



Social Recreation Program – Wilmington

Frequently Asked Questions 2021

What should I expect as a participant of the Social Recreation Program?

Daily programming

- Our focus is on providing a setting where children are cared for, accepted, and celebrated for their uniqueness. All program activities and curriculum are delivered in group settings and are designed to increase social relationships, communication, physical wellness and independence.
- We provide structured recreational activities daily, such as arts and crafts, music and movement, games, media, outdoor fun, and much more. Staff are trained to engage children in their chosen activities and with their peers, understand their needs and help them reach new goals.
- Our staff to participant ratios are between 1:1 to 1: 4. The ratio for each participant is determined based on the individual's need for support.

Summer programming

- Field trips to local activities are integrated into weekly camp schedules. Due to COVID, activities may be more restricted. Participants will receive information about potential outings and will be given the opportunity to choose to participate or decline.
- Transportation to off-site activities in community locations is provided through the program.
- Transportation to/from participants' homes is not provided. If you have extenuating circumstances regarding transportation, please discuss these with your site's director.

Afterschool programming

- Due to the shorter duration of services each day, all activities are on-site at our programs.
- Transportation is provided from several local schools to our program, depending on capacity and needs. To determine if transportation is available from your child's school, contact your site's director.

Respite events

- Throughout the year, additional respite events are scheduled for some weekends, evenings, and/or school breaks. Each site creates and maintains a calendar for those events. You may sign up to participate in any offered respite events.

Adult programs

- These programs operate throughout the year for ages 18 and up. The focus of these groups is on independent-living skills, job readiness/exploration, social skills and engagement, health and wellness, financial literacy, interpersonal relationships, and recreation as well as skill development in other areas necessary for a successful transition to adulthood.

Are there any flexibilities at this time due to COVID?

- Trillium Health Resources has authorized ASNC to provide respite services in participant homes if that is a preferred choice for a family due to concerns regarding health and safety due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Center-based services may also be able to be combined with in-home services to meet needs during times of reduced program capacity. If you are interested in in-home services, please discuss this with the site director.
- If receiving 1:1 services in-home, transportation to community locations may be included in the services provided.

Who is eligible for these services?

- Afterschool and full day summer programming is available to individuals ages 4-22. Adult programming is open to all adults.
- Due to federal, state, and local funding requirements, individuals applying for services through our Social Recreation Program must have a psychological evaluation which meets the following criteria:
 - Psychological evaluation clearly documents an autism diagnosis which was made prior to the age of 22
 - The psychological evaluation must clearly detail substantial functional limitations in 3 or more of the following major life activity areas: self-care, receptive and expressive language, capacity for independent living, mobility, self-direction, and economical self-sufficiency.
 - The psychological evaluation must also reflect a narrative, detailed description of the individual's specific limitations.
 - The psychological evaluation was completed and signed by a licensed psychologist (LP or LPA).

**If you have questions about eligibility criteria or documentation or if you need support linking to resources to obtain an evaluation, please reach out to the Program Director for the site you are wishing to attend and they will assist you.*

Are individuals required to have autism to receive these services?

- Yes, at this time this program is intended to meet the unique needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

What is the cost?

- All services are free to those who attend. Programs are funded through Trillium Health Resources with a mixture of Medicaid, State, and local funds. Eligible individuals will be enrolled with Trillium Health Resources as a member in order to receive funding for the services.
- Occasionally, certain activities may require nominal fees. We will work with families to ensure all have access.

How do I apply to attend the Social Recreation Program?

- Our application process is rolling throughout the year. Admission to our program is based upon individual eligibility and our capacity. Simply complete the interest form on our website. We will review these as they are received and respond to you regarding your eligibility and availability of services.

How do you determine the capacity for the program?

- Capacity is different for each location based upon facility size, staffing, and participant needs. When program is at capacity, we maintain communication with those interested in and eligible for services and notify them of any openings as they occur. It is recommended to continue to check back in with us so we are aware of your ongoing interest.
- Due to limitations on our capacity, individuals without additional similar services will be prioritized for our programs.

What type of training is provided to program staff?

- We provide professional, hands-on training and ongoing support on-site. Training and support include workshops on autism, communication, social skills, behavior management, sensory issues, and much more. Trainings are completed by licensed clinicians and professionals with extensive experience in the field of autism/developmental disabilities.
- We also conduct thorough background checks on all employees prior to hire and maintain them in a live check system throughout employment.

Can my staff through another provider support my child in the program?

- We are not able to accommodate this scenario. If you have staff who you would like to recommend for employment with the program, please contact the program office.

What is the location for the program?

- 705 S. Kerr Avenue, Wilmington, NC 28403

What are the dates and times for the programs?

- See our website for current dates and times for all programs.