



FriendshipCircle

HOUSTON FRIENDSHIP 5K

Friendship Runs in the Family

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

IN COOPERATION WITH:



Jewish Federation OF GREATER HOUSTON



JFS Houston Alexander Institute for Inclusion



About



The Friendship Circle of Houston was established in 2003 and has grown to include at least 25 kids with disabilities and their families, 40 adults with disabilities and their families, 50 teen volunteers and 40 young and not-so-young adult volunteers.

The Circle grows each year. What started as an effort to realize the community's responsibility for all its members, has grown to bring friendship to children and adults with disabilities; enhance the lives of their parents; foster the value of volunteerism among our youth; and enrich the lives of all involved.

The Friendship Circle (FC) works to build an inclusive community through a variety of

volunteer, social, Jewish and educational programs. FC pairs teen volunteers with kids with disabilities for weekly play-dates, hosts regular inclusive Jewish and social programs including bowling parties and Shabbat dinners, leads educational workshops in schools and youth groups throughout the greater Houston area, hosts an annual community-wide Friendship 5K and more!

The full range of programs offered by Friendship Circle gives every individual involved the opportunity to recognize their potential and make a difference in their lives and the lives of others.

I don't think there is another organization in Houston that has its central focus on **inclusion** but also where volunteers, special needs kids their families benefit as much as they do.



Joan & Stanford & *Alexander*
FC Supporters

The most amazing group of people who just get it.
Everyone deserves a buddy.



Cindy Streusand
FC Mom

Our Mission

Based on the foundation of *V'Ahavta L'Reacha Kamocha* (love your fellow as yourself), the mission of the Friendship Circle is to:

- ♥ Engage children, teens, and adults with disabilities through a full range of experiences.
- ♥ Provide parents and families of children and teens with disabilities with much-needed respite and support.
- ♥ Enrich, inspire and motivate teens to share themselves with others.
- ♥ Create a sense of responsibility and connection to the Jewish community for teens through educational and social opportunities.



Our Vision

Visualize a community transformed—a group that recognizes the common thread that runs through each of us, regardless of age, ethnicity, background, etc. By reaching past ourselves and into the lives of others, we find meaning, purpose, and love.

The Friendship Circle brings that vision alive. The Circle's unique formula introduces teenage volunteers to children with disabilities, and through shared experiences, all the youth are enriched. The Friendship Circle nurtures a new generation of communal leaders. Going beyond the youth, families and adult volunteers join the Circle and together all enjoy meaningful social and Judaic activities in a truly inclusive community.



FriendshipCircle

by the numbers



15+

recreational, educational and
social programs annually



servicing more than

165

individuals with disabilities
and their families



4000+

community service
hours



100+

volunteers



300+

community members
participate in our programs
annually



I love how the Friendship Circle allows me to do what I am passionate about. It has also given me a **lifetime friend**, Ian, and I love that I am able to work with people who have special needs and at the same time incorporate Jewish values.



Paige Robbins, FC Volunteer



The girls had a great time! They said everyone was so nice to them. When Julie received her baked challah, she couldn't believe how perfect the braid came out. I don't think I've seen her so **happy, amazed and excited** in years.



Kathy Barbasso, FC Mom

Thanks for such an **educational & heartfelt** training program! We both enjoyed meeting you so much and look forward to an ongoing volunteer relationship.



Karen Adelman,
Volunteer Mom



Highlights of Last Year's Friendship 5K

- Over **700** participants and donors
- **600** t-shirts with sponsoring company logos
- Over **8,000** hits on the event website and Facebook page
- Over **\$100,000** was raised to benefit children with special needs.
- The proceeds raised at the event help continue the Friendship Circle's **valuable programs.**



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SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

The **2023 Houston Friendship 5K** will include a timed 5k run or walk, starting and ending at Godwin Park. A Friendship Fair will follow, with food and entertainment for the entire Houston community.

Join other businesses across the greater Houston area in support of building an inclusive community where its members take responsibility for one another.

The Houston Friendship 5k will showcase the Friendship Circle’s presence and accomplishments in the public eye.

You too can be a part of this public awareness by becoming a Corporate Sponsor and thus making a difference in the lives of many!

Join us as a Corporate Sponsor!

PAST SPONSORS INCLUDE:



**Bruce & Rhona Caress | Grzebinski Family | The Binstock Family | Joy & Benjamin Warren | Mira Foundation | Howard & Barbara Weiner
 Bill & Leah Coorsh | The Don & Anne Graubart Family | Cotlar Family | Jordan & Robin Davis | Joan & Stanford obm Alexander | Aaron & Sammy
 Simon & Audrey Wachsberg | Gary & Nancy Glesby | Chana & Arie Lazarus | Mike & Naomi Levy | Howard & Barbara Weiner | The Nathanson Family**



Why Partner with Friendship Circle?



Build Customer Loyalty

Connect to customers who are loyal to businesses that support causes they care about.



Engage Your Staff

Align your business with a social purpose.



Stand Out from the Pack

Demonstrate your organization's commitment to developing the communities you operate in.



Create a Better Future

Create opportunities for local young people with disabilities to participate and contribute in the community.

Sponsorship Opportunities

	Best Friend Underwriter	Friendship Partner	Smile Sponsor	Friend Sponsor
Event called in company name "Generously underwritten by"	✓			
Company representative to address the crowd or participate in an on-stage check presentation	✓			
Marketing table at opening ceremony	✓			
Name a station Choice of: 5k/1mile Medals, Start/Finish Line Inflatable Arch, Bibs	✓			
Name a station Choice of: Food Area, Rides and Games, Water Station x 2, Live Music		✓		
Name a station Choice of: First Aid Station, Water Station, Sensory Tent			✓	
Logo on stage banner	✓	✓		
Recognition in all press releases	✓	✓		
Name mention on stage	✓	✓		
Company literature in race bags	✓	✓		
Company logo on start/finish line banner	✓	✓		
One table for marketing	✓	✓	✓	
Company logo and website link on event website*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Company logo on t-shirt*	✓	✓	✓	✓
Race spots included	10	6	3	1
*logo size according to sponsorship level	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000

Individual Donations

Any and all donations are appreciated! www.houstonfriendship5k.com



Get in Touch!

For more information or for further inquiries feel free to email us at
info@friendshipouston.com or call **832-857-0770**

All checks can be made out to Houston Friendship Circle Inc.
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