Who We Are

The Friendship Circle of the South Bay is a non-profit organization dedicated to making a dramatic difference in the lives of children and young adults with special needs, and their families, through one-to-one peer mentoring and social-recreational programs in the homes, schools, and communities of the South Bay and surrounding areas.

Our organization provides a variety of social, recreational and respite programs throughout the year - at little to no cost. We strive to create a fun, safe, and accepting environment crossing over a multitude of opportunities for the special needs community including athletics, art, music, theater, and field trips. Certain programs target specific age groups, while others encompass a broad gathering of all ages. At each program, children with special needs are paired with student volunteers for an event full of fun, peer interaction.

The Friendship Circle serves to augment our local educational systems and professional therapies by creating a natural setting for individuals with special needs to practice the skills they are learning amongst their peers.

Today, we offer programs 6 days per week, year-round. We provide services for hundreds of children and young adults with special needs and approximately 1,000 student volunteers. Friendship Circle Clubs are established throughout the South Bay at elementary, middle, and high school levels in public, private, and charter schools; our members are constantly growing throughout Los Angeles County.

How can you get involved?

Special Needs Families:

REGISTER your child or young adult (ages 5-25) at www.gotfriends.com

SIGN UP for fun programs and events

CONNECT and enjoy watching your child gain new friendships, socialize and have a blast!

Kids:

VOLUNTEER as a student volunteer (ages 8-25) by registering at www.gotfriends.com

JOIN us at one of our programs and be a buddy to our kids with special needs

HAVE FUN while helping others by doing activities like camping, sports, amusement parks, movie night, sporting events, snorkeling, summer camps and birthday club!

GET INVOLVED in your school’s Friendship Circle Club.

Adults:

DONATE to help run and grow our programs at www.gotfriends.com

SPREAD THE WORD of what we do to families, friends, neighbors and local businesses.

SPONSOR an event at your restaurant, performance, game, business or anything that would be a great opportunity for our group.