclusion cannot be successful without the complete cooperation of the families involved. Families are expected to be respectful, proactive, and actively communicate with staff and share important/updated information that is relevant to the inclusion process. Our goal is for your child (and all participants) to have an enjoyable, safe, and successful experience.

I acknowledge receipt of and understanding of Warren Special Recreation Association's Inclusion Service Policies:

This acknowledgement must be submitted to the Inclusion Manager before Inclusion Services are initiated

Printed name of participant: _____

Signature of participant/guardian: _____

Date: _____