

# PROGRAM GUIDE



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## FriendshipCircle

Fairfield County 2022-2023 · 5782-5783

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# PROGRAM GUIDE

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**FRIENDSHIPCT.COM**

2022-2023 • 5782-5783



# OUR PROGRAMS







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ADULT CHAPTER  
BAR/BAT MITZVAHS  
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COMMUNITY EVENTS  
FRIENDS AT HOME  
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MITZVAH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM  
PARENT EVENTS  
SPECIAL EVENTS  
VOLUNTEER CLUB



Our offices are located in  
the Springdale Shopping Center:

1074 Hope Street, Suite 201  
Stamford, CT, 06907

[FRIENDSHIPCT.COM](http://FRIENDSHIPCT.COM)



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**NEED TO REACH US?**







**WELCOME!**





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**DEAR FRIENDS,**

Welcome to The Friendship Circle!



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

At The Friendship Circle, we extend a loving hand of friendship to individuals with special needs and their families. We work to create a warm and accepting environment and to form relationships that last a lifetime.

Our network of more than 300 teen and adult volunteers helps us offer a full range of social and Judaic programs for children, teens, and adults. Like a circle - with no beginning or end - at The Friendship Circle everyone benefits. Our teen volunteers, through active involvement with their special friend, become empowered, enriched, and profoundly transformed.

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

If you are a family member of an individual with special needs, we are glad you are here. Like the many families who have already joined the circle, we know you will benefit from and appreciate the inclusive network of friendship, support, love, and respect.

If you are a community member who would like to volunteer or learn more about what we do, we would love to hear from you too. *Together we can make a world of difference.*

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

Sincerely,

**MALYA SHMOTKIN**

## **INCLUSION FAIR**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

Children in Grades 1-6 and their parents are invited to participate in a fully immersive fair in which they'll learn about various special needs, and how to accept, interact, and be more inclusive of others.

*Made possible through a grant by United Jewish  
Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Danvers*

## **FRIENDSHIP DAY & WALK**

**SUNDAY, MAY 21**

12:30 PM Registration & Festivities

1:30 PM Walk begins

At Westhill High School  
125 Roxbury Rd, Stamford

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

[www.FriendshipDayCT.com](http://www.FriendshipDayCT.com)

## **LADIES TRIP TO THE REBBE'S RESTING PLACE**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 1**

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

We will carpool together



# COMMUNITY EVENTS





# ADULT CHAPTER



The Adult Friendship Circle Chapter is an innovative program that serves adults with special needs through one-on-one friendships and social opportunities with other adults in our community.

## OUTINGS

### **SHABBAT DINNER *NEW!***

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16**

5:30 PM

At The Shmotkin Home

### **SUPERBOWL PARTY**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

6:00 - 7:30 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room  
1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford

### **GIRLS SPA NIGHT**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

8:00 - 7:30 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room  
1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford

### **GAME NIGHT**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4**

7:00 - 8:00 PM

At The Shmotkin Home

### **COOKING CLUB *NEW!***

**THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

5:00 - 6:30 PM

At Chabad of Greenwich  
75 Mason St, Greenwich

### **SPA & PHOTOSHOOT**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30**

1:00 - 4:00 PM

At The Loft Salon & Spa  
1051 Long Ridge Rd, Stamford





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## SOCIAL EVENTS

### ADULT CIRCLE

#### SUNDAYS

SEPTEMBER 18, OCTOBER 2, NOVEMBER 6,  
NOVEMBER 20, DECEMBER 11, JANUARY 8,  
JANUARY 22, FEBRUARY 5, MARCH 5,  
MARCH 19, APRIL 2, MAY 7

1:30 - 4:00 PM

At The Stamford JCC

1035 Newfield Ave, Stamford

#### CLOSING LUNCH NEW!

##### SUNDAY, MAY 7

1:30 - 2:30 PM

At The Stamford JCC

1035 Newfield Ave,  
Stamford

### BIRTHDAY BASH *NEW!*

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

4:30 - 6:00 PM

At the Stamford Nature Center  
39 Scofieldtown Rd, Stamford

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

4:30 - 6:00 PM

At Get Air Trampoline Park  
11 Riverbend Dr S, Stamford

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 30

4:30 - 6:00 PM

At The Maritime Aquarium  
10 North Water Street, Norwalk



Children's Circle gives parents the opportunity to leave their children in the hands of qualified and professional instructors, therapists, and loving volunteers. In addition to learning about Judaism in an engaging and meaningful way, the children and their friends enjoy activities including music, art, cooking, and sports.

## **CHILDREN'S CIRCLE DATES**

### **SUNDAYS:**

**SEPTEMBER 18 (ORIENTATION)**

**OCTOBER 2, 23**

**NOVEMBER 6, 20**

**DECEMBER 11, 18**

**JANUARY 8, 22**

**FEBRUARY 5, 26**

**MARCH 5, 19**

**APRIL 2, 23**

**MAY 7**

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

(Volunteers: 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM)

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy

2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

## **CHILDREN'S CIRCLE ORIENTATION**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Volunteers

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Families

## **CHILDREN'S CIRCLE MOMS HANGOUT NEW!**

**SUNDAYS: OCTOBER 2, NOVEMBER 20,**

**JANUARY 8, FEBRUARY 26, APRIL 2**

10:00 - 11:00 AM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy

2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford



## FRIENDS AT HOME

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

Friends At Home is at the heart and soul of our organization. Every week, pairs of teenage volunteers visit children in their homes, providing friendship through shared experiences. These teens are trained for their invaluable role as a friend and mentor.



# CHILDREN'S CIRCLE







# FOR THE MOMS

## VISIT TO THE REBBE'S RESTING PLACE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

9:30 AM

We will carpool together

## MOMS SOCIALS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Chabad of Fairfield

452 Brookside Dr, Fairfield

MONDAY, MARCH 13

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Chabad of Westport

79 Newtown Turnpike, Westport

## PRIVATE YOGA SESSIONS

Yoga or Mat Pilates private sessions in the comfort of your own home, with the wonderful Sheryl Brauman.





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The true unsung heroes at The Friendship Circle are the parents of individuals with special needs. They are the ones who tirelessly work day and night to improve the lives of their beloved children. For all this and more, they deserve some pampering themselves!

**CHILDREN'S CIRCLE  
MOMS HANGOUT NEW!**

**SUNDAYS: OCTOBER 2, NOVEMBER 20,  
JANUARY 8, FEBRUARY 26, APRIL 2**

**10:00 - 11:00 AM**

**At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford**

**MOM ZOOM GET TOGETHERS**

**MAMA'S PIZZA MAKING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**7:30 PM**

**WINTER ART CLASS I  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

**7:30 PM**

**PASSOVER ART CLASS II  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28**

**7:30 PM**

**SHABBAT IN AN HOUR  
SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

**7:30 PM**



## **GRANDPARENTS CONNECT VIRTUALLY *NEW!***

**MONDAY, JANUARY 30**

7:00 - 8:00 PM

At Your Home

## **MOMS & DADS NIGHT**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

6:00 - 8:30 PM

At The Wachsman Home

## **SPECIAL PERSON CHALLAH BAKE *NEW!***

**SUNDAY, MARCH 19**

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford



## **FOR THE DADS:**

### **BEERS WITH THE BOYS**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

8:00 - 9:30 PM

At Six Thirteen

108 Prospect St, Stamford

### **MARCH MADNESS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 23**

8:00 - 9:30 PM

At The Palker Home



# **FAMILY SUPPORT**





# SPECIAL EVENTS & CAMPS



## NATANS CAMPS

### ELECTION DAY CAMP

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

At The Stamford Nature Center

39 Scofieldtown Rd, Stamford

### WINTER CAMP

**MONDAY-THURSDAY - DECEMBER 26-29**

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy

2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford





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## **FAMILY WELCOME BACK PARTY**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

10:00 - 11:00 AM

At Twin Meadows Boundless Park  
800 Stillwater Rd, Stamford

## **FAMILY BOWLING LEAGUE**

**SUNDAYS: OCTOBER 30, NOVEMBER 4,**

**JANUARY 29, MARCH 26, JUNE 11**

3:00 - 4:00 PM

At Nutmeg Bowl  
802 Villa Ave, Fairfield

Made possible through an allocation from the Federation  
for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County

## **VIRTUAL COOKING CIRCLE**

**THURSDAYS: JANUARY 12, 19, 26**

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM

At Your Home

## **FRIENDS OF FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE TRIP TO LIFETOWN *NEW!***

**SUNDAY, MARCH 28**

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Traveling to The Lifetown Center  
10 Microlab Road, Livingston, NJ

## **TRIP TO THE ZOO**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 4**

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Beardsley Zoo  
1875 Noble Ave, Bridgeport



## **ROSH HASHANA CELEBRATION**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

6:30 PM

At the Kamman Home

## **PRE - CHANUKAH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

## **CHANUKAH**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 19**

5:00 - 6:30 PM

At The Stepping Stones Museum  
303 West Avenue, Norwalk

## **TU B'SHVAT**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

## **PRE - PURIM**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 5**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

## **PURIM CELEBRATION**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7**

4:30 PM

At The Kamman Home

## **PRE - PASSOVER**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 2**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

At Bi Cultural Hebrew Academy  
2186 High Ridge Road, Stamford

## **PASSOVER SEDER**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5**

7:00 PM

At The Shmotkin Home


## **SHAVUOT CELEBRATION**

**FRIDAY, MAY 26**

4:30 PM

At The Kamman Home





The Friendship Circle holiday programs unite the entire family in celebration with innovative and meaningful activities, programs, and personal family invites. This enables all to enjoy the warmth and joy of the Jewish holidays in a comfortable setting.

# HOLIDAY PROGRAMS





# MITZVAH VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



## FAIRFIELD

**SUNDAYS: OCTOBER 30, NOVEMBER 6, NOVEMBER 20**

10:45 - 11:45 AM

At Chabad of Fairfield

452 Brookside Drive, Fairfield

## GREENWICH

**TUESDAYS: DECEMBER 6, 13, JANUARY 10**

6:30 - 7:30 PM

At Chabad of Greenwich

75 Mason Street, Greenwich

*Made possible through an allocation  
from Gitt JCC of Greenwich*

## STAMFORD

**SUNDAYS: DECEMBER 11, JANUARY 8, 22**

6:30 - 8:00 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room

1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford

## WESTPORT

**TUESDAYS: JANUARY 31, FEBRUARY 7, 14**

4:45 - 5:45 PM

At Chabad of Westport

79 Newtown Turnpike, Westport

## SPRING SESSION NEW!

**SUNDAYS: MARCH 12, 19, 26**

6:15 - 7:45 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room

1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford

## MITZVAH VOLUNTEER

### AWARD CEREMONY

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11**

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Location TBD





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The Mitzvah Volunteer Program gives Bar/Bat Mitzvah age children the opportunity to take part in The Friendship Circle's activities, as well as to get training in how to work with children with special needs. This program is designed to teach young teens about accepting differences as well as the importance of giving to others.



We take birthdays seriously. The day you were born is the day that G-d said this world cannot exist any longer without you! We celebrate birthdays with the following packages. In addition, if you would like to celebrate your Jewish birthday, call us and we will arrange everything from the friends to the cake. We'll make it a party you will always remember!

## **MOMS & DADS BIRTHDAY PACKAGES**

With our special birthday package delivered straight to their door, we tell the parents, "You Got This!"

## **KIDS BIRTHDAY PACKAGES**

There's nothing like getting a package in the mail, addressed to you, in honor of your birthday.

## **SIBLING BIRTHDAY VISITS *NEW!***

Siblings of individuals with special needs have their own unique beauty. Visiting them on their special day helps them feel seen and excited!



## BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

Everyone deserves to celebrate his or her Bar or Bat Mitzvah surrounded by family and friends. The Friendship Circle can help create an individualized experience to meet the needs of every individual with special needs and his or her family.



# BIRTHDAYS





# THE VOLUNTEER CLUB



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The Volunteer Club provides The Friendship Circle volunteers with a wide range of activities, giving our volunteers an opportunity to get to know each other and share experiences.

## **VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

8:00 - 8:00 PM

At the Mehl Home

## **MOVIE EVENT & VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2**

7:00 - 9:00 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room  
1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford



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**VOLUNTEER CHANUKAH PARTY *NEW!***

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17**

7:30 PM

At Beta Rock Climbing  
45 Harbor Dr, Stamford

***"WE KNEAD YOU"***

**VOLUNTEER & PARENT CHALLAH BAKE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

7:30 - 9:00 PM

At the Laforte Home

**SHALOCH MANOT PACKING  
& VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

7:00 - 8:30 PM

At The Friendship Circle Center  
1074 Hope St, Suite 207, Stamford

**VOLUNTEER TRAINING 101**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 30**

7:00 - 8:30 PM

At The Young Home

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION  
END OF YEAR BBQ *NEW!***

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6**

5:00 PM

At The Peru Home



## **UMATTER *NEW!***

UMatter is a teen support program that occurs monthly at The Friendship Circle. Teens gather in small groups to have an open conversation about mental health challenges, anxiety, stress, strength, and more, in a safe environment.

**THURSDAYS: NOVEMBER 3, DECEMBER 1,  
JANUARY 5, FEBRUARY 2**

6:30 - 7:30 PM

At The Friendship Circle Conference Room  
1074 Hope St., Suite 207, Stamford

## **UMATTER SHABBAT DINNER**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 3**

8:00 PM

At The Shmotkin Home

## **TEEN BOARD**

The Friendship Circle teen board members:

- each a leader in his or her own Fairfield County high school-  
hold planning and assessment meetings throughout the year:

Charlotte Bunin  
Solomon Green  
Evan Laforce  
Jonah Mehl  
Ryland Noonily  
Zachary Price  
Isabel Sigman  
Amy Yellen





Sign up today to receive our REMIND texts  
and be in the know of what's going on in  
our Volunteer Club!

TEXT @FCIRCLE TO 81010



# THE VOLUNTEER CLUB

CONTINUED...



# BOARD & DEVELOPMENT



## LIFE & LEGACY

Life & Legacy Giving promotes after-lifetime giving in order to sustain the viability and perpetuity of The Friendship Circle in the future.

By signing a letter of intent, you can support The Friendship Circle's future in your will, life insurance plan, or other areas.  
Please email [Malaya@friendshipCT.com](mailto:Malaya@friendshipCT.com) for more information.



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Each year The Friendship Circle serves over 100 individuals with special needs and their families. While The Friendship Circle programs are volunteer-driven and free of charge, it takes extensive management, time, funds, and supervision to deliver high quality programs and activities for special needs children and young adults.

If you would like to help sponsor a program, please email [Malja@FriendshipCT.com](mailto:Malja@FriendshipCT.com), send a check to our offices, or donate online at [www.FriendshipCT.com/Donate](http://www.FriendshipCT.com/Donate).

The Friendship Circle of Connecticut Inc. is a Non Profit Organization.  
Our tax exempt 501c3 number is 26-1093886.

## BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Tanya Barton

Mrs. Robin Fischel

Mr. Jason Kaplowitz

Mrs. Susan Mark \*

Mr. Jared Mehl\*

Mr. Eliaz Niedober

Mr. Brian Roitman \*

Mr. Howie Schwartz \*

Mr. Fred Springer, Board President \*

Mr. Greg Wachsmen

Mr. David Wayne \*

Mrs. Lauren Zalis

\* member of the Executive Committee





PAYPAL



VENMO



### DOUBLE THE DONATION

Does your company match grants?  
Let's check!



TEXT 2 DONATE

FRIENDSHIPCT to 44-321

CHECK

Send a check to our offices

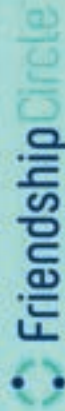


WEBSITE



WAYS TO DONATE





**Friendship Circle**

**Fairfield County**

1074 Hope St., Suite 201  
Stamford, CT, 06907

## THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE IS AFFILIATED WITH:

### CHABAD OF FAIRFIELD

452 Brookside Drive  
Fairfield, CT 06824  
(203) 373-7531  
[www.ChabadFF.com](http://www.ChabadFF.com)

### CHABAD OF GREENWICH

75 Mason Street  
Greenwich, CT 06830  
(203) 661-2200  
[www.ChabadGreenwich.org](http://www.ChabadGreenwich.org)

### CHABAD OF NEW CANAAN & DARIEN

137 Putnam Road  
New Canaan, CT 06840  
(203) 972-7708  
[www.NewCanaanJewish.org](http://www.NewCanaanJewish.org)

### CHABAD OF RIDGEFIELD

27 R. West Lane  
Ridgefield, CT 06837  
(203) 403-5372  
[www.ChabadRidgefield.com](http://www.ChabadRidgefield.com)

### CHABAD OF SHELTON & MONROE

7 Rosedale Circle  
Shelton, CT, 06484  
(203) 364-4149  
[www.JewishShelton.com](http://www.JewishShelton.com)

### CHABAD OF STAMFORD

770 High Ridge Road  
Stamford, CT 06905  
(203) 324-2223  
[www.ChabadStamford.org](http://www.ChabadStamford.org)

### CHABAD OF HARBOR POINT

1 Harbor Point, The Beacon  
Stamford, CT 06902  
(203) 884-4440  
[www.JewishHarborPoint.org](http://www.JewishHarborPoint.org)

### CHABAD OF WESTPORT, WILTON, & NORWALK

79 Newtown Turnpike  
Westport, CT 06880  
(203) 228-8584  
[www.ChabadOfWestport.com](http://www.ChabadOfWestport.com)

Every Chabad community is committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming environment. If you require an accommodation in order to attend, please contact us and we'll be happy to assist you.

**FRIENDSHIPCT.COM**



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