



## **Mission**

We exist to provide outstanding opportunities through recreation for children and adults with disabilities.

## **Vision**

To be a leading force, creating greater options that enrich the life experiences of the participants, families and communities we serve

## **Values**

- Teamwork • Respect • Enthusiasm • Collaboration • Communication

**Northwest Special Recreation Association (NWSRA) was formed in 1974 to provide recreation services to individuals with disabilities. The association is comprised of 17 member park districts located in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.**

## **NWSRA Communities**

### **Served:**

**Arlington Heights • Bartlett • Buffalo Grove • Elk Grove • Hanover Park • Hoffman Estates • Inverness • Mount Prospect • Palatine • Prospect Heights • River Trails • Rolling Meadows • Salt Creek • Schaumburg • South Barrington • Streamwood • Wheeling**

## **About**

NWSRA is the largest provider of recreational services for children and adults with disabilities in the state of Illinois. The organization is a two-time National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) National Gold Medal Award winner and is recognized as a Distinguished Accredited Agency by the Illinois Park and Recreation Association, as well as a Park District Risk Management Association (PDRMA) Accredited Agency.

## **Programs and Services**

NWSRA offers over 2,000 world class recreational programs each year, meeting the individualized needs of each participant. Programs focus on community, integration, health & wellness, independence, social & emotional skills, sensory integration and so much more. In order to increase accessibility, NWSRA provides accessible transportation to and from programs as well as scholarships for those in financial need.

## **Certified Staff**

The NWSRA staff is made up of professionals with degrees in Therapeutic Recreation or a closely related field. Many full time staff hold Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) and Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) status. The full time staff are supplemented by specially trained and dedicated part time staff and volunteers. A close staff to participant ratio is maintained in order to ensure quality and promote the maximum involvement of participants.



### **Contact Us:**

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[www.nwsra.org](http://www.nwsra.org)



***“NWSRA programs are so much fun for my child! She can develop her social skills and camaraderie with others in the community.” - Parent***

***NWSRA recognizes the need for maximizing services through efficient use of existing taxpayer dollars, and ensuring that services for taxpayers are not duplicated. Through the collaborative efforts between NWSRA and a variety of local and statewide organizations on a variety of endeavors, doors of opportunity are opened through resource efficiency and sustainability. Through continued outreach and engagement, our community grows stronger.***

## ***Health & Wellness***

Developing skills to enhance a healthy lifestyle

## ***Cultural/Arts***

Exposing individuals to all aspects of art and expression

## ***Therapy***

Specialized offerings that include observations, assessments and individualized goals

## ***Sports***

Developing skills and competitive opportunities to enhance sportsmanship

## ***Social***

Enhancing peer interaction, developing communication skills and social awareness

## ***Travel***

Engaging into the community and enhancing community life skills

## ***Trips/Overnight***

Exploring new opportunities, learning to function independently

## ***Miscellaneous***

Goals are based upon unique program

**Get a job... and love it!**

Visit [www.nwsra.org/jobs](http://www.nwsra.org/jobs) and fill out a quick online interest form.

