

Teens All Together Program – Summer 2010

Purpose: The Teens All Together program will provide an age appropriate, community-based recreation and vocational summer program for teens with special needs. During the summer the teens will learn and enhance social skills, life skills and independence.

Location: The Jewish Community Center West Bloomfield Campus will be the home base for the program. The teens should be dropped off and picked up at the circle drive of the main entrance.

Cost: Each 4-week session of the Teen Program is \$1000.

Dates and Times: There are two four-week sessions: June 21-July 15 and July 19-August 12, 2010. The program will run every Monday – Friday 9:30 am – 3:30 pm unless otherwise indicated on the schedule.

Participants: The program is for High School age students with special needs entering 11th and 12th grade. Each teen is eligible for the program for two summers.

Transportation: Door-to-door Transportation will be provided each day for an additional charge. If you are driving your teen to and from the JCC drop off is from 9:15-9:30am at the circle drive and pick up is from 3:15-3:30pm. Staff will not be there to supervise your teen before 9:15am or after 3:30pm.

Uniform: On workdays, the teens are required to show up wearing their JCC work shirt, ID badge, and a pair of business casual pants; this excludes jeans. The JCC will provide teens with their work shirts and badges.

Lunches/Snacks: Everyone should bring a packed lunch each day unless it is specified on the schedule that lunch will be included in the activity. There will be days where the teens will be able to purchase lunch and these opportunities will also be noted on the schedule. The teens will not be allowed to purchase snacks from the vending machines in order to promote healthy eating habits, but healthy snacks may be brought by the teens each day.

Teen Mentors: We will have high school age volunteers coming on the recreation trips to model typical teen behavior and social interactions. They will be there to just have fun with the teens in the program. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being a teen mentor (a student link, your teen's friend, etc.), please contact me with more information.

Program Description: Teens will be split into two groups, with six teens in each group. Staff will be assigned to each group according to the needs of the individual teens. The weeks will be broken into four segments as follows:

Pre-Vocational Training: Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) will oversee the vocational portion of the program. Two days a week, each teen will work with their assigned group within a department of the Jewish Community Center. With the training and assistance of a JVS job coach and program staff, teens will develop soft vocational skills while experiencing different jobs around the center. Teens will be paid minimum wage for their work. During these days, the teens will be required to wear their uniform, which is described above.

Community Life Skills: Each week the teens will participate in a community-based field trip to encourage the enhancement of independent living skills. These outings will give teens more responsibility when they are out in the community. These trips may include: the grocery store, the library, the mall, the hair salon, etc.

Recreation Skills: The teens will enjoy two recreation-based field trips each week. One day a week both groups will go on a trip together. In the spirit of inclusion, teen mentors will participate in these fun trips with the group each week. The recreation trips are all about fun, but there will still be an emphasis on independence while out in the community. Possible activities include: wave pools, sporting events, bowling, arcades, the science center, etc.

Process and Planning: The Teens will spend time each day at the JCC to plan and process. This time will include planning for upcoming recreation field trips, going over their daily schedule, working on a photo album of their summer experience, and enjoying the center’s facilities (track, pool, gyms, teen center, etc.)

Schedule: The weekly schedule for the groups will be set up similar to this:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A – Work	A – Work	A – Recreation Trip	A - Community Living Skills	A & B – Recreation Trip
Group B – Community Living Skills	B – Recreation Trip	B - Work	B - Work	

Overnight at Camp Tamarack: During the 2nd session of the program we will be taking a 3-day/2-night trip to Camp Tamarack. We will be doing at least one recreation field trip to the facility before the overnight to get the teens comfortable there, and excited! We will be participating in the typical programs that they offer at the camp, which may include: horseback riding, canoeing, go karts, group games, multimedia, swimming, etc.

Contact: Please call or e-mail or call Laura Nardon for more information.

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