

Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc.
"Proclaiming Our Potential" (POP)
Day Training Program

The POP Program began when a *special needs* mom burned with zeal to help young adults with disabilities to have the same opportunity as others within the community. She knew that in spite of having a disability they are gifted with many beautiful abilities. They deserve the opportunity to do more than just sit at home day in and day out after they graduate from school. Every community needs someone to bridge the gap for these young people.

At POP we assess their needs and then find that our first task is to build their self-esteem. Assuring them they are uniquely created by God we search for their abilities in hopes of helping them fulfill their dreams. By discovering their talents some of our young friends have published books, created greeting cards, learn they can sing, paint, draw, and are learning they can reach for the stars.

Circle staff works hard to teach them home living skills and help them understand the importance of good hygiene, manners and how to dress well. It's thrilling to see them begin to blossom and take pride in themselves and their abilities. These young adults with disabilities have high lofty expectations and also unique abilities. They long to be included and to have friends and a social life...we long to help them reach as many of their dreams as possible.

Learning quickly that work is a virtue; they are diligent about their jobs. By finding them places to volunteer they have begun to give back to their community and are learning work skills. With this kind of exposure they can live fulfilled lives. Special needs children and young adults can learn, they may learn slowly, but they do learn as opportunities are opened up for them.

Circle of Friends goals are to create solutions that change the lives of people with disabilities, their families and their neighborhoods as barriers of fear and prejudices are broken down and our goals are:

to teach the love of God and help our young people experience the great God's love through His son Jesus and through the staff and other Circle students

to teach them responsibilities and home living skills

to teach community involvement and helping our neighbors

to teach civic responsibility

to offer them social events

to provide work-related jobs outside of Circle where they can earn money

to create a work environment where one day they may receive some type of compensation

to educate them in various ways outside of the normal class room

Mertice W. Kelly,
Founder and President

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS MINISTRY, INC.

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For Office use only
Date _____
AMT _____
BY _____ ACK _____

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION IN:
PROCLAIMING OUR POTENTIAL
DAY TRAINING PROGRAM
(POP)**

Student's Name: LAST _____ FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____

Home Address _____

Home phone number _____ Cell _____

Secondary Contact/ Number _____ Work _____

Emergency Phone Number _____

PERSONAL DATA

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Sex: M _____ F _____ Height _____ Weight _____

Social Security Number _____

Does Student: Wear Hearing aids _____ Wear Glasses _____ Wear Lenses _____

FAMILY/CAREGIVER DATA- Critical Information in Case of Emergency

Student Resides with _____

Father's Name _____
Last First Middle

Father's Employer _____
Position Business phone Cell Phone

Mother's Full Name _____
Last First Middle

Mother's Employer _____
Position Business phone Cell Phone

Name of Caregiver if special person does not live with parents: _____

Caregiver's home phone _____

Caregiver's Employer _____

Phone Number _____

Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc.
Application for Admission continued

Medications: Y __N__ If yes, please list and explain: _____

<u>MEDICATIONS</u>	<u>DOSAGE</u>	<u>SIDE EFFECTS</u>
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

Does student have any allergies: Y _ N _ If yes, please list _____

Any reason student cannot participate in physical education: Y__ N __
If yes, please explain: _____

BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS: _____

Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc.
Application for Admission continued

Defining the Proclaiming Our “POP” Program

From the time our POP Program (Proclaiming Our Potential) was started it has always been our goal to give the children and young adults with disabilities who enter into it the opportunity to grow, learn and experience life as much as possible.

Knowing and understanding their limitations and the lack of provisions within our community, Circle seeks to provide a “hot house” so-to-speak of acceptance, learning and growing both mentally and emotionally thereby giving them a better quality of life.

Please let us know if you do not want your child to participate in various field trips.

Our annual calendar is filled with various activities which will include:

- trips to restaurants for lunches,
- swimming pools, bowling, picnics
- Field trips to the Lake Wales Library once a week
- Occasionally, we have the opportunity to do small jobs outside of the Circle that will actually help the students earn money. Like cleaning houses, yards and packing boxes to help someone move.
- Several times during the year a staff and volunteers may take the students to a local mall for a movie and lunch out, or to do some shopping.

Doors of opportunities open for Circle each week. At any given time CF students may have the opportunity to go off campus with anyone of these or other field trips. If students leave the facility by vehicle a staff or volunteer staff is always with them. Staff at the office always knows where they are and are able to get in touch with them by phone.

We will send home memos before each outing; however we do need a blanket permission slip signed by you the parent or caregiver.

Circle of Friends Blanket Permission Form

I give my permission for my child to a go on Circle of Friends field trips and also for their picture to be taken and used in local newspapers, web page, Youtube, etc. I also give my permission for him/her to participate in various activities as described above.

Signed _____ Date _____

Comments: _____

GUIDANCE INFORMATION

What is their reading/writing level? _____

What is their verbal comprehension? _____

List activities that student enjoys: _____

In what area(s), if any does the student have great difficulty? _____

Any other questions or areas of concern? _____

Medical Permission:

To whom it may concern:

I (we) give permission for my (our) child, print name of child _____ to attend and participate in activities sponsored by Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc. I (we) authorize an adult, in whose care the minor has been entrusted, to consent to any x-ray, examination, anesthetic, medical, surgical, dental diagnosis or treatment, hospital care, to be rendered to the minor under the general or special supervision and on the advice of any physician or dentist licensed under the provisions of the Medical Practice Act on the medical staff of a licensed hospital, whether such diagnosis or treatment is rendered at the office of said physician or at said hospital. The undersigned shall be liable and agrees to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with such medical and dental services rendered to the aforementioned child pursuant to his authorization. Should it be necessary for my (our) child to return home for medical reasons or otherwise, the undersigned shall assume all transportation costs. The undersigned does also hereby give permission for my (our) child to ride in any vehicle designated by the adult in whose care the minor has been entrusted while attending and participating in activities sponsored by Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc.

Medical Insurance Yes _____ No _____

Insurance Company _____

Policy Number _____

Participant _____ Date _____

Medical conditions/physical problems _____

RELEASE

With the understanding that the child who is the subject of this release is developmentally or physically disabled, which fact in and of itself creates a greater risk or responsibility of injury, EACH OF the UNDERSIGNED, for him/herself, his or her personal representatives, heirs, next of kin, acknowledges, agrees and represents that he/she:

- (1) HEREBY RELEASES, waives, discharges and covenants not to sue the Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc. their officers, employees, or assignees, for all the purposes herein referred to as "Releases," from all liability while participating in the programs at Circle of Friends Ministry Inc. for any and all damage, and any claim or demands therefore on account of injury to the person or property or resulting in death.
- (2) HEREBY AGREES to identify and save and hold harmless the releases and each of them from any loss, liability, damage or cost they may incur due to participating in the Circle of Friends Ministry's events, and whether caused by the negligence of the Releases or otherwise.
- (3) HEREBY ASSUMES full responsibility for and risk of bodily injury, death, or property damage due to the negligence of the Releases or otherwise while participating in any Circle of Friend's events.
- (4) EACH OF THE UNDERSIGNED expressly acknowledges that the children who participate in the Circle of Friends programs are developmentally or physically disabled, which creates a greater risk of serious injury and/or death, and/or property damage than would be the case with children not developmentally delayed or physically disabled. EACH of the undersigned further expressly agree that the foregoing release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law in the state in which the Circle of Friends event is being held and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full force and effect.
- (5) THE UNDERSIGNED has read and voluntarily signs the release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement, and further agrees that no oral representations, statements or inducement apart from the foregoing written statement has been made.
- (6) This waiver, release and indemnification agreement specifically embraces each and every event sanctioned, authorized, or promoted by The Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc., and has the same effect as if executed after each and every activity or event in which the undersigned participates so that the parties herein intended to be released and indemnified shall be fully and effectively released and indemnified as to each and every event herein above described. I/We also undersigned the Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc. Retains the right to use for personal, publicity and advertising purposes photographs taken at any events.

The undersigned (parent)_____referred to as the parent(s) and natural guardian(s) or legal guardian(s) of (child)_____, does hereby represent that he/she/they is/are, in fact , acting in such capacity and agree to save and hold harmless and indemnify each and all of the parties herein referred to the above releases from all liability, loss, cost, claim, and damage whatsoever may be imposed upon said releases of any defect in and/or lack of such capacity to so act and releases said releases on behalf of both the undersigned.

Name_____ Relationship to child_____

JURAT

State of _____
County of _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this _____ day of _____ 200__ .

Notary public

My Commission Expires: _____

Circle of Friends Song

Holding hands.....holding hearts
Each a part of the other
Where one is weak, another is strong
In Spirit, sisters and brothers
In our circle, our circle, our circle of friends
We have found a place where we belong.....
In our circle, our circle, our circle of friends
Heaven sent is this circle of friends
Learning to be all that God wants us to be
Loved for who we really are
With peace inside and purpose to our lives
We'll shine as brightly as the stars.....
In our circle, our circle, our circle of friends
We have found a place where we belong.....
In our circle, our circle, our circle of friends
Heaven sent is this circle of friends
So please see this circle as a symbol of God's love
Cause in His heart there's always room for more....
In our circle our circle our circle of friends
We have found a place where we belong.....
In our circle, our circle, our circle of friends
Heaven sent is this circle of friends
Thank You, Jesus, for my "circle of friends".