

CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SKILLS PROGRAM

The Balance **Children's Social Skills Program** is funded by the Ozaukee County Department of Human Services and private pay. The program runs during the school year and assists children with developmental disabilities develop and practice social and daily living skills. We provide services that promote and respond to their personal goals, desires, needs and dreams, while balancing support and independence. We also strive to empower the communities' capacity to understand and embrace persons with developmental disabilities.

Balance began this program as a new pilot from January through May 2019. It was so successful, Ozaukee County requested the program expand to two days and create two age groups. Balance is extremely excited to be able to continue this program. The staff support provided through this program allows individuals to grow in many different ways. Balance is in an environment where individuals can express themselves and thrive in a safe, fun, caring space. They will be given the opportunity to learn various skills. The social skills program is an after school that promotes personal growth, social interaction and new experiences. Children will be a part of an exciting program where they can come relax, hang out, make social connections and friendships and partake in exciting activities many of which are community based. The program brings in a variation of professional individuals who are experts in art, music, science, animal interaction and reading skills.

The programs run for 13—15 weeks between September through December and January through May. Programming is held at the Balance Pace location in Grafton, 1350 14th Ave Grafton, WI. To ensure a great experience for all participants, the sessions will be divided according to age and programming needs. Groups will include the following:

- **Ages 5 – 12 Years old: Tuesday afternoons from 3:45 pm – 5:45 pm**

Sessions will include a snack time, activity program and socializing amongst staff and peers. Each child is paired with a specific staff member and another participant for the activity programming, but encouraged to interact with all staff and participants. Space limited to 16 Participants.

- **Ages 13 – 17 Years old: Thursday afternoons from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Sessions will include a snack and socializing time, a daily living skills related program and finally interaction amongst staff and peers. There may be some off site activities facilitated as well. Specific activities may include: Daily Living Skills, Community outings/integration, and Arts and Crafts. This will be a group of 7-10 individuals with two or three staff.

If interested please contact Ashly Kammerer at 262-268-6811, akammerer@balanceinc.org or Gene Baumann at 262-689-4724, ebaumann@balanceinc.org.



Activities include:

- Daily Living Skills
- Social Connectedness
- Community Integration
- Recreation & Leisure
- The Arts
- Music Therapy
- Movement & Exercise
- Pet Therapy
- Money Management