

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY



A Project of Chabad Lubavitch of Western and Southern New England

www.FriendshipCT.com

PROGRAM
2011-2012
5771-5772
GUIDE

PROGRAMS



**FRIENDS
AT HOME**



**CHILDREN'S
CIRCLE**



**END OF YEAR
RECEPTION**



**WINTER
CAMP**



**HOLIDAY
PROGRAMS**



**FRIENDSHIP
WALK**



**TEEN
SCENE**



**VOLUNTEER
CLUB**



**SPECIAL
EVENTS**



**ALUMNI
EVENTS**

NEED TO REACH US?

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Family Program Coordinator

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OUR VISION

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Friendship Circle!

Whether you are one of the many special people already involved in The Friendship Circle, or you are a newcomer, we invite you to take a look at the wonderful programs we have planned for this year.

At The Friendship Circle, we extend a loving hand of friendship to children with special needs and their families. We work to create a warm and accepting environment and aim to forge relationships that last a lifetime. Our network of more than 350 active teen and adult volunteers helps us offer a full range of social and Judaic programs for children, teens, and adults.

If you or someone you know might benefit from our programs, please do not hesitate to call us.

Like a circle, with no beginning or end, at The Friendship Circle everyone benefits. Our

teen volunteers, through active involvement with their special friends, become empowered, enriched, and profoundly transformed.

If you are a teen, we invite you to join our ever growing group of volunteers. You will have a chance to make a meaningful difference in a child's life.

If you are a community member who would like to volunteer, or just want to learn more about what we do, we would love to hear from you, too.

Together we can make a world of a difference.

We dedicate this publication to the one who is the inspiration behind everything we do, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of righteous memory.

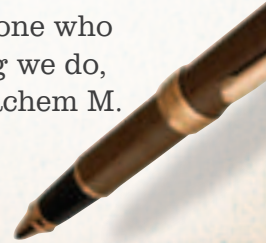
Sincerely,

Malya Shmotkin, Director

Rabbi Chezy Deren, Director of Development

Sora Margolis, Program Director

Mushky Lifshitz, Family Program Coordinator



www.FriendshipCT.com

THE FRIENDSHIP WALK 2011

Join us for a day of family fun and community solidarity, as we walk hand in hand in support of children with special needs and their families.

Sunday, September 25th

REGISTER AS A WALKER,
A DONOR, OR BOTH.

www.FriendshipWalkCT.com

Registration – 10:00 AM
Walk Begins – 11:00 AM
Festivities – 12:00 PM

Westhill High School Track
125 Roxbury Road, Stamford



FRIENDS AT HOME

BRINGING FRIENDSHIP WHERE
IT'S NEEDED MOST.... **AT HOME**

Friends At Home is the core of our program. Every week, pairs of teenage volunteers visit children in their homes, offering friendship and sharing activities. These teens are trained for their valuable role as friend and mentor.



www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, September 11

LAUNCHING THE NEW YEAR:
KICK-OFF PARTY AND TRAINING
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Jesse Morris
Topic: My brother with Autism

Fun For Kids Arcade
370 West Main Street, Stamford

Sunday, September 18

PRE-ROSH HASHANA HOLIDAY PROGRAM
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

New Canaan Nature Center
144 Oenoke Ridge Road, New Canaan

Sunday, September 25

FRIENDSHIP WALK
REGISTER AS A WALKER,
A DONOR, OR BOTH.
www.FriendshipWalkCT.com

Registration – 10:00 AM
Walk Begins – 11:00 AM
Festivities – 12:00 PM

Westhill High School Track
125 Roxbury Road, Stamford

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

Children's Circle takes place on 15 Sundays throughout the year. Parents leave their child in the hands of qualified professionals and loving volunteers. In addition to Jewish content, the children and their friends enjoy various activities including music, art, cooking, and sports.

For Children (Ages: 4 – 19): 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

For Volunteers: 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

**The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford**

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE DATES:

October 2, October 16,
October 30, November 13,
December 4, December 18,
January 15, January 29,
February 12, March 4, March 11,
March 25, April 29, May 20,
June 3



WINTER CAMP

During winter break, the Friendship Circle conducts winter camp for four fun-filled days of trips and activities, including swimming and gym. Each child has a special friend to accompany him or her throughout the day's activities.

Ages 5 – 11

December 26 – 29

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford**



www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, October 2

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Sunday, October 9

BOWLING LEAGUE

Rip Van Winkle

701 Connecticut Avenue,
Norwalk

**Saturday Evening,
October 15**

VOLUNTEER SUKKOT PARTY

Guest Speaker:

Mr. Garry Berger

Topic: A personal glimpse into
a father's world of autism

8:00 pm

Rabbi Zalman and Malya
Shmotkin's home
15 Francis Avenue, Stamford

Sunday, October 16

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Wednesday, October 26

HAIRCUTTING CEREMONY

Celebrating Shlomo Shmotkin's
Third Birthday and
Haircutting Ceremony

5:30 PM

Pump It Up
145 Main Street, Norwalk

Sunday, October 30

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

TEEN SCENE

Teen Circle is for teens with special needs, the opportunity to participate in many social and educational programs together with teen volunteers.

Teen Circle is for teens with special needs ages 13 and up. It takes place on Sundays at the same time and dates as Children's Circle. In addition to Jewish content, the teens and their Friendship Circle friends enjoy "Music IQ," cooking, and sports.



Bowling League

Teens meet on Sunday mornings for an hour of socializing and great bowling.

**October 9, November 6,
November 20 & March 18**

Rip Van Winkle
701 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk

Life Skills Trips

Exciting life skills trips will provide practical hands-on learning for day-to-day living. Life skills trips will take place on the following dates as part of the Teen Circle program.

**November 13, January 15,
March 11 & April 29**

Sunday, November 6

BOWLING LEAGUE FOR TEENS
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Rip Van Winkle
701 Connecticut Avenue,
Norwalk

Sunday, November 6

LOAVES OF LOVE CHALLAH
BAKING

For Volunteers and their Moms

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Sunday, November 13

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, November 13

LIFE SKILLS TRIP FOR TEENS WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, November 20

BOWLING LEAGUE FOR TEENS WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS

Rip Van Winkle
701 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk

BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

Everyone deserves to celebrate his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah surrounded by family and friends. Friendship Circle can help create an individualized program for your child.

ALEX WAHLER'S BAR
MITZVAH CELEBRATION:
**Sunday morning,
February 12**

MAX BERGER'S BAR
MITZVAH CELEBRATION:
**Sunday afternoon,
April 22**

MARK LOB'S BAR MITZVAH
CELEBRATION:
**Sunday morning,
June 10**



SPECIAL EVENTS

Kid's Night Out

Drop off your children for a special night out of activities, food and fun! This unique program will give all of your children a chance to bond while enjoying great activities in a safe environment. It will also give you and your spouse a chance to enjoy a worry-free night out.

Sunday, January 22

4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Meet at The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Birthday Club

Celebrate your Jewish birthday with the Friendship Circle. Call us and we will arrange everything from the friends to the cake. We'll make it a party you will always remember.



Shabbat Dinners

The magic of the Friendship Circle happens with wonderful relationships that are created between the families of the volunteers and of their friends. You are invited to join us for a beautiful Shabbat dinner in a relaxing and friendly atmosphere.

www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, December 4

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, December 18

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Tuesday, December 20

CHANUKAH HOLIDAY PROGRAM

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Stepping Stones Museum
303 West Avenue, Norwalk

**Monday, December 26 –
Thursday, December 29**

WINTER CAMP

Ages 5 – 11

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, January 15

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, January 15

LIFE SKILLS TRIP FOR TEENS
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, January 22

KID'S NIGHT OUT

4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, January 29

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

The holiday programs unite the entire family in celebration. Innovative activities, in a comfortable setting, bring the warmth and joyous experiences of the holidays to the children and their families.

Pre-Rosh Hashana Holiday Program

Sunday, September 18

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

New Canaan Nature Center
144 Oenoke Ridge Road, New Canaan

Chanukah Holiday Program

Tuesday, December 20

5:00 PM– 7:00 PM

Stepping Stones Museum
303 West Avenue, Norwalk

Pre-Tu B'shvat Holiday Program

Sunday, February 5

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Home Depot
600 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk

Pre-Pesach Holiday Program

Sunday, March 25

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford



Sunday, February 5

PRE-TU BSHVAT HOLIDAY PROGRAM

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Home Depot

600 Connecticut Avenue, Norwalk

Sunday, February 12

ALEX WAHLER'S BAR MITZVAH
CELEBRATION

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center

770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, February 12

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center

770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Wednesday, February 29

WESTPORT VOLUNTEER PURIM PACKING

7:30 PM– 8:30 PM

Training Led by: Mrs. Allison Ziering Walmark

Topic: My Child with Autism

Emma Caplan's home

10 High Gate Road, Westport

VOLUNTEER CLUB

The Volunteer Club provides the Friendship Circle volunteers with a wide range of activities including outings, Friday night dinners, training sessions, and more. This is a great opportunity for our volunteers to get to know each other and share experiences.

LAUNCHING THE NEW YEAR: KICK-OFF PARTY AND TRAINING

Sunday, September 11

Guest Speaker: Jesse Morris

Topic: My brother with autism

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Fun For Kids Arcade

370 West Main Street, Stamford

VOLUNTEER SUKKOT PARTY

**Saturday Evening,
October 15**

Guest Speaker: Mr. Garry Berger

Topic: A personal glimpse into a father's world of autism

8:00 PM

Rabbi Zalman and

Malya Shmotkin's home

15 Francis Avenue, Stamford

LOAVES OF LOVE CHALLAH BAKING

**FOR VOLUNTEERS AND
THEIR MOMS**

November 6

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

The Friendship Circle Center

770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

WESTPORT PURIM PACKING FOR YOUR FRIEND

Wednesday, February 29

Training led by: Allison Ziering

Walmark

Topic: My Child with Autism

7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Emma Caplan's home

10 High Gate Road, Westport

STAMFORD PURIM PACKING FOR YOUR FRIEND

Sunday, March 4

Training led by: Ailene Tisser

Topic: Interacting with your special friend

7:00 PM – 8:45 PM

Ilana Springer's home

50 Pembroke Drive, Stamford

VOLUNTEERS GO THE EXTRA MILE MILEAGE PROGRAM

The mileage program is a web-based tool where volunteers log their friendship visits, and communicate with staff.

Access the mileage program through our website: www.FriendshipCT.com (click on "reports").

www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, March 4

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Sunday, March 4

STAMFORD PURIM PACKING
FOR YOUR FRIEND

Training led by: Ailene Tisser
Topic: Interacting with your
special friend
7:00 PM – 8:45 PM

Ilana Springer's home
50 Pembroke Drive,
Stamford

Sunday, March 11

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, March 11

LIFE SKILLS TRIP FOR TEENS
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Sunday, March 18

BOWLING LEAGUE FOR
TEENS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Rip Van Winkle
701 Connecticut Avenue,
Norwalk

Sunday, March 25

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

Sunday, March 25

PRE-PESACH HOLIDAY
PROGRAM
10:00 AM -12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road,
Stamford

EVENING OF APPRECIATION

TEENAGE VOLUNTEER BOARD

Honoring our outstanding volunteers for their dedication and care. These volunteers have brightened the lives of children with special needs through love and lasting friendships.

Sunday, May 13

7:00 PM

Stamford Plaza

2701 Summer Street, Stamford

Formal invitation to follow.



The Friendship Circle presidents – each a teen leader in his/her own Fairfield County high school – and board members hold planning and assessment meetings once a month at 7:30 PM.

Board for 2011-2012

Sam Baden, *President of Solomon Schechter*

Tamar Cohen, *President of SAR*

Stephanie Felder, *President of Ramaz*

Simon Handler, *Board Member*

Adina Israel, *Board Member*

Ross Lang, *President of Westhill*

Shoshana Munk, *Board Member*

Julie Piskin, *Board Member*

Veronica Shclover,

President of Stamford High School

Ilana Springer, *Board Member*

Adam Tisser, *President of AITE*

www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, April 22

MAX BERGER'S BAR MITZVAH
CELEBRATION

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, April 29

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, April 29

LIFE SKILLS TRIP FOR TEENS WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

The Friendship Circle Center
770 High Ridge Road, Stamford



ALUMNI EVENTS

A cherished part of the Friendship Circle is our volunteers. Their dedication and love is what creates the 'magic' and brings countless smiles to the faces of our children. In turn, the experience of volunteering is a transformative one for them as well. These various events during their college break offer past volunteers the opportunity to take part in the Friendship Circle's programs and reconnect with their friends.



RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT

Each year the Friendship Circle serves over 100 children and families with special needs. While many of Friendship Circle programs are volunteer driven, it takes extensive management time and supervision to deliver high quality programs and activities for children ages 1 to 18.

If you would like to make a contribution or to sponsor a program, please call Rabbi Chezy Deren at 203.320.0015 or email RabbiChezy@FriendshipCT.com

The Friendship Circle is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. The Friendship Circle accepts donations of cash, stocks, bonds and in-kind.

www.FriendshipCT.com

Sunday, May 13

EVENING OF APPRECIATION

Honoring our outstanding volunteers for their dedication and care. These volunteers have brightened the lives of children with special needs through love and lasting friendships.

7:00 PM

Stamford Plaza

2701 Summer Street, Stamford

Formal invitation to follow.

Sunday, May 20

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center

770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, June 3

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle Center

770 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Sunday, June 10

MARK LOB'S BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATION

The Friendship Circle is Affiliated with:

Chabad of Fairfield
36 Wynn Wood Drive
Fairfield, CT 06825
(203) 373-1118

Chabad of Ridgefield
18 Lilac Lane
Danbury, CT 06810
(203) 748-4421

Chabad of Greenwich
75 Mason Street
Greenwich, CT
06830
(203) 661-2200

Chabad of Stamford
770 High Ridge Road
Stamford, CT 06905
(203) 329-0015

**Chabad of New
Canaan**
69 Forest Street
New Canaan,
CT 06840
(203) 595-0774

**Chabad of Westport
JSpace Chabad
Community Center**
20 Ketchum Street
Westport, CT 06880
(203) 226-8584

www.FriendshipCT.com



Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch
The Friendship Circle
770 High Ridge Road
Stamford, CT 06905