

Jewish Children's Regional Service  
SPECIAL FRIENDS CLUB

SpecialNeeds@jcrsnola.org 1-800-SAY-JCRS www.jcrsnola.org



Jewish children with special needs often feel left out of the mainstream of Jewish communal life. Whether their challenges are physical, emotional, or developmental, these children often have a hard time fitting into the conventional milieu (such as schools, camps or youth groups) of their more typical peers. The Jewish Children's Regional Service would like to reach out to these children on behalf of the Jewish community.

As a regional child welfare agency, the JCRS has a long been committed to special needs children throughout our seven-state area, providing financial subsidies and individual case management. We know how hard families strive to find and finance the most effective training, treatment, schools, social opportunities and Jewish education, and we know how isolated these children and their families often feel. The JCRS is beginning a club to include and recognize these challenged youth.

Children who join this club can receive birthday cards, holiday cards, and certificates of accomplishment for achieving life milestones. Graduations, Bar Mitzvahs and other special achievements will be recognized. Families can be referred to local and national services, and can be connected to other Jewish families with similar challenges. In addition, financial aid is available, as needed, through JCRS scholarship and subsidy programs. Our goal is to give each child a sense of inclusion in the Jewish community, so that each can feel supported to reach his/her potential, and feel valued as an individual.

To join the Special Friends Club, please return the attached form to the JCRS. All special needs children are welcome.

*The measure of success is not the distance you go, but the obstacles you overcome to get there.*