

# FRIENDSHIP WALK SD & FRIENDSHIP FAIR

## Who We Are

The Friendship Circle of San Diego (FCSD) facilitates meaningful and lasting connections between individuals of all ages living with special and unique needs, and their more typically-abled peers. Using an innovative approach to recreational and social inclusion, FCSD invites community volunteers, with a focus on teens, to engage in meaningful activities, weekly home visits, and holiday celebrations with individuals with disabilities. It is thrilling to watch the deep bonds that develop and to see social barriers simply disappear. Children and adults who are misunderstood and perceived as “different” are being deprived of basic needs we all take for granted - the importance of fun and youthful play; feeling the joy of having a special friend; and being part of a group. What FCSD offers to those we serve is the opportunity for friendship and social connection. And we do this by committing to dedicated and persistent community outreach and training, demonstrating and highlighting the varied and valuable contributions individuals with differences have to offer when we include them in our congregations, workplaces and social events. Friendship Circle of San Diego is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit nonsectarian program (Tax ID# 20-3472700), and welcomes everyone into its Circle.

## The Need

In the San Diego community one in every 10 families has a loved one with a special need, and this statistic is steadily rising. The Friendship Circle of San Diego currently serves about one thousand individuals annually, which includes people living with disabilities and the teens and adult volunteers who support them. During Covid, when so many community organizations were closed and large group gatherings were ill-advised, Friendship Circle was a lifeline to our constituents. We provided scores of online opportunities for fun and connection and - for some - there was no other socialization available. The reality, though, is that we are serving a fraction of those who could benefit from what FCSD has to offer, and the funds raised through this Walk will allow for meaningful growth.

## The Event

Friendship Walk SD is an annual event which seeks to raise awareness in the community about the importance of inclusion and diversity, and to raise funds that are vital to our ability to offer creative and impactful programs for our “friends”. You could call this both a “friendraiser” and a fundraiser. The event is a true partnership between friends and volunteers; those who walk unassisted and those who require support; those who receive services, and those who provide them. We all walk together and it is a powerful sight! We walk because we must. And we will walk until everyone in our community feels included, important, and loved. So please join us on May 7, 2023, and be a part of something transformational. We will gather at Nobel Park in University City for a day of fun, festivity, and impact. Registration will begin at 9:30am and the walk will begin at 10:00am. This is not your typical walk. This is a “fun walk” (and a short one) and will include participants of all ages from all areas of San Diego County, including Friendship Circle volunteers, participants and their extended families and friends, as well as teams from local companies, organizations and schools. A community fair and festival follow at the park, and is perfect for children, youth, and adults - and even pets! This is an event which will attract hundreds of participants and we hope you will be one of them. We will promote this Walk broadly throughout the community and expect to build on our numbers each year.

## Thank You!

Please consider underwriting or sponsoring this special event, allowing us to maximize the event proceeds we can direct to operations. If sponsorship is not possible, please consider a donation of any amount. All gifts are tax-deductible, meaningful, and will contribute to FCSD’s ability to expand its reach in the community. In short, your gift will transform lives.

Visit [www.FriendshipWalkSD.org](http://www.FriendshipWalkSD.org) for more information.



# FRIENDSHIP WALK SD 2023 SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

## Platinum Sponsor.....\$5,400

- Name & logo on Friendship Circle Website and Newsletter
- Company or Family name on markers set along the Walk course
- Text mention in Friendship Walk email blasts and alerts
- Large name or logo at start and finish of Walk
- Name or logo on Friendship Walk website
- Name or logo on T-shirts

## Diamond Sponsor.....\$3,600

- Company or Family name on markers set along the Walk course
- Text mention in Friendship Walk email blasts and alerts
- Large name or logo at start and finish of Walk
- Name or logo on Friendship Walk website
- Name or logo on T-shirts

## Gold Sponsor.....\$1,800

- Text mention in Friendship Walk email blasts and alerts
- Large name or logo at start and finish of Walk
- Name or logo on Friendship Walk website
- Name or logo on T-shirts

## Silver Sponsor.....\$720

- Large name or logo at start and finish of Walk
- Name or logo on Friendship Walk website
- Name or logo on T-shirts

Please indicate your sponsorship level by checking a box above, sending any amount or contacting us for details about becoming an exclusive "Patron of the Friendship Circle"

Donor Company, Individual or Family name as you wish it to appear in printed materials:

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Contact : \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check best contact: phone text e-mail

We will contact you soon for details related to text and/or logo promotion.

Vector file logos are required for T-shirt production. Deadlines for T-Shirts are March 20, 2023



An online donation can also be made on our website, [friendshipcirclesd.org/donate](https://friendshipcirclesd.org/donate). Please write "Walk" in the note section. Thank you so much for your investment! Mail this document and your check to the address below or contact us for a personal meeting to discuss your contribution.