



Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)
www.wdsra.com

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AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1

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

Where Sport Meets Therapy

Introducing therapists to the benefits and possibilities of boccia.

Synergy & Athletics Manager Phil Eide and Bull-Hawks Boccia Head Coach Sam Williams recently met with more than 20 occupational, physical, and speech therapists to introduce them to the benefits of boccia. Presented in person at Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley and streamed to additional locations via Zoom, the session provided therapists with a deeper understanding of the strategy, skill, and physical engagement involved in the sport.

As a result, Synergy will be lending boccia equipment to therapists, allowing them to incorporate the sport into therapy sessions and create new opportunities for client engagement.

Thank you Easterseals... for providing this opportunity!

NEW Sensory Tent Thanks to Donor

Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to feel welcome and included.

Thanks to the generosity of the Harbaugh Family, WDSRA now has a sensory tent that is helping make community events more welcoming and accessible for individuals with sensory sensitivities.

Festivals and large gatherings can be overwhelming with bright lights, loud sounds, and busy crowds. The sensory tent provides a calm, quiet space where children and adults can take a break, regulate their senses, and recharge before returning to enjoy the event. By offering a place to regroup, the tent helps more individuals participate more comfortably and confidently in community celebrations.

We are incredibly grateful to the Harbaugh Family for making this resource possible and helping create more inclusive experiences throughout our communities!

Dan Leahy Guests on Mission Matters

Dan and Paul talk all things WDSRA.

Big thanks to Paul Gregory Media for featuring WDSRA Executive Director, Dan Leahy, on their podcast. They discussed creating inclusive recreation opportunities for individuals with disabilities, as well as Special

Olympics partnerships, supporting adults transitioning out of school services, and expanding volunteer & community engagement.

To listen, visit paulgregorymedia.com.

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. 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.