



Recreational Resources for Children and/or Adults with Disabilities

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by Lura Jackson, Social Worker, Dakota County



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HOW TO USE THIS DIRECTORY

The following directory is designed to assist individuals and families served by the Dakota County Community Living Services Section in learning about various social/recreational options available for individuals with disabilities. Many of the programs listed here are designed specifically for children and/or adults with developmental and sometimes physical disabilities. This does not mean that programs designed for all children are not appropriate or desirable for the individual with disabilities.

In the Appendix, there are listings of local Park & Recreation Offices, Community Education and other local organizations designed for all local citizens that provide group activities, classes, or events to explore. Keep in mind that each city or cooperative will usually have an Adaptive Recreation Coordinator to assist and advise you in how to best access their program. Local churches, should you belong, often are a good resource for integrated social activities. Also, you might wish to consult with the Developmental Adaptive Physical Education (DAPE) teacher/Individual Education Program Plan (IEP) case manager. They may be aware of local recreation programs and could facilitate participation in other after school sports or activities.

This directory is not meant to be an endorsement by Dakota County of the programs or activities contained within. It is simply programming we have been made aware of through contacts with the individuals we serve or through organizational resource directories. Websites have been listed as much as possible. Please visit the listed websites to obtain more specific information.

Attempts to update this directory will be made every other year but is not guaranteed.

If you know of or are currently using a resource that you would like to share in this directory or have a correction to the directory, please call Lura Jackson at (651) 554-6403 or email

Lura.Jackson@co.dakota.mn.us.

CAMPS/SOCIAL RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS



Day Camps/Day Respite Programs/Social Skills & Rec Programs

NOTE: Many camps end registration by February so call early!

Abilities in Harmony

Adapted show choir camp – usually in Wisconsin – location can vary. 3 hours for three days. 2024 camp held in LaCrosse, WI in February. Middle and High School students.

Website: <https://www.abilitiesinharmony.org>

Access Project – District 197 Community Education

Activities for adults with Developmental Disabilities

Phone: 651-403-8313

Website: www.tridistrict.ce.eleyo.com (Adult classes-Access Project)

Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM) Social Skills Classes

Phone: 651-647-1083

See catalog at [Social and Recreation Programs – AuSM](#)

Bridging Hearts

Provides social connections, both online and in person, for young adults in the Twin Cities area between the ages of 19-40 to connect with others with learning differences, mild developmental challenges, Autism and Traumatic Brain Injury who are interested in new friendships and fun. Must be able to be dropped off and left without supervision and demonstrates emotional and behavioral stability.

Website: www.bridginghearts.org

Buddies Programs

Many of the Dakota County Middle and High School special education programs have special needs kids matched with regular education buddies who participate in after school activities a couple of times a month.

Ask your special education teacher if a program exists in your student's school.

Website: [Minnesota - Best Buddies International](#)

Camp Avanti – Sensory Integration summer camp (2023 not offered – check back in 2024)

Children 6-15 yrs–campers have average or above average IQ but diagnosed with a sensory processing dysfunction –O.T.'s staff the camp–day and overnight camps based on age.

Phone: 715-256-7727

Location: Operated by Avanti Therapeutic Projects at YMCA Camp Icaghowan, 899 A 115th St., Amery, Wisconsin 54001

Website: www.campavanti.com

Camp Butwin (through the Jewish Community Center of the Greater St. Paul Area)

Serves children with all abilities entering grades K-10 in the Fall (depending on which camp location participating at). First come, first serve. Membership to the JCC may be required.

Phone: (651)698-0751 (St. Paul JCC); (952)381-3400 (Mpls. JCC); (651)423-1485 (summer camp)

Location: 945 Butwin Road, Eagan, MN 55123-limited Dakota County site

Website: www.campbutwin.org/

Camp E.X.I.T.E.

Day camp specifically for middle school girls, 6th – 9th grade, with disabilities to empower them in the fields of math, science, and engineering; this camp is offered for free

Phone: (952)838-9000

Location: Pacer Center – Bloomington

Website: www.pacer.org/stc/exite/camp.asp

Camp MNprov

Improv camp for Students ages 15-20 – free – 2:00-3:30pm for 4 days

Email: info@mnprov.org

Location: To be determined each year – 2023 was held at Eagan Community Center

Website: Camp MNprov — MNprov

Chill Skills Club

Private company (Plymouth Psych Group) that offers a social club for youth ages 12-15 with Autism a weekly afterschool opportunity to interact with others in a structured environment.

Phone: 763-559-1640

Location: Plymouth Psych Group – 9655 Schmidt Lake Rd, Ste 150, Plymouth, MN 55442

Website: www.plymouthpsychgroup.com

Club Connect MN

Minnesota non-profit organization that fills a gap by providing a destination for young people with special needs during school breaks and weekly activities. Unfortunately, the website does not provide a lot of information or location although Burnsville and Lakeville both pop up in the maps.

Email: inbox@clubconnectmn.org

Website: Home | Club Connect MN

Fun Times – PACER

Program designed to help teenagers and young adults (13-20) with and without disabilities connect with one another outside of school for social events. Typically have quarterly activities.

Phone: (952)838-9000

Location: Varies depending on activity

Website: <https://www.pacer.org/students/fun-times.asp>

GiGi's Playhouse Twin Cities

Provides free programs that are educational, recreational, social, and therapeutic to individuals primarily with Down Syndrome Birth through Adulthood.

Phone: 952-926-3660

Location: 4740 Park Glen Road, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

Website: www.gigisplayhouse.org/twincities/

Grace Church Special Needs Programs (Barnabas)

Special needs weekly programs offered at Chaska and Eden Prairie Church locations. Also offer occasional respite nights for community members with special needs children.

Phone: 952-224-3177

Website: <https://grace.church/special-needs/>

Hastings Community Education CLUB program

Bi-monthly activities during school year for 14+ with Disabilities (summer offer boating excursions)

Phone: 651-480-7689 – Tilden Community Center – Laurie Thrush coordinator

Website: <https://hastingscommunityed.com/adults/>

Highland Friendship Club

The Highland Friendship Club is an organization serving individuals with disabilities with a range of opportunities to develop lifelong skills, friendships, and connections within a community through scheduled activities for ages Teens and young adults – 14+.

Phone: (651)340-0711

Location: Mailing address: P. O. Box 16437, St. Paul, MN 55116 (varies by activity)

Website: www.highlandfriendshipclub.org

Meet-up.com – www.meetup.com

Meetup is a web-based social platform for finding and building local communities – use to meet new people, learn new things, find support, get out of your comfort zone, and pursue passions with like-minded people.

Mount Olivet Rolling Acres

Summer day camp and social/recreational programs for youth on the Autism Spectrum ages 9-16 years. Designed for children/teens that need an alternative to more traditional summer day camp programs including those with significant behavior challenges.

Phone: (612)859-7186

Location: MORA campus on Schutz Lake, Victoria, MN

Website: www.mtolivetrollingacres.org

Pathways to Community (PTC)

Licensed service provider funded through a waiver – must be accessing their family services programs to utilize the Clubhouse- clubhouse activities including cooking classes, exercise, crafts/games, movies, etc. as well as respite services in afternoon/evening and weekends as well as summer camp respite programs (1:4 staffing ratio). Primarily provided to adults and older teens.

Phone: 651-641-4009

Location: 475 Cleveland Ave N, Suite 100, St. Paul, MN 55104

Website: <https://pathwaystocommunity.com/family-services/>

River Valley Project Explore

Social/recreation program serving people with developmental disabilities from Apple Valley, Burnsville, Savage, Eagan, Farmington, Lakeville, Randolph and Rosemount.

Phone: (651)423-7931

Location: Varies depending on activity – main office 15180 Canada Ave., Rosemount, MN 55068

Website: www.district196.org/projectexplore

Ages Served: 18+ typically – some activities appropriate for older high school

ShareBuddies

Offer free online interactive social skills sessions to students facing social challenges grouping participants based on their current communication and social abilities

Website: [Sharebuddies](#)

Snapology

STEAM-Focused classes – offer social skills connection and adaptive play connection for children with disabilities

Phone: 612-440-7627

Location: 2649 Lyndale Ave. So, Mpls, MN -location now available in Apple Valley also

Website: [Snapology of Minneapolis | Kids LEGO & Robotics Summer Camps & Parties](#)

St. David's Center Adventure Program and Destination Anywhere Program

Adventure Program: Community based therapeutic recreation program for teens and young adults with special needs, ages 11 and up. Usually filled by individuals in West Metro/attending St. David.

Destination Anywhere Program: Therapeutic Recreation program for ages 18 and up with developmental disabilities that meets twice a month from 10am-10pm on Saturday.

Phone: 952-939-0396

Location: Varied throughout West Metro such as St. Louis Park, Brooklyn Park, Minnetonka, Mpls.

Website: <https://www.stdavidscenter.org/tr/>

The Tap

A place for everyone to come together, have a good time and make lasting friendships. Offers events throughout the school year. Family friendly and all ages welcome.

Location: Throughout the metro/facebook/online – most events in Dakota County at Trinity Church in Lakeville – office address: 510 3rd Ave. So, #104, South St. Paul, MN

Website: <http://yourtap.org>

Treehouse

Faith based program serving teens to help build relationships -not specific to special needs.

Location: Throughout MN – currently have programs in most Dakota County cities

Website: [About us – TreeHouse Hope](#)

Trinity Church

Special Journeys Program – No cost – church has trained volunteers who come alongside kids with various special needs so that they may participate in worship – also offer a monthly parents' night out one Friday a month. – for special needs kids as well as their siblings

Phone: 952-435-5548

Location: Trinity Church – 10658 210th St. W., Lakeville, MN 55044

Website: <https://trinitychurchmn.com/community/kids/>

West Metro Learning Connections

Year round –Social skills therapy/therapeutic recreation activities for children, teens and young adults with ASD to develop social understanding and social skills. Summer – Camp Connections Day Camp for ages 5+

Phone: (952)474-0227

Location: 355 2nd Street, Excelsior, MN 55331

Website: www.wmlc.biz

YMCA Day Camps

Summer youth programs offered for full day summer enrichment for kids 4-14. Overnight camps for ages 7-17. These programs do not offer special programs for children with intellectual disabilities. Yet a number of children with I/DD do participate and it can be a good integrated experience if supervision offered meets your child's needs.

Location: Various

Website: <https://www.ymca.org/>

Young Life Capernaum

Non-profit, non-denominational Christian ministry founded in 1941 for ages 14-21.

Website: www.younglife.org – local website <http://mnvalley.younglife.org>

Clubs locally in Burnsville, Lakeville, Rosemount, Farmington

Overnight Camps for Individuals with Autism

Camp Avanti Sensory Integration overnight camp (not available 2023-check back in 2024)

See camp Avanti information under day camps for location and website

Website: <http://campavanti.com/programs.html>

Camp Hand in Hand/Camp Discovery (Sponsored by the Autism Society of Minnesota)

Designed for campers with autism who need more intensive 1:1 supervision. Must be a member of the Autism Society to participate. Campers selected on a lottery basis – Registration is in February

Phone: (651)647-1083

Location: Camp Knutson, 1148 Manhattan Pt. Blvd, Cross Lake, MN 56442

Camp Courage North, 37569 N. Courage Drive, Lake George, MN 56458

Website: AuSM

Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC)

Offer a weeklong summer program for autistic and neurodiverse young adults(16-18 & 18-23).

Since COVID 19, has become a daycamp program – may go back to overnight, but not currently.

Phone: 612-869-4008

Location: 7501 Logan Ave. So., Ste 2A, Richfield, MN 55423

Website: <https://www.miccommunity.org>

***See True Friends for specific Autism camps offerings**

Overnight Camp for Children with Epilepsy

Camp Ozawizeniba (Camp Oz)

For persons with epilepsy. Must be able to complete own independent living skills, follow directions and attend in an activity for up to 2 hours. RN's on staff 24 hours and able to accommodate Ketogenic diet. For ages 9-17 overnight and day camp for 6-12 year olds

Phone: (651)287-2300 or (800)779-0777

Location: YMCA Camp St. Croix, 532 County Road F, Hudson, WI 54016

Website: <https://www.epilepsyfoundationmn.org/programs/youth/camp/>

Overnight Camp for Children with Speech and Hearing Issues

Camp Sertoma

One week camp experience where deaf and hard of hearing children come and meet people just like them. Counselors are Deaf or Hard of Hearing themselves. Staffing ratio 1:5.

Phone: (218)828-2344

Location: 1620 Mary Fawcett Memorial Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401

Website: www.campsertoma.com

Overnight Camps for Individuals with Mental Health/Emotional/Behavioral Disorder

Camp of Champs

Focuses on providing training and curriculum to youth with special needs and mental health Disorders such as Depression, Anxiety, RAD, FAS, ADHD, Developmental Disabilities and Autism.. High and low ropes Challenge Course, sports, swim, kayak, social connections and more. Ages 11-18

Phone: (218)760-8442

Location: 13218 County Road 40, Park Rapids, MN 56470

Website: [Camp of Champs | Special Needs Camp in Park Rapids, Minnesota \(campofchampsmn.com\)](http://CampofChamps|SpecialNeedsCampinParkRapids,Minnesota(campofchampsmn.com))

General Overnight Camps for Children/Adults with Developmental Disabilities

True Friends(formerly Camp Courage, Friendship, and Edenwood)

Children and adults with all levels of Developmental Disabilities and support needs. Year round respite weekend options also. Several focus camps to select from.

Phone: (952)852-0101 or 1-800-450-8376

Locations (four sites):

Camp Friendship, 10509 108th Street Northwest, Annandale, MN 55302

Camp Edenwood, 6350 Indian Chief Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55346

Camp Courage, 8046 83rd St. NW, Maple Lake, MN 55358

Camp Courage North, 37569 Courage North Drive, Lake George, MN 56458

There is also the Ventures travel program for adults.

Website: www.truefriends.org

Ages Served: 5+ years

Camp Knutson (Lutheran Social Service)

Location of the AuSM camps (mentioned previously) and Down Syndrome Association camp – referred through these associations only. Handicapped accessible.

Phone: (218)543-4232

Location: 11148 Manhattan Pt. Blvd, Cross Lake, MN 56442 (north of Brainerd)

Website: <https://www.lssmn.org/services/camps-retreats-events>

Confidence Learning Center

Year round camp location available to people with disabilities. Confidence Learning Center is different as our Campers come to Confidence Learning Center WITH their primary care provider. We provide the location and activities – you supply the staff.

Phone : 218-828-2344

Location: 1620 Mary Fawcett Memorial Drive, East Gull Lake, MN 56401

Website: <https://www.campconfidence.com/>

Camp Omega

Christian based adult camp for individuals with disabilities.

Website: [Camp for People with Developmental Disabilities | Camp Omega - Waterville MN](#)

PATHFINDERS Camp at Inspiration Point

Christian camp experience in a resort like setting to adult guests with special needs 18+.

Phone: 218-338-5379

Location: 16157 Co. Hwy 65, Vining, MN 56588

Website: [Pathfinders | Inspiration Point \(ipoint.org\)](#)

Minnesota website: Best Minnesota Special Needs Camps:

[Best Minnesota Special Needs Camps | Best Special Needs Camps .com | Best Minnesota Special Needs Camps 2024 Directory](#)



PROGRAMS FOR THE ARTS/MOVEMENT/PHYSICAL HEALTH

Alliance Music Therapy

Individual and group music therapy services for all ages. Services can be in-home.

Phone: 612-584-0919

Website: www.alliancemusictherapy.com

Ambition Taekwondo

Member of the Adaptive Martial Arts Association. Adaptive Martial Arts training for students with physical or cognitive challenges. Monthly fee – attend as often as you want. Family classes.

Location: 200 River Ridge Circle North, Burnsville, MN 55337

Phone: 651-600-3285

Website: <https://ambitiontkd.com/classes/Adaptive-Martial-Arts>

ArtShop

Lessons offer practical approaches to facilitate art exploration for children and adults with disabilities.

Phone: 612-251-0718

Location: 3692 Big Linden Curve, White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Website: [About ArtShop \(artshoptherapy.com\)](http://AboutArtShop.artshoptherapy.com)

ArtTherapy of Minnesota

Location: 2637 27th Ave. So., #248, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Website: [Contact Us – Minneapolis Art Therapy & Counseling \(arttherapymn.com\)](http://ContactUs-MinneapolisArtTherapy&Counseling.arttherapymn.com)

Ballet Beyond Barriers (provided through Ballet Royale Minnesota)

Adaptive dance program for children of all abilities and needs. Ages 6-13.

Phone: 952-898-3163

Location: 16368 Kenrick Ave., Lakeville, MN 55044

Website: [Ballet Beyond Barriers – Ballet Royale Minnesota \(balletroyalemn.org\)](http://BalletBeyondBarriers-BalletRoyaleMinnesota.balletroyalemn.org)

Darby's Dancers

Non-profit organization that provides specialized classes for dancers with special needs. Each dancer is paired with a volunteer coach. There is no charge to dancer/families for the weekly classes. Annual membership with the national organization only. Ages 6 and up.

Locations: Woodbury-380 Rivertown Drive Ste #1100 (main) or 650 Commerce Drive Ste 100

Phone: 651-735-9252

Website: <https://woodburydance.com/darbys-dancers/>

Circus Juventas-Wings Program and Out of the Chair Program(all ages)

Circus arts program for youth and adults with disabilities

Phone: 651-699-8229

Location: 1270 Montreal Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116

Website: <http://circusjuventas.org/community-partnerships/>

Crowley's Gymnastics Center

Offers Special Friends class – ages 3-18 focusing on gross motor skills, agility, social skills, etc.

Phone: 651-738-8796

Location: 1310 Gentry Ave. N., Oakdale, MN 55128

Website: [Our Gym | crowleysgymnastics](http://OurGym|crowleysgymnastics)

Eagan Art House

Workshops and special events all year. All forms of art. Adaptive art classes for children can **potentially** be accommodated. Offer classes for an adult/child combination-adult could be PCA.

Phone: (651)675-5521

Location: 3981 Lexington Ave. South, Eagan, MN (Patrick Eagan Park)

Website: www.eaganarthouse.org

Ages Served: Preschool to adults

Elite Gymnastics

Provide adaptive recreational (non-competitive) gymnastics. 1:1 classes, open gym, etc. for Individuals of all ages and abilities. Specific adaptive classes for 18 months-Age 5

Phone: 952-882-9012

Location: 12500 Chowen Ave So, Burnsville, MN 55337

Website: www.elite-gymnastics.com

Farmington Gymnastics Cheer

Provide adaptive classes for children with special needs both physically and mentally.

Phone: 651-460-2050

Location: 315 Elm St., Farmington, MN 55024

Website: [Farmington Gymnastics & Cheer - Gymnastics, Cheer \(fgcgym.com\)](http://FarmingtonGymnastics&Cheer-Gymnastics,Cheer(fgcgym.com))

Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts

Only visual and performing arts organization for artists with disabilities nationally and internationally. Best for older teens and adults. Visitors need to bring own supports.

Phone: (612)209-3575

Location: 1860 Minnehaha Ave. W, St. Paul, MN 55104

Website: <https://interactcenterarts.org>

Jan's School of Dance

Offer competitive and non-competitive dance classes. Offer class Dance is for Everyone – it is a dance class for Special Needs Kids that brings the joy of dance to all ages and mobility levels.

Phone: 651-438-3690

Location: 2610 Industrial Court, Hastings, MN 55033

Website: www.jansschoolofdance.com

JK Martial Arts

Specialize in teaching karate to children and adults with ADD/ADHD, Autism and Learning Disabilities.

Phone: 612-703-3348

Location: 2125 Tower Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125. Also site in Robbinsdale

Website: www.jk-martial-arts.com

Lifeworks Music Therapy

Offer individual Music Therapy in-person or remotely.

Phone: 651-454-2732

Location: 14655 Evendale Way, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Website: [MusicTherapy - Lifeworks](http://MusicTherapy-Lifeworks)

Lions United Fitness

A gym dedicated to provide professional health, fitness and sport-specific training in a state-of-the-art facility at little or no cost to people with disabilities or their families as well as be available to people without disabilities. Low monthly membership cost with personal training sessions available for purchase.

Phone: (651)955-2821

Location: 2535 Pilot Knob Road, Suite 126, Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Website: <https://lionsunitedfitness.com>

Living Spirit Therapy Services

Music therapy/adapted music lessons – throughout metro area-Melissa Spiess

Phone: 651-363-3936

Website: <https://www.livingspirittherapy.com>

MacPhail Center for Music Therapy

An art center which provides community music classes, music therapy, private lessons on all instruments. MacPhail Center will provide assistants to help with inclusion.

Phone: (612)321-0100 for all locations

Location: 14200 Cedar Ave. Suite 102, Apple Valley, MN 55124 (main Minneapolis-other sites include online access, Chanhassen, Austin and White Bear Lake)

Website: www.macphail.org

Ages Served: 6 weeks +

Millennium Center for Performing Arts

Creative arts adult day program for seniors and adults with special abilities.

Phone: 651-452-0811

Location: 1708 Meadow View Road, Eagan, MN 55121 (also location in Edina)

Website: www.mcparts.org

Mini-Hops Gymnastics/Adaptive Dance/Adaptive Karate

Offer programming for everyone as well as specific adaptive classes for children and adults.

Phone: 952-933-2452

Location: 2600 Campus Drive, Plymouth, MN 55441

Website: <https://mini-hops.com/programming/adaptive/>

Musical Safari

Music therapy –contracts to provide group music therapy in daycares, preschools, Community Education, Senior Centers as well as 1:1 lessons and therapy in family homes. Apple Valley area.

Phone: (952)953-3944, Jennifer Ackland

Email: bjackland@frontiernet.net

Music For Healing LLC

Cathleen Gempeler has had a successful music therapy career with over 27 years of experience.

Phone: 952-567-9117

Location: 4735-123rd St. W., Ste 500, Room 9, Savage, MN 55378

Website: www.cathleengempeler.com

Nick Boyer – Fitness/Personal Training and Nutrition Support

Nick specializes in fitness and nutrition support for adolescents and adults with disabilities and special needs including but not limited to Autism, Cerebral Palsy and Down Syndrome

Phone: 651-529-6206 – nickboyerfitness@gmail.com

Northern Elite Adaptive Cheer Team

Adaptive cheerleading training and competition for both boys and girls. Small classes (one staff or volunteer to three students). Parents and/or PCA's are welcome. Ages 10+

Location: 2090 West 98th St., Bloomington, MN 55431

Website: www.necheer.com

Note-able Music Therapy

Individual and adaptive music therapy in home

Phone: (952) 378-4189

Location: clinic space 17645 Juniper Path, Ste 205, Lakeville, MN 55044

Website: <http://noteablemusictherapy.com/services/>

Stages Theatre CAST Program (Creative Accepting Sensory-Friendly Theatre)

For any student ages 7-17 who has been diagnosed with ASD to build confidence, awareness and perception through the context and practice of theatre.

Location: 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343

Phone: 952-979-1123

Website: <https://www.stagestheatre.org/cast/>

Toneworks Music Therapy

Offers music therapy, adaptive instrument lessons of all abilities in the Twin Cities area. Provided in-home or at clinic in Edina

Location: 5666 Lincoln Drive, Ste 280, Edina, MN 55436

Website: www.toneworksmusictherapy.com

Twin Cities Music Therapy Services

Individual or group music therapy sessions at center in Mpls or in the home or by video.

Location: 3754 Pleasant Ave. So, Ste #227W, Mpls, MN 55409

Website: www.TwinCitiesMusicTherapyServices.com

Twin Cities Trapeze Center

Offers Trapeze Lessons to all ages and abilities. Welcomes everyone from beginners to Professional students 6-Seniors. Must be able to hold your own weight while hanging from a bar.

Phone: 651-262-9477

Location: 719 E. Minnehaha Ave, St. Paul, MN 55106

Website: www.twincitiestrapeze.com

Twin City Twisters Gymnastics – SONIC – Special Needs Program

Location: 10351 Xylon Ave. No., Ste 140, Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

Website: <https://www.twincitytwisters.com/sonic>

Upstream Arts, Inc.

Individuals of all abilities create together in a cooperative environment. Family members, aides and care providers are welcome to participate at no additional cost. Usually provide in group settings.

Phone: (612)331-4584

Location: 3501 Chicago Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Website: www.upstreamarts.org

Uniquely Abled Dance (Raddatz Dance Studios)

Provides instruction in variety of styles. Volunteer program designed to encourage dance among disabled population. Child should come with 1:1 supervision.

Phone: (651)274-4718 W. St. Paul

Location: 120 E. Butler Ave., West St. Paul, MN

Website: Raddatz Dance

Young Dance-Transforming Lives Through Movement

Inclusive dance community.

Phone: 612-423-3064

Location: Fairview Business Center, 655 Fairview Ave. N., St. Paul, MN 55104

Website: [Class Information - Young Dance](#)

ADAPTED/RECREATIONAL SPORTS

(Includes Indoor and Outdoor Play and Specialist Olympics)

Accessible Outdoor Playground Spaces near the Twin Cities

Colvill Park with Universal Playground and wheelchair-accessible discovery garden

Location: 515 Nymphara Lane, Red Wing, MN 55066

Gideon Pond Elementary Playground

Location: 613 E. 130th St., Burnsville, MN 55337

Hyland Play Area

Location: 10145 Bush Lake Road, Bloomington, MN 55438

Website: <https://www.threeriversparks.org/parks/hyland-lake-park/hyland-play-area.aspx>

Kings Park/Miracle League Playground

Location: 18350 Dodd Blvd, Lakeville, MN 55044

Lion's Park Fun for All Playground with splash pad

Location: 1103 Adams St. So., Shakopee, MN 55379

Madison's Place Playground with splash pad

Location: 4125 Radio Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129

Miller Park Barrier-Free Playground with splash pad

Location: 8200 Eden Prairie Road, Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Northwoods Park – also have a wheelchair accessible Ball field

Location: 7600 107th Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN

Thompson Lake Park

Location: 360 Butler Ave. E., West St. Paul, MN 55118

Woodhaven Park (new!)

Location: 1950 Gold Trail, Eagan, MN 55122

Woodridge Park

Location: 9000 90th St. So, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

MN State Parks with All Terrain Wheelchairs and Adaptive Beach Chair:

[All-Terrain Track Chairs | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](#) - Chairs can be reserved by calling the park ahead of time. The adaptive Beach Chair is available at McCarthy Beach State Park in Northern Minnesota.

Indoor Playground Spaces near the Twin Cities (not modified for wheelchairs)

[Recreation in Apple Valley | Indoor Showroom & Playground | Millz House](#)

[Grand Slam Sports | Family Entertainment Center in Burnsville, Minnesota \(grandslammn.com\)](#)

[The Blast \(cityofeagan.com\)](#)

[Good Times Park | Minnesota Largest Indoor Park | Good Times Park, Northwood Circle, Eagan, MN, USA](#)

[Indoor Play Place | United States | The Giggle Factory \(gigglefactorykids.com\)](#) (Hudson WI)

[Home | Hudson GNG / Jungle Gym & Blacklight mini Golf](#) (Hudson WI)

[Indoor Playground - Kids Ultimate Backyard Experience | City of Plymouth, MN \(plymouthmn.gov\)](#)
(sensory room)

[InnerActive - Home \(inneractiveplayground.com\)](#) – MoundsView

[Kids Empire](#) - Bloomington

['The Lookout' Indoor Playground | City of Shakopee \(shakopeemn.gov\)](#)

[Lookout Ridge | Woodbury, MN \(woodburymn.gov\)](#)

[Pay to Play | Indoor Playground Bloomington | Rainbow Midwest \(rainbowplaymidwest.com\)](#)

[PlayPark | Edina, MN \(edinamn.gov\)](#) – Edinborough Park

[ABOUT | Brookview Backyard](#) – Golden Valley

[Turf Tots | Hopkins, MN \(hopkinsmn.com\)](#)

[Maple Maze | Maple Grove, MN \(maplegrovern.gov\)](#)

[Eagles Nest Indoor Playground | New Brighton, MN \(newbrightonmn.gov\)](#)

[Indoor Playground - Kids Ultimate Backyard Experience | City of Plymouth, MN \(plymouthmn.gov\)](#)

[Indoor Playground | City of Shoreview \(shoreviewmn.gov\)](#)

Adapted and Recreational Sports

Adaptive Recreation and Learning Exchange

Cities and school districts of Edina, Eden Prairie, Bloomington and Richfield work together to provide recreation and education for people with disabilities. Variety of activities for youth, teen and adults.

Phone: (952)563-8877 – Bloomington – <https://www.bloomingtonmn.gov/pr/adaptive-programming-and-inclusion-services>

(612)861-9361 – Richfield – [Richfield, MN \(richfieldmn.gov\)](https://www.richfieldmn.gov) -Hyland Hills Adaptive Skiing

(952)826-0433 – Edina – <https://www.edinamn.gov/317/Adaptive-Recreation>

(952)949-8456 – Eden Prairie – [Parks and Recreation Programs | City of Eden Prairie](#)

Do not need to be a resident for activities but may be charged non-resident fee. Fees vary by activity. Supports vary by classes. PCA's are welcome at no additional charge.

Allina Health adaptive Sports and Recreation (Courage Center)

The Courage Center of Golden Valley offers a variety of adapted recreational sports mostly in the North metro region.

Phone: (612)775-2277

Website: www.allinahealth.org (put adaptive sports and recreation in search engine)

[Discover Abilities Resource Guide | Courage Kenny Rehabilitation \(allinahealth.org\)](#)

Ages Served: varies by activity – children-adults

Dakota County Adult Softball League (Organized by KOTA Connections)

KOTA supports teams in the league (depending on the year and interest). Teams are mainly residents from community homes. There are individuals living with their family that participate also. Parents would need to provide transportation and support as needed. Age 16 years and older.

Phone: (952)469-1555

Location: Games are played at Aronson Park in Lakeville.

Website: [Home | Kota Connections | Lakeville MN | 952.469.1555](#)

“Let Me Play” and Dare to Dream Grants for Girls

Provides grants for Minnesota girls(K-12th grade) to be used for participation fees for sports or arts activities. Applications open 2/1 and due April 1 for Spring and open 8/1 and due October 1 for Fall.

Phone: (612)338-5752 x191 – 2356 University Ave. W, Ste 404, St. Paul, MN 55114

Website: www.annbancroftfoundation.org

Minnesota Association for Adaptive Athletics

Alternative sports competition through the State High School League. One division is available for individuals with cognitive delays and one division for individuals with physical disabilities. Coaches are typically adapted physical education teachers and have assistant coaches to help with students. Students are considered to be participating in a varsity sport and may obtain a letter and letter jacket for their sport. Sports offered include bowling(some areas), softball, soccer, and floor(poly) hockey.

Phone: Discuss local team information with your school’s athletic director.

Location: Most school districts participate with a combination of districts.

Website: www.mshsl.org

Ages Served: 7th to 12th graders

Dakota County Teams: *Dakota United Hawks* serves Hastings, W. St. Paul/Mendota Heights, Rosemount, Eagan, Apple Valley and Eastview High School. *Blazing Cats* serves Farmington, Burnsville, and Lakeville(and sometimes New Prague). Can vary by sport

Minnesota Hockey Association & Minnesota Sled Hockey Association

Minnesota Hockey Association sponsors teams for Non-contact adaptive hockey. Teams currently available through Woodbury, Burnsville and Lakeville locally

PCA and family welcome. Contact President Jane Cashin for overall questions and specific coaches for local teams. 612-581-4483

Minnesota Sled Hockey Association sponsors teams for individuals with physical disabilities and utilize an adapted sled. Program is open to players aged 5 and above with physical and/or cognitive disabilities. There are two teams in Minnesota one for a younger age group and an adult age group.

Websites: www.mnspecialhockey.org and www.mnsledhockey.org

Padraig's Place

Adaptive ski and snowboard lessons to children with physical and cognitive disabilities.

Phone: 612-889-7001 – Brian Foley

Location: Buck Hill, Burnsville, MN

Website: www.padraigsplace.org

Reach for Resources

Offers a variety of adaptive recreation programs to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Mostly residents of Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Chanhassen, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, Plymouth and St. Louis Park. If from other cities, pay the non-resident fee.

Phone: 952-200-3030

Location: 5900 Green Oak Drive, Suite 303, Minnetonka, MN 55343

Website: www.reachforresources.org

Shockwaves Adaptive Ski Squad

Offer summer clinics to experience the joy of waterskiing - Shakopee

Website: <https://www.enablingsmiles.com/>

South Metro Miracle League for Adapted Baseball

Players are provided with “buddies” to assist with hitting and fielding. Designed for children with physical and/or developmental disabilities to participate in team baseball through help with volunteers. Contact South Metro Miracle League Operations Coordinator

Phone: (952)486-2982

Location: Lakeville, MN

Website: www.miracleleague.com and [ML Program Information \(lakevillebaseball.org\)](http://MLProgramInformation(lakevillebaseball.org))

Ages Served: 3 and over

TOP Soccer

Community-based soccer program to meet the needs of children ages 8 and older with physical and/or mental disabilities. Athletes are placed on teams according to ability, not by age.

Phone: (612)770-5175 – Jeff Mueller

Website: [TOPSoccer \(mnyouthsoccer.org\)](http://TOPSoccer(mnyouthsoccer.org))

Winter Special Adventures

Once a year event typically offered in February for children and adults (any age or disability) to experience the joy of snowmobiling/UTV riding. Typically held in the Farmington area.

Website: <http://winteradventures.org/>

Special Olympics

The State Special Olympics website is www.specialolympicsminnesota.org and Dakota County is in Area 12. Special Olympics is for ages 8 years and older. If your local area does not offer a particular sport, you are welcome to join other teams in the surrounding areas.

Special Olympics also offers a Young Athletes program for children ages 2-7 years old with and without intellectual disabilities in the community and through the schools. Check the website for upcoming events.

Main Contact: 900 2nd Ave. So, Ste 300, Minneapolis, MN 55402 – 612-333-0999

Dakota County has the following Special Olympic teams:

RAVE

Generally participants are from Rosemount, Apple Valley and Eagan

Phone: (952)432-7672

Website: www.theravesp.com

Burnsville Blast

Generally participants are from Burnsville, Savage, Lakeville, but can live anywhere and join team of your choice.

Email: Anitagroen1@gmail.com

District 197 Community Education

Email: Jonathan.gerster@isd197.org

Farmington Tigers

Generally participants are from Farmington.

Email: ftigerpaws12@gmail.com

Hastings Sharks

Generally participants are from Hastings and the surrounding area

Email: seiben7.kennedy@comcast.net

Project Explore

Email: patricia.vance@district196.org

South Region Stars

Generally participants are from Inver Grove Heights, Mendota Heights, W. St. Paul, So. St. Paul and parts of Eagan. Current sports include alpine sports, poly floor hockey, aquatics, basketball, track and field, bowling, unified flag football and coming soon, bocce ball and softball.

Phone: (952)953-2312 – Marcie Padgett – mpadgett@ci.apple-valley.mn.us

Website: www.southregionstars.com

Special Olympics-Minnesota-Unified Champion Schools

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools is aimed at empowering a generation of student leaders to change their school culture to be more inclusive. The model offers activities that equip students with tools and training to create teams, classrooms and entire schools of acceptance. Unified Champion Schools are schools where students with disabilities feel welcome and are meaningfully included in all school activities, opportunities and functions. [Unified Champion Schools - Special Olympics Minnesota](#)



HORSEBACK RIDING

Minnesota Horse Council – MN Programs for Riders with Disabilities

Website: [Therapeutic Riding Programs \(mnhorsecouncil.org\)](http://TherapeuticRidingPrograms(mnhorsecouncil.org))

Courage Riders

Therapeutic horseback riding. Must be physically disabled or have sensory integration issues. Assessment completed at beginning of first application to determine appropriate class and level of assistance needed. For ages 5-21. Maximum weight 180 pounds. Serves the metropolitan area.

Phone: (651)241-3337

Location: Washington County Fairground, Highway 5 & Manning Ave. North, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Website: www.allinahealth.org/Horseback-riding/

Haven Acres

Faith based healing horse program. The design pairs one at risk child, ages 9-17, with a mentor and a horse that work together, free of charge, each week for a 90 minute session. The child will help do chores around the farm –occasionally includes bible study – now have mentors who are ASL fluent.

Phone: 651-460-6929

Location: 2820 245th St. E., Hampton, MN 55031

Website: www.havenacresmn.org/

Hold Your Horses

Year round with heated indoor facilities.

Phone: 763-498-0007

Location: 5265 Woodland Trail, Greenfield, MN 55357

Website: [Home - Hold Your Horses](http://Home-HoldYourHorses)

Hoofbeats and Heartbeats, Inc.

Equestrian learning center dedicated to providing therapeutic riding and horse care to individuals with emotional and physical disabilities, elderly and youth.

Phone: (763)441-2274

Location: 12301 95th Street NE, Elk River, MN 55330-7422

Website: <http://www.hoofbeatsheartbeats.com/index.htm>

Majestic Hills Ranch

Provides therapeutic recreational horseback riding for those 4+ years of age with emotional, developmental disabilities, and physical handicaps. Available May – October.

Phone: (952)426-5688(cell)

Location: 24580 Dakota Ave., Lakeville, MN 55044 (250th & Dakota Ave.)

Website: www.majestichillsranch.org

RideAbility

Family focused therapeutic and recreational equine related activities for persons with disabilities, their siblings and peers. Volunteer intensive organization supports.

Phone: Jeanie: (507)356-8154

Location: 10038 County Road 5 NW, Pine Island, MN 55963 (North of Rochester)

Website: www.rideability.org

RiverValley Riders

Provides therapeutic recreational horseback riding to children with developmental disabilities. 2019 lesson times are full. Ages 4 and older.

Location: 2007 Neal Ave. South, Afton, MN and

Rick-A-Shay Ranch, 24520 Lofton Ave, Scandia, MN

Website: www.rivervalleyriders.org

St. Croix Trail Blazers

Therapeutic horseback riding year round. Minimum age 8 years.

Phone: 651-230-2581

Location: 6659 Jasmine Court North, Stillwater, MN

Website: www.stcroixtrailblazers.org

True Strides Therapeutic Horseback Riding – part of True Friends organization

Year round therapeutic Riding Program. Initial Consult is free.

Phone: 952-852-0126

Location: Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN – 8046 83rd St. NW, Maple Lake, MN 55358

Website: Therapy and Adaptive Riding - True Friends

We Can Ride

Therapeutic horseback riding provided for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Accepts all skill levels and can be non-ambulatory. Carriage and driving lessons available.

Phone: (952)934-0057

Location: Mailing PO Box 463, Maple Plain, MN 55359 – locations in Medina and Marine on St. Croix

Website: www.wecanride.org

West Metro Horse Camp

Year round riding. Summer Camp accommodates children with attention disorders, autism, and other special needs – camp runs M-Th. Supports depend on riders needs.

Phone: (763)355-0017

Location: 961 Garrison Ave. NE, Buffalo, MN 55313

Website: www.westmetrohorsecamp.com



SWIMMING

Aqua Tots

Special Needs lessons.

Phone: 651-393-9294

Location: 2115 Cliff Road, Eagan, MN 55122

Website: [Swimming Lessons in Eagan, MN: Aqua-Tots Swim School for Kids](#)

AtlantisSwim Academy

1:1 instruction.

Phone: 952-224-4068

Location: 12500 Chowen Ave. So., Ste 110, Burnsville, MN 55337

Website: www.atlantisswimacademy.com

Swimpossible

Provide private lessons at partner pools in various locations in the Minneapolis metro area, primarily in the West and South suburbs. Provides private lessons based on students individualized needs. Use massage, focused breathing associated with yoga and calming effects of water to help student become comfortable. (WISE in Lakeville and community center in Inver Grove Heights locally)

Phone: 612-708-8733

Website: <https://www.swimpossible.org/>

Wise Swim School

Swim school is designed for all family members. Offer private/semi-private and Special Needs lessons.

Locations: 5992 149th Street West, Apple Valley, MN 55124

10491 165th St. W., Lakeville, MN 55044 (old Family Swim School location)

1571 Century Point, Eagan, MN 55121

Website: www.wiseswim.com

Other Swimming Resources/Outdoor Recreational Facilities

Many school districts in the County offer adapted swimming lessons through their community Education Programs – some have hydraulic lifts to assist with those with physical disabilities. Refer to the Community Education page that lists websites for their programs.

Many YMCA's also offer adaptive swim lessons as instructors are available. Refer to the YMCA page that lists websites.

Aquatics Center in Hastings (outdoor)

Phone: (651)480-2385

Location: 901 Maple Street, Hastings, MN 55033

Website: [Aquatic Center - Visit Hastings MN](#)

Eagan Cascade Bay (outdoor)

Phone: (651)675-5577

Location: 1360 Civic Center Drive, Eagan, MN 55122

Website: <https://www.cityofeagan.com/cascade-bay-waterpark>

Family Aquatics Center (outdoor)

Phone: (952)953-2399

Location: 14421 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124

Website: <http://www.ci.apple-valley.mn.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/37>

The Grove (indoor)

Phone: (651)450-2500

Location: 8055 Barbara Ave E., Inver Grove Heights, MN

Website: <http://www.ci.inver-grove-heights.mn.us/97/Aquatic-Center>

Webber Natural Swimming Pool: The Webber Natural Swimming Pool mimics the natural cleaning mechanisms of a pond or lake and is not chlorinated. Zero depth entry

Location: 4330 Webber Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55412

Website: <https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/activities-events/water-activities/webber-natural-swimming-pool/>

Some of the local health clubs/fitness centers also have indoor and outdoor recreational facilities – must be a member to access.

Also, visit individual cities Park and Recreation page for a list of outdoor pool facilities for each individual city. Refer to the appendix list of Dakota County Park and Recreation websites.



FISHING & HUNTING

Capable Partners-Making the Outdoors Accessible

Capable Partners' purpose is to provide opportunities for personal growth and independence for physically challenged persons and able-bodied partners through participation in fishing, hunting, and related outdoor activities.

Phone: 612-299-1329

Website: www.capablepartners.org

Fishing Has No Boundaries

National organization for disabled fishing. Five chapters in/near Minnesota.

Phone: (218) 444-3292 (Bemidji) (507) 530-5530 (Cottonwood)

(218) 963-3401 (Brainerd/Nisswa) (320) 247-3807 (St. Cloud)

(612) 961-4594 (St. Croix Valley, Hudson, WI)

Website: www.fhnbinc.org

Let's Go Fishing

Free fishing and boating excursions for Seniors (55+), Adults with physical and developmental disabilities, and Military members/veterans and intergenerational youth. See website for chapters.

Phone: 320-403-5550 or 1-888-235-8448

Location: main office – 1025 19th Ave. SW, Willmar, MN 56021

Website: <https://lgfws.com/>

Free fishing license available to those 16 years and over who are developmentally disabled or 100% disabled veterans. Obtain through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. An unlicensed person may assist a disabled angler who has a disability license provided that only the number of lawful lines are in use. Call the info Center at (651)296-6157 or website:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/regulations/fishing/exemptions.html>

Resource for adaptive fishing equipment: [Fishing - Move United \(moveunitedsport.org\)](http://moveunitedsport.org)



VACATION/TRAVEL

Hammer Travel

Phone: 952-277-2461

Location: 1909 E. Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata, MN 55391

Website: www.hammertravel.org

Search Beyond Adventures/Off the Beaten Path

Provide all-inclusive escorted vacations for travelers with special needs, ages 17 and up.

Website: <http://www.searchbeyond.com/sb/Enter.aspx>

True Friends Travel (formerly Ventures travel)

Provides vacations for developmentally disabled ambulatory adults.

Phone: (952)852-0101

Website: [Programs & Services - True Friends](#)

Wilderness Inquiry

Provides canoe, kayaking, dog sledding, snowshoeing, hiking, backpacking, cross country skiing, horse packing, and rafting inclusive outdoor adventures for families and individuals.

Phone: (612)676-9400

Location: mail address – 1611 Co. Rd B W. Ste 315, St. Paul, MN 55113

Website: www.wildernessinquiry.org

Ages Served: All

Autism on the Seas—works with Royal Caribbean —(not just Autism, but several disabilities)- staff assisted Cruises.

Website: [Home - Autism On The Seas](#)

The **National Parks** offer a variety of pass options – the Access Pass can be obtained in person, with proper documentation as well as via mail order from USGS. The Access Pass is a free, lifetime pass available to US citizens or permanent residents of the United States that have been medically determined to have a permanent disability (does not require 100% disability). It provides access to the pass owner and accompanying passengers in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle at Federal operated recreation sites across the country. The Pass also can provide the pass owner a discount on expanded amenity fees such as camping, swimming, boat launching and guided tours. It can be issued to a person of any age that have been medically determined to have a permanent disability (physical, mental, or sensory impairment) that severely limits one or more major life activities. The pass is free but there is a \$10 processing fee.

<https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass>

The Minnesota Council on Disability has a list of Travel Resources available for individuals with disabilities.

Website: <https://www.disability.state.mn.us/information-and-assistance/travel-resources/>

Explore Minnesota: Accessible Travel Website - [Accessible Travel | Explore Minnesota](#)

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: Accessible Outdoors website - [Accessible outdoors | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](#)

DisabledTravelers – www.disabledtravelers.com

Comprehensive list of accessible travel specialists including Travel Agents, Tour Operators, Equipment and van rentals, etc.

*The airport provides airport tours for individuals with Autism to help the child prepare for flights. Find out more information through [Navigating MSP Program | MSP Airport](#)

Other travel resources and equipment:

Blog – <http://specialneedstravelmom.com>

Morgan’s Wonderland – accessible amusement park/waterpark in Texas - [Contact - Morgan's Wonderland \(morganswonderland.org\)](#)

<https://wheelchairtravel.org>

LOCAL CIVIC/DISABILITY ORGANIZATIONS

ARC Greater Twin Cities

Have a number of parent, sibling and caregiver networking and support groups and activities as well as trainings on a number of disability related topics throughout the year. Sib-Shops and Sibling Connections programs are designed as support group and recreational resource for brothers and sisters of children with developmental disabilities.

Phone: (952)920-0855

Location: mailings – PO Box 64007, St. Paul, MN 55164

Website: www.arcminnesota.org

Website: [Greater Twin Cities Region - The Arc Minnesota](#)

Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM)

Valuable resource for Autism related supports and activities. Have a summer recreation catalog and year round activities including a Guide to Sensory Friendly Minnesota.

Website: www.ausm.org

Boy Scouts of America

B.S.A. programs are open to boys and girls 5-21. Scouts with Special Needs programs available depending on staffing and volunteers – enter special needs in search engine to get more info.

Phone: (763)231-7201 (central switchboard)

Location: Metro area- see website for specific district coverages.

Website: www.northernstarbsa.org

Dakota County 4-H

All programs of the Dakota County 4-H are open to all children kindergarten through 12th grade and their families. Do not provide any additional supports to facilitate participation, but all abilities are welcome.

Phone: (651)480-7700

Location: Organized by the Dakota County Extension Office. U of M Extension Dakota County, Suite 101, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington, MN 55024

Website: [Dakota County | UMN Extension](#)

Girl Scouts of America-River Valleys

All programs of the Girl Scouts are open to all girls, kindergarten through 12th grade. They strive to add supports as needed and will look at each individual on a case-by-case basis.

Phone: (800)845-0787

Location: Metro area.

Website: www.girlscoutsrv.org/

Disability Hub MN – free, statewide information and referral resource that provides Minnesotans with disabilities and chronic illnesses a single access point for all disability related questions. There is no wrong question! 1-866-333-2466 – <https://disabilityhubmn.org/>

OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT

Adapted Bicycle Resources: A guide to adaptive Bicycles from AmeriDisability – [Adaptive Bicycles Pave the Way for Riders with Disabilities - The Latest National Disability News \(ameridisability.com\)](#)

Another guide from the UK: [Guide to adapted cycles for inclusive cycling | Cycling UK](#)

I Can Shine/I Can Bike camp program – Bike teaching camps – locations change from year to year depending on host site volunteers – currently 2024 is only available in Moorhead, but sites can be added so check webpage. [Camp Locations - iCan Shine](#)

Adaptive Bicycle Trailers - [HOME | Adaptive Bicycle Trailers](#)

Adaptive Mall - <https://www.adaptivemall.com/specneedtric.html>

AmTryke – www.amtrykestore.org

Blackbird Bikes

Phone: (612)991-0078 – Side-By-Side Bicycles for Two

Location: 12721 Apple View Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337

Website: www.blackbirdbikes.com

Burley Kazoo Tag Along Bike - [Kazoo™ | Burley Design](#)

Fat Wheels-Training wheels designed to fit larger bikes. www.fatwheels.com

FlagHouse – www.flaghouse.com

Freedom Concepts USA, LLC - www.freedomconcepts.com

GB Kids, Inc.

Phone: (612)250-9799

Location: 1470 Kingsview Lane N., Plymouth, MN 55447

Website: <https://gbkids.com/>

Go Baby Go

Founded by Professor Cole Galloway as part of a research project at the University of Delaware.

Instructions to modify toy cars to give children with mobility disabilities a chance to play with peers.

PACER has a car available to try out through the Simon Technology Center. About 5 years ago the Farmington Robotic Club made national news by making a couple of cars for local children.

Website: <https://sites.udel.edu/gobabygo/>

Higley Welding

Offer wheelchair Rocker Platform, Adult-Senior Large all terrain tricycle and Special Needs 3 Wheel Bicycles and Axle Conversion Kits – out of Rogers, MN – 763-438-0356

Website: <https://higleywelding.com/buy-shop-all-catagories?olsPage=products>

Kazam Co-Pilot Ride Along Bike – available on Amazon.com

Low step bikes – available on a variety of sites – for individuals who have difficult swinging their leg over the high bar on most retail products sold.

Mobility and Access - Orion Twin Tandem Cycle, Duet Wheelchair Bike combination, Josi stroller and Benecykl stroller(jogger/bike trailer) - <https://www.mobilityaccess.com/>

Rifton – www.rifton.com

Strauss Skates & Bicycles

Phone: 651-770-1344

Location: 1751 E. Cope Ave., Maplewood, MN

Website: (currently under construction) www.straussskatesandbicycles.com

Weehoo bicycle trailers – www.rideweehoo.com

Wheeleez – All Terrain Beach Wheels and conversion kits – [- Wheeleez, Inc. | Wheeleez™ low-pressure wheels](#)

Wike – large special needs bike Trailer - [Special Needs – Wike Inc](#)

Other Equipment Resources:

Creating Ability – adapted kayak designs and paddle adaptations/sled hockey

Website: [Creating Ability – Adaptive Equipment](#)

COLE (Children’s Organization of Lending Equipment)

Providing Children with Special Needs the Equipment They Need to reach their Maximum Potential – Out of Woodbury - [Non-Profit Organization | Welcome to The Cole Foundation](#)

Disabilitease – Blog that contains guides, tools, tips for people with disabilities. Top 11 wheelchair accessible tents, exercise equipment, best beach wheelchairs, adapted golf equipment, etc. – use search tool

Website: [Disabilitease – Information and products recommendations for elderly and disabled](#)

Freedom tent – wheelchair-accessible tents for camping – internet search will pull up many options

Living Spinal – Resources and product vendor for people who live in wheelchairs

Website: [About Us \(livingspinal.com\)](#) – left hand corner click on Shop for viewing of available products

PACER used equipment facebook page/Simon Technology Center Lending Library –

people looking for used equipment and selling or giving away used equipment. Search Facebook for the group MN Special Needs Equipment for Sale.

Simon Technology Center Lending Library-over 1700 items available to experiment with and/or check out and trial assistive technology for basic items to more advanced -

toys/switches/applications/communication/etc on select days each month – no longer an annual membership fee – FREE! - <https://www.pacer.org/stc/library/>

Relax Swing – swing that can be hooked up to regular playground swing for someone with physical disabilities - <https://relaxsling.com/>

Scandia Kicksled

Adapted sled

Phone: (507)896-3715

Location: 7155 State 76, Houston, MN 55945

Website: www.scandiakicksled.com

Other adapted sled resource – KHW Adaptive Snow Sled (Green) – search web for best price

WhisperGlide

Wheelchair accessible lawn swing and glider.

Phone: (800)944-7737

Location: 10051 Kerry Court, Hugo, MN 55038

Website: www.whisperglide.com

Zot Artz

Adapted art products for individuals that utilize a wheelchair – expensive, but for a creative person/parent can provide ideas for do it yourself projects - <http://zotartz.com/art/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-Catalog.pdf>

Additional adapted equipment suggestions: Beep baseball (bases and bat sets), ramps for bowling, ScrambleStick golfball retriever, EZ-Tee golf ball setter, Adaptive ice skating products (skates and walkers), Versa Paddle and Gamut Paddle Holder for kayaking, Creating Ability adapted kayak paddling seat, Liquid Access adaptive ski and wakeboard seats, wheelchair accessible camping tents, Kettler (Adapted) Snow sled – some resources can be found at Move United adaptive equipment website: [Adaptive Equipment - Move United \(moveunitedsport.org\)](http://moveunitedsport.org)

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The following are community resources that provide activities that may offer an opportunity for integration for children with disabilities. These resources may or may not be specifically for children with disabilities.

Movie Theatres offering sensory friendly films:

Alamo for All – Woodbury - <https://drafthouse.com/program/alamo-for-all>

AMC Theatres

AMC Theatres and The Autism Society have teamed up to bring families affected by autism a special opportunity to enjoy their favorite films in a safe and accepting environment. Theatre locations currently in Eden Prairie and Rosedale. www.amctheatres.com/programs/sensory-friendly-films

Bell Museum of Natural History

Do offer show monthly with open captioning and ASL interpretation. Have a quiet room. PCA's get in free while working. Discounted or free admission for person receiving MA/public assistance.

Website: [Accessibility - Bell Museum \(umn.edu\)](http://www.bellmuseum.org/accessibility)

Caponi Art Park

Variety of programs throughout the summer free or with a small donation. Mission of the park is to make art accessible for all members of the community.

Location: Caponi's Art Park – 1220 Diffley Road, Eagan, MN

Website: [Accessibility - Caponi Art Park](http://www.caponiartpark.org/accessibility)

Children's Theatre Company

The Children's Theatre Company has paired with AuSM for a series of sensory friendly performances at the Children's Theatre Company. Social Stories and other resources available at [Accessibility | Children's Theatre Company \(childrenstheatre.org\)](http://www.childrenstheatre.org/accessibility) or call 612-874-0400.

Chuck E Cheese (Woodbury location only) – Sensory sensitive Sundays - [Sensory Sensitive Sundays for Kids w/ SPD | Chuck E. Cheese \(chuckecheese.com\)](http://www.chuckecheese.com/sensory-sensitive-sundays)

Como Park/Zoo/Conservatory

sensory friendly activities/resources/classes – early entry options – in collaboration with AuSM

Website: [Sensory Friendly Mornings - Advanced Registration Required - Como Zoo Conservatory](http://www.comopark.org/sensory-friendly-mornings)

Dakota County Libraries

Book clubs, early learning activities and events

Website: [Libraries | Dakota County](http://www.dakotacountylibraries.org)

Dakota County Parks

Visit websites for activities/facilities: Lebanon Hills Park at Schulze Lake has an accessible watercraft launch dock with a wheelchair to craft transfer station and ADA curbing and rails.

Website: [Parks & Trails | Dakota County](http://www.dakotacountyparks.org)

Dodge Nature Center

Properties are open to public sunup to sundown.

Location: 365 Marie Ave. W., W. St. Paul, MN 55118

Phone: 651-455-4531

Website: [Making strides in access | Dodge Nature Center](#)

Farmington Lanes

Have traditionally offered a Summer pass with largely discounted passes for the summer - Have wheelchair ramp availability and ramp for balls – ask at desk or request beforehand

Location: 27 5th Street, Farmington, MN 55024

Website and Phone: 651-463-7811 – www.farmingtonlanes.com

Bowlero Bowl in Lakeville

Have traditionally offered a summer pass program. Bowling is wheelchair accessible

Location: 11129 162nd St. W, Lakeville, MN 55044

Website: <https://www.bowlero.com/location/bowlero-lakeville>

Children’s Theatre Company

Provides sensory friendly performances. Also have “ACT pass program” for low income.

[Accessibility | Children's Theatre Company \(childrenstheatre.org\)](#)

The Park at Mall of America – number of entertainment venues including Nickelodeon Universe, SEA LIFE Minnesota, Moose Mountain Adventure Golf, Lego Store, Crayola Experience, FlyOver America, BlackLight Mini Golf, movie theatre, escape room, Xscape Arcade, Universe of Light, The Fair on 4 (with ¼ go kart track), 5D Extreme Attraction by Matrix Technology, Amazing Mirror Maze, Build-A-Bear Workshop, ClimbZone, Adventure Course, M&M’s, Dream Riders, Museum of Illusions, Tactical Urban Combat

Phone: (952)883-8800 (Mall Information)

(952)883-8800 (Nickelodeon Universe) – certified Autism Center – resource guide available on website - [Sensory Guide – Nickelodeon Universe](#)

(952)883-0202 (Sea Life Minnesota) – [Accessibility Guide | SEA LIFE at Mall of America \(visitsealife.com\)](#)

Website: [Attractions | Mall of America®](#)

Community Education/ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education)

Interesting and fun classes are offered through Community Education programs. The sponsoring district will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations to meet your child’s needs. Contact your local Community Education Office for a catalog. If you desire, you may be able to attend Community Education classes from other districts. See the appendix for the websites.

Mill City Museum

National historic Landmark built within the ruins of the world’s largest flour mill.

Location: 704 So. 2nd St., Minneapolis, MN 55401

Website: www.mnhs.org/millcity

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Offer social narratives designed for members of the neurodiverse community.

Location: 2400 3rd Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55404

Website: [Accessibility and Inclusion — Minneapolis Institute of Art \(artsmia.org\)](#)

Minnesota Orchestra

Offer relaxed family concerts as well as Sensory Friendly Concerts during the year.

Location: 1111 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Website: [Accessibility at Orchestra Hall - Minnesota Orchestra](#)

Minnesota Streetcar Museum

Welcome neurodiverse riders at all times. They have neurodiverse volunteers, members & guests.

Location: PO Box 16509, Minneapolis, MN 55416-0609

Website: www.trolleyride.org

Minnesota Zoo

The Minnesota Zoo provides educational opportunities for preschoolers, youth, and families. Learn more about the zoo and the animals that call the zoo home. Offer Zoo Access Program – free admission to guests with limited incomes and with an MA card. Teamed with AuSm – sensory guide-

<http://mnzoo.org/mnzoo4all-sensory-guide/>

Location: 13000 Zoo Blvd., Apple Valley, MN 55124

Phone: (952) 431-9200 or (1-800) 366-7811

Website: www.mnzoo.org

Minnesota Children’s Museum

Children ages 6 months through 10 years and their adult guests can explore with extraordinary hands-on adventures. PCA can accompany eligible child for free. “All Play” Program.

Phone: (651)225-6000

Location: 10 West 7th Street, St. Paul, MN 55102

Website: www.mcm.org

[Accessibility at the museum - Minnesota Children's Museum \(mcm.org\)](#)

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Free membership for adults receiving services from Dakota County

Website: [Arb Access | Minnesota Landscape Arboretum \(umn.edu\)](#)

Minnesota Miss Amazing Pageant

Provides opportunities for girls and women with disabilities to build confidence in a supportive Environment during an annual pageant. No entrance fee other than food shelf donations. Been on hold during COVID 19 – currently no events planned in Minnesota

Website: <http://mn.missamazing.org/>

Minnesota Premier WWII Aircraft Museum

Open to the public Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:30am – 5pm. Admission is free.

Location: Fleming Field, 310 Airport Rd. Hangar 3, South St. Paul, MN 55075

Website: [Commemorative Air Force Minnesota Wing - Home \(cafmn.org\)](#)

Rockin Jump

Indoor Trampoline Park.

Phone: 651-419-9020

Location: 2015 Silver Bell Road, Suite 195, Eagan, MN 55122

Website: <https://rockinjump.com/eagan/>

Science Museum

At the science Museum of Minnesota, learners of all ages can discover their changing world through a combination of interactive exhibits, live theater presentations, science demonstrations, and Omni theater films.

Phone: (651)221-9444

Location: 120 West Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55102

Website: www.smm.org
[sensory-visitor \(ctfassets.net\)](http://sensory-visitor.ctfassets.net)

Fees: Family memberships are available; add another adult at a reduced rate. Individuals with Medical Assistance, SSI, SSDI, free or reduced meals or Section-8 housing may enter exhibits for a significantly discounted cost. Admission is free for working PCAs when they are visiting with a client.

Schubert Club/Museum

Offer sensory-friendly family concerts designed for all ages – Schubert club is a vibrant music organization that enriches Minnesota with dynamic concerts/recitals, music education programs and music museum exhibits. Located in the St. Paul historic Landmark Center – museum is free

Website: <https://schubert.org/event/sensory-friendly-family-concert/>

Service Animals resources/information

Website: [Service Animals | Minnesota Council On Disability \(state.mn.us\)](http://ServiceAnimals.org)

Skateville – 201 South River Ridge Circle, Burnsville, MN 55337 - [About Skateville | Skateville](#)

Stages Theatre Company – 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343 – offer sensory friendly performances. “Open Door program” provides free or reduced cost tickets to low income families.

[Stages Theatre Company Ticket Information](#)

State Parks

Minnesota State Parks offer many fun and relaxing summer activities and facilities to get you close to nature. Some highlights include cross country skiing, camping, hiking, and nature presentations to name just a few. See website for parks currently offering Track Chairs - [Track Chairs | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](#)

Website: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/index.html

Fees: annual pass discount with Minnesota handicapped license.

Valleyfair

Boarding Pass Program and Access guide available – website offers Tips for Guests with Autism. Pool lift available for the Rapids and water wheelchairs available at the waterpark.

1 Valleyfair Drive, Shakopee, MN – www.valleyfair.com
<https://www.valleyfair.com/help/accessibility>

Walker Art Center

Gallery admission is free on the first Saturday of each month and every Thursday night.

Website: www.walkerart.org

Works Museum

Hands on engineering and design museum for kids and their grown-ups. Lots of hands-on activities where kids touch, try and build as they explore how things work (legos, robots, kinetics, etc).

Gateway program provides discounted admission for those receiving assistance.

Website: <https://theworks.org/>

There are many other numerous entertainment centers and parks in the metro area – examples include trampoline parks, Aquatic Parks, Themed design parks, rock climbing centers, (for example, Base Camp Inspiring Active Learning at Fort Snelling can adapt all activities for those with disabilities including the indoor climbing wall – basecamp@northernstarbsa.org). For a resource listing a variety of family and child activities available, visit the following websites:

www.minnesotaparent.com/directory

<https://www.minnemamaadventures.com/directory/>

[Family Fun | Explore Minnesota](#)

[Twin Cities Frugal Mom - Living well and centsibly in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area](#)

[Special Needs Resources in Minneapolis & Saint Paul | Kids Out and About Minneapolis/St. Paul](#)

Facebook Groups: Numerous groups available with Minnesota focus for support, events, equipment resources, Accessibility Issues (such as Mn wheelchair accessible places, Special Needs Hacks, MN Special Needs Equipment for Sale, MN ASD Parents to Parents Support, etc.)

CHILD CARE RESOURCES

Various school districts offer before school, after school, and summer day care programs. Supervision is usually 10 to 15 children per staff, but some districts have offered more intense supervision on a case-by-case basis. Many families also advertise for and obtain care, particularly in the summer, at local high schools, through local special education programs, churches, and colleges.

Finding childcare is difficult. The Center for Inclusive Child Care can offer an Inclusion Consultation and possibly coaching and other resources for childcare providers if they are a part of the Parent Aware Program. You can call 1-888-291-9811 or search www.childcareawaremn.org. To utilize the Center of Inclusive Child Care to help a provider learn how to serve or maintain a child in the daycare setting, call 651-603-6295 or go to [Center For Inclusive Child Care - Resources, Training, Support - Minnesota](#).

If you have a child that wants to get certified through the American Red Cross babysitter training program, go to <http://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/babysitting-child-care>

The Department of Human Services understands there is currently a shortage of skilled workers. They also now have a website to try to assist in locating care providers. Links are also provided to understand how to become a personal care attendant. [Direct Support Connect - Home Page / Minnesota.gov](#).

Currently there are stipends available (while funds last) for staff/PCA's who provide services under State Plan PCA, CSG or CDCS – website for more information - [Home Care Stipends and Bonuses \(seiuhealthcaremn.org\)](#)

There are also numerous websites to locate child/adult care (regular and special needs). www.care.com; www.joshin.com; www.sittercity.com; www.aupaircare.com (live in childcare). Some parents have also used *Indeed* to locate care providers.

Child Care Resources at Dakota County Schools:

School District	Program	Contact Person	Telephone Number, email, or website
#191 – Burnsville, Eagan, Savage	Project Kids K-5th	Community Education	Project KIDS (K-5) - 191 Community Education (isd191.org)
#191 – Burnsville, Eagan, Savage (also open to Lakeville and Farmington)	The Edge (grades 6-9) or age 16-summer	Community Education	(952) 707-3908 The Edge - One91 Community Education (isd191.org)
#192 – Farmington	Kid Connection K-5 th Stepping Stones-3 to kindergarten–yr. round	Community Education	(651)460-3216 kreyes@farmington.k12.mn.us Kid Connection Program Information - Farmington Community Education (farmingtonce.com)
#194 – Lakeville	Kid Zone-K-5 th - /WonderZone – 3yrs to K	Community Education	Kid Zone - (952)232-2154 Wonder Zone – 952-232-2154 Child Care / Homepage (isd194.org)
#196 – Apple Valley, Rosemount, Eagan	K-5 th grade	Through YMCA North	(612)230-9622

School District	Program	Contact Person	Telephone Number, email, or website
			Before & After School Care In Apple Valley For ISD 196 - Local Child Care (ymcanorth.org)
#197 – West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Eagan	Extra Innings (K-4 th) Encore (5 th -8 th) Summer K-8 th		(651)403-8052 School-Age Care - School District 197 (isd197.org) Inclusion Manager – 651-403-8034
#006 – South St. Paul	Kids Choice K-6 th	Community Education	(651)306-3631(So. St. Paul) Kids' Choice - South St. Paul Community Education at Central Square (sspps.org)
#199 – Inver Grove Heights	Spartan’s K-5 th		(651)306-7502(IGH) - Spartan Kids' Care - Inver Grove Heights Schools (isd199.org)
#200 – Hastings	Kids Campus(K-6)school year Camp Horizons (K-4 th grade) and Camp Big Shots (5 th – 8 th grade) summer programs	Community Education	(651)480-7671 Home - Hastings Community Education (eleyo.com)

APPENDIX

Community Education:

Apple Valley, Rosemount & Eagan – https://ce.district196.org	(651)423-7920
Burnsville – www.communityed191.org	(952)707-4150
Farmington - www.farmingtonce.com	(651)460-3200
Hastings – www.hastingscommunityed.com	(651)480-7670
Inver Grove Heights & South St. Paul - www.tridistrictce.org IGH (651)306-7502 / SSP (651)306-3632	
Lakeville – www.lakevilleareacomunityed.net	(952)232-2150
Mendota Heights & West St Paul – www.tridistrictce.org	(651)403-8520

Park & Recreation

Apple Valley – http://www.ci.apple-valley.mn.us/35/Live	(952)953-2300
Burnsville – http://www.ci.burnsville.mn.us/142/Parks-Recreation	(952)895-4500
Eagan – https://cityofeagan.com/parks-recreation	(651)675-5500
Farmington – https://farmingtonmn.gov/government/departments/parks_recreation	(651)280-6851
Hastings – www.hastingsmn.gov	(651)480-6175
Inver Grove Heights – www.ci.inver-grove-heights.mn.us	(651)450-2585
Lakeville – http://lakevillemn.gov/783/Parks-Recreation	(952)985-4600
Mendota Heights – https://mendotaheightsmn.gov/office3.com	(651)255-1354
Rosemount – https://www.rosemountmn.gov/191/Parks-and-Recreation	(651)322-6000
South St. Paul – http://www.southstpaul.org/170/Parks-Recreation	(651)366-6200
West St. Paul – www.wspmn.gov	(651)552-4150

Dakota County Area YMCA – www.YMCAtwincities.org

Burnsville	(952)898-9622
Eagan	(651)456-9622
Hastings	(651)480-8887