



Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)  
[www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com)

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## **AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1**

November 4, 2024

*We are the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association providing social and recreational programs for children, teens and adults right here in DuPage County.*

### **Shoutout to Benet Academy**

A HUGE shoutout to the incredible athletes and coaches at Benet Academy! They recently hosted an amazing basketball clinic for all our Special Olympics basketball teams, with 10 action-packed stations for skills, drills, and team games. Their energy and enthusiasm had our athletes fully engaged and excited—thank you for making such an impact!

Did you know that WDSRA's basketball Special Olympics basketball program boosts 10 teams, approximately 130 athletes and coaches!

Check out all the fun on our [Facebook page](#).

### **Shoutout to College of DuPage**

This is an exciting collaboration! WDSRA athletes team up with College of DuPage football players for a customized weightlifting and fitness program! Each athlete is paired with a football player for personalized guidance on technique, motivation, and empowerment. This partnership is all about growth, strength, and support!

Check out all the fun on our [Facebook page](#).

### **WDSRA featured on NCTV17's Spotlight segment**

Dan Leahy, WDSRA Executive Director, and Jorie Meyer, WDSRA Superintendent of Recreation, chat with Jane Wernette, NCTV17 Community Development Director. They talk about the importance of special recreation for families and in the community.

Watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDLoY3GipxU>  
OR visit the NCTV website, Spotlight page and look for the WDSRA video post.

Special recreation DOES change lives. Please help by sharing this video with friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, colleagues, etc.

***Thank you NCTV17! We truly appreciate your commitment to helping non-profits raise awareness with your audience.***

## **Annual Appeal Going on Now**

Did you know that you can change a life with just a click! You can by donating to the annual appeal that just kicked off.

AND... we have a Match Opportunity through 12/15/24! Thanks to the generosity of The Scott and Trish Karll Charitable Fund, any gift of \$225 or more made before December 15, 2024, will be matched with an additional \$225! (Up to \$12,500).

Everyone deserves a place to belong, a chance to make new friends, try new things, and explore with their peers. Caregivers also need the chance to recharge. By donating today, you can make this possible. Your gift will transform lives — for participants and their families — as soon as the next program season.

Learn more or donate at <https://www.wdsra.com/event/wdsra-annual-appeal/>.

*Funds raised through the Annual Appeal are a vital part of our FY24-25 budget.*

## **Wrap**

With that, all I can do is wrap it up. If you have any questions about anything we talked about here today, please give us a call. We are happy to answer them all! Contact us at 630-681-0962 or check out our website at [www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com). And please, stay connected with us by following us on Facebook or signing up for our enews.

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## **WDSRA**

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) provides engaging, community-based recreational programs and inclusion services for children, teens, and adults with special needs. WDSRA offers Special Olympics, adapted sports, dance and art programs, camps, trips, special events, and more. WDSRA's mission, the development of individuals through recreation, makes it possible for individuals to grow personally, connect with their community and discover their potential.

WDSRA is an award-winning organization and a cooperative extension of nine park districts serving the communities of Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield.

***MISSION*** *We enrich lives, connect communities and create fun through inclusive recreational opportunities.*

***VISION*** *A world of opportunities, belonging and individuals reaching their full potential.*

***Learn more at [www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com).***