

**Special Opportunities Available in Recreation** 

# FALL BROCHURE



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REGISTRATION
STARTS: AUGUST 12



**General Information** 

#### **Special Opportunities Available In Recreation**

Office Address: 115 E. Washington, Bloomington, Illinois 61701 Mailing Address: PO Box 3157, Bloomington, Illinois 61702-3157 (309) 434-2260

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#### What is SOAR?

SOAR is a community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals unable to successfully participate in traditional recreation programs. Leisure, social and developmental skills are emphasized to promote the highest level of recreation participation possible. SOAR is jointly sponsored by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Most individuals with disabilities are eligible to participate in SOAR activities. Persons from youth to adults who are in special education classes, workshops, nursing homes or who have leisure needs not met by traditional recreation programs are eligible. This includes individuals with developmental, physical or learning disabilities; sensory, genetic or behavior disorders; autism or emotional difficulties.

#### **Mission Statement**

The SOAR program exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive, specialized recreation programs, activities and special events.

#### **Americans With Disabilities Act**

Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (SOAR) will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs or facilities to individuals with disabilities. SOAR will make reasonable accommodations in recreation programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements for that program. The ADA requires that recreation programs offered by SOAR be available in the most integrated setting appropriate for each individual. Call (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions about the SOAR policy regarding the ADA or believe you have been unfairly discriminated against by SOAR.

#### **Questions/Information**

Please contact the SOAR office with any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation or the SOAR program in general at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115. Fax: (309) 434-2483. Web site address is www.bloomingtonparks.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

#### **Special Infomation**

#### **Inclusive Programs**

SOAR recognizes that every individual with special needs and abilities does not always require a SOAR program. The SOAR staff are available to assist and advise participants concerning appropriate placement in SOAR, Bloomington and/or Normal Parks and Recreation Department programs. SOAR staff will contact the appropriate recreation department staff and work with the instructor to assure the participant a smooth transition if they wish to be integrated into a recreation department program.

#### **Program Legend**



door-to-door transportation offered



= participant will need to bring money to program

#### **Full-Time Staff**

Nicole Kohler, CTRS - Program Manager nkohler@cityblm.org

Special Interest Programs, Registration, Financial Assistance, Cultural Arts Programs, Special Event Programs, Transportation

# Maggie Rutenbeck - Program Manager mrutenbeck@cityblm.org

Volunteers, Summer & Saturday Day Programs, Mailings, Fitness/Sports Programs, Special Olympics Programs

#### **Seasonal & Part-Time Staff**

SOAR is fortunate to have a number of qualified and talented seasonal and part-time staff. Thank you to the following summer session staff for their continued support, dedication and fine work!

Taylor Burlingame Michele Evans Beth Clark Miranda Henson Bob Clark Randi Meyer Sally Clark Holly Polley Katie Clothier Mark Rutenbeck Ritchie D'Costa Rachael Shropshire Julie Smith Sharon D'Costa Kim Denton David Suarez Doug Dowell Eric Velling Shelby Edwards Kim Workman

#### **Attire at SOAR Programs**

Participants should dress comfortably for all programs and special events. Please keep in mind what the weather is like, if the program will be held inside or outside and what the program will involve. Wear clothes that can get dirty and stained to all craft and cooking programs. Sometimes accidents happen and new/ good clothes can get ruined! Dress for activity and comfortable movement in all Special Olympics, sports and exercise programs. Athletic shoes and athletic clothing are required. Do not wear blue jeans to any sports programs or practices! Special attire requirements are often suggested in memos sent out for special events.

#### **Volunteers in Action**

SOAR uses a wide variety of volunteers to assist in weekly programs and special events. Volunteers help with program activities and events and work closely with participants to provide an enjoyable and quality leisure experience. Past volunteers have been community residents, college students and community service groups. Thank you to all the individuals who helped make the fall program session a success by volunteering their time to assist with one or more programs. SOAR is currently accepting volunteers for summer programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please call (309) 434-2260.

#### **Medication Dispensing**

SOAR staff may dispense medication to participants during extended programs and trips. In order for SOARstaff to do this, a parent/ guardian will need to complete a medication dispensing form and complete a dispensing procedure each time medication is needed. SOAR staff may not perform an injection or any other medically or physically invasive procedure. Please call the SOAR staff at (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions or would like a copy of any of these forms: permission for medication dispensing, medication dispensing procedures and invasive procedure policies.

#### **Photo Policy**

On occasion, SOAR staff may photograph or videotape participants at programs, special events and facilities. These photos are for SOAR use only and may be used in publications, brochures, Facebook, pamphlets, flyers or video productions. If you do not want your photo published contact Maggie or Nicole.

#### Insurance

Individual accident and medical insurance for program participants is not provided by SOAR, Bloomington or Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

#### **Staff Ratio**

SOAR currently staffs most programs with one staff to every four participants. If a participant will need more assistance or won't be able to participate within this structure, please let staff know at registration so appropriate staffing may be secured (if possible). Please note in brochure write ups any exceptions to this 1:4 ratio.

#### Code of Conduct: Participant Guidelines

**Equal Access -** No participant shall on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity.

**Behavior** - Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to make SOAR programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. Additional rules may be developed for particular programs as deemed necessary by staff. Participants shall:

- Show respect to all participants and staff.
- Refrain from using foul language.
- Refrain from causing bodily harm to other participants or staff.
- Show respect for equipment, supplies and facilities.

**Discipline** - A positive approach will be used. SOAR reserves the right to dismiss a participant. **Each situation will be** evaluated on its own merit.

#### **Special Infomation**

#### **Late Pick-Up Policy**

Please double check the pick-up time and be prompt! Program instructors would appreciate your consideration because they have additional work responsibilities after the program and sometimes have another program to lead.

Families/staff of participants who are not picked up promptly will be sent a letter the first time to remind them of this concern. If the situation happens again, a late fee will be assessed. After a 5-minute grace period, a \$5 fee will be charged for every 15 minutes or portion thereafter.

Registration for other programs will not be accepted until all outstanding late fees are paid.

#### Special Thanks to Our Volunteers who helped with Summer Programs

Cairie Brown Tim Collins Jerry Curry Stuart Darragh Alex Dolgner Faith Lutheran Church Darla Goodlick Flint Greil Greg Hayward **Rob Kelley** Bridget Larkin Jim Lilienthal Sherry Lilienthal Audrey McWhorter Matthew Newell Ruby Newell Sophie Parson **Buffy Ryan** Dennis Sapp Verlinda Sapp Barb Wells Jamie Wielgopolan Dee Wilson

#### Paperwork...Paperwork...

"You want me to fill out this entire form?" Have you ever said or thought this? Most of us have! The demand for information and paperwork is tremendous in our society today. While our initial reaction is sometimes frustration, we need to step back and consider why information is requested. SOAR asks that an annual information form be completed, with a seasonal sign off that all information is still correct. Why ask the questions and why persist in acquiring updated information? Listed below are some of the reasons:

- We take our responsibility for participants seriously.
- We care about each person's health and safety.
- We care that each person's physical, emotional, social and developmental needs are being met.
- We want each person to feel satisfaction from program involvement.

Asking for information does not guarantee personal success or safety, but the information is invaluable as we do our best to provide safe and satisfying leisure activities. We thank you for taking the time to provide the requested information.

#### **Cell Phone Policy**

SOAR requests that participants do not bring cell phones to program unless there is an emergency situation they need to be aware of or if they need to call for a ride when the program ends. Participants are not to use their phone during programs and are asked to keep their cell phone in a pocket, purse, bag, etc. during the entire program. SOAR can't be held responsible if a participant loses his or her phone. If a participant uses a cell phone during a program or the phone becomes a distraction to the participant, SOAR staff will hold the phone for the duration of the program. The phone will be returned when the participant leaves. This policy will be enforced for the respect of other participants and staff during a program.

#### **Participant Expectations**

SOAR provides healthy community leisure opportunities for individuals with disabilities. While participating in our programs, we stress socialization skills, appropriate behavior and personal appearance. For the dignity and acceptance of individuals with disabilities, and for their overall self-esteem and enjoyment at community outings, the staff has several expectations of participants. We ask that you assist us in fulfilling these basic guidelines. The participant guidelines were developed for the betterment of our participants, their self-esteem and normalization.

Please dress for all programs in clean clothing that is appropriate for the specific activity. Participants should be clean and display good hygiene skills.

#### **Program Times**

SOAR staff and instructors are at the facility for the designated program time only. Individuals providing transportation for participants should make drop-offs and pick-ups at the listed times. Please do not leave a participant at program/program site unless there is a staff present. We know that emergencies arise, but try to let staff know if you will be early or late!

#### **Parent Observation Guidelines**

Parents are encouraged to leave the program area during events so participants can give their full attention to the instructor. Thank you.

#### **Check Out Our Web Site**

www.bloomingtonparks.org/soar.



Follow us on facebook

#### **Program Holidays**

In observation of Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and MLK Day the office will be closed and no programs held on September 6, November 25 & 26, December 24, 27 & 31, and January 3 & 17. The office will be closed but programs will still be held on November 11.

#### **Current Participant Eligibility**

- Ability to maintain 6-foot physical distance from other participants and staff.
- Ability to properly put on, wear, and take off face covering when necessary, for the duration of the program.
- Independent personal care (hygiene, toileting, eating).
- Participate with visual and verbal prompting within a ratio of one staff to four participants, without the need for physical redirection.
- Ability to follow SOAR Code of Conduct and other pre-determined guidelines.

If the participant is able to adhere to the above eligibility requirements, in-person programming may be a good fit. However, if the participant is unable to meet the above requirements, virtual programs may be the best way to participate at this time. SOAR will review all registrations and contact you if there are questions or concerns regarding the participant's ability to follow the above eligibility and safety practices.

#### **Practices Taken to Promote Safety and Wellness in our Programs**

- Program capacity will be a maximum of twelve individuals, which includes staff.
- Face coverings must be worn by participants and staff at all times indoors, regardless of vaccination status unless eating or drinking. Participants and staff may choose whether or not to wear masks ourdoors, regardless of vaccination status. We will maintain adequate social distancing both indoors and outdoors.
- · The only exception to this is when staff and participants can maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Participants must provide their own face coverings.
- Staff will develop a drop off and pick-up system for each program to ensure proper physical distancing. Parents and care givers must wear face coverings and stay in their vehicle. Parents and care givers must wait for staff to acknowledge arrival of participants before leaving.
- Participants must adhere to a strict hand washing and sanitation schedule.
- Staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces before and after activities and between use by different individuals.
- SOAR will take measure to promote a minimum 6 feet of physical distancing which may include seating assignments, outdoor activities, barriers and traffic flow patterns.

#### **SOAR COVID-19 protocol (updated August 2020)**

- Participants and staff displaying symptoms of illness during program will be removed from the group, and an approved adult will be required to pick up the individual within 30 minutes of notification. Participants will be supervised while waiting for pick up in a location separate from the rest of the group.
- A participant who has been exposed to, or in close contact with, someone confirmed with COVID-19 may only return to program after it has been 14 days from the time of exposure or return a negative COVID-19 test.
- Participants diagnosed with, or exhibiting symptoms of, COVID-19 including cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, body aches, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting or diarrhea, may only return to program if:
  - o It has been 10 days from the resolve of symptoms, or
  - o Participant has returned two negative COVID-19 tests, or
  - Participant can provide documentation from a physician diagnosing them with something other than COVID-19.
- Reasonable accommodations will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

For everyone's safety, individuals that do not adhere to program rules and guidelines as stated above, and in SOAR's Code Conduct, may be removed from the program.

#### **Self-Health Check**

All participants are reminded to stay at home if they have signs or symptoms of COVID-19 OR have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Before you leave home, can you answer "no" to the following questions? If you have one or more "yes" responses, please protect our friends and staff at SOAR by staying home.

- o In the past 14 days, have you had contact with anyone with known COVID symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID?
- o Have you had a fever in the last week (100.4 degrees or higher)?
- o Do you have a cough or difficulty breathing?
- o Do you have any other COVID-related symptoms such as fatigue, body aches, sore throat, congestion, runny nose nausea/vomiting?

or

#### **Special Olympics**



#### **TRAINING PROGRAMS**

#### Purpose of SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

To provide eligible individuals 8 years of age or older from the Bloomington/Normal area with quality training programs that will prepare them for area, district, regional and/or state competition in a variety of Special Olympics sports on a year around basis.

# Requirements to Participate in SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Individuals who meet Special Olympics eligibility requirements and wish to participate in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must complete the SOAR registration procedure for that program. In addition, an Application for Participation (medical), valid through the entire sport's season must be on file with SOAR before practice begins.

#### Expectations For SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Athletes participating in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must meet the minimum requirements of training in that sport in order to participate in competition. These requirements will include participation in the minimum number of required training sessions for that sport at a level which is considered appropriate for the sport and the athlete.

#### **Special Olympics Bocce**

SOAR will be sponsoring Special Olympics traditional bocce and unified bocce training programs. Athletes participating in this training program will prepare for competition in singles, doubles and/or team bocce. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (*medical form*) valid through November 2021 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday August 27 to participate. Partners must have a Unified Partner Application and a Class A Registration application completed and on file at the Special Olympics Illinois office by August 27.

Athletes and partners that meet the training requirements of this program will participate in a regional competition Saturday, October 16 in Mattoon. Athletes and partners who receive a gold medal at the regional competition become eligible to participate at the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games that will be held at Illinois State University June 17 - 19, 2022. (Anyone that advances out of this tournament will need to have an Application for Participation valid through June 20, 2022). Athletes advancing to Summer Games will have additional practices on Wednesdays, June 1 & June 8; Individuals training in this program will not have the option to compete in aquatics, athletics, powerlifting or soccer.

#### TRADITIONAL BOCCE

Who: Ages 10 and older

When: Wednesdays Sept. 1 - October 13, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Where: O'Neil Park, softball field

**Cost:** \$38

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

#### UNIFIED BOCCE

Who: Ages 10 and older, ideally with partner

When: Wednesdays Sept. 1 - October 13, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Where: O'Neil Park, softball field

**Cost:** \$38

**Limit:** Minimum 4, Maximum 12

#### **Special Olympics Snowshoeing**

This program is great for maintaining fitness during the winter months. Athletes that can walk or run and like being outside during cool, brisk weather will have a great time learning and practicing the skills needed for snowshoeing. Fundamental skills such as equipment use, proper strides, and fall recovery will be introduced. Skill development, lead-up activities and competition preparation will all be a part of this training program. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. Registration and a valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical) good through February 4, 2022 must be on file at the SOAR office by Wednesday, September 18 to participate. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to compete in a Region Competition December 11, 2021 in Mendota. Athletes that receive a gold medal/1st place finish will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Illinois State Winter Games held February 1 - 3, 2022 at Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena. Additional practices will be held January 22, and 29 for those who advance to the Winter Games.

**Who:** Ages 12 and over

When: Saturdays, October 9 - December 4 (no practice on November 27)

9:30 - 10:30 am

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

**Cost:** \$38.00

#### **Special Olympics**

#### **Special Olympics Basketball**

Athletes with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for basketball team play and competition are eligible for this program. Emphasis will be on fundamental skills, game knowledge, and sportsmanship. This is a Special Olympics sports training program. A valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical form) good through March 2022 must be on file at the SOAR office by Friday, October 29 to participate. Individuals who successfully complete this program will be eligible to compete in the Special Olympics Basketball District G Tournament that will be held January 23, 2022 (tentatively). A minimum of three games will be scheduled for each SOAR basketball team prior to early January. Teams that advance to the State Basketball Tournament (March 11 - 13, 2022) will have additional practices scheduled in February and March. PLEASE NOTE THE PLAYER ASSESSMENT NIGHT ON MONDAY AUGUST 30.

Who: Ages 12 and over

When: Monday, August 30, 5:30 - 7:30 pm - All registered must attend the skills

assessment scheduled during this time to determine team placement.

Regular Practices then follow: Tuesdays or Thursdays, as assigned,
5:30 - 7:00 pm or 7:00 - 8:30 pm, November 2/4 - January 11/13

(no practices the weeks of 11/22 or 12/20 but will have games 12/29 - 12/30,

(the Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out).

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

**Cost:** \$38

Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 48



#### **SOAR Special Olympics Pizza Celebration**

Celebrate the accomplishments of SOAR's Special Olympics athletes for the second half of this year (*July - December*). SOAR will provide pizza, water and salad. After dinner, a brief program honoring athletes who have participated in the following sports will follow: Softball, Bowling, Unified Tennis, Modified Volleyball and Unified Volleyball. Each person wanting to attend must register individually.

**Who:** Athletes, partners, their families and anyone who wants to

recognize our SOAR athletes for their achievements.

When: Friday, December 10

6:00 - 8:30 pm

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Main Level

Cost: \$4 per person Limit: Max 40

# Special Olympics Competition Dates:

#### September 26

Volleyball Qualifier Effingham

#### October 9

Area Bowling Peoria

#### October 16

Region Bocce Mattoon

#### October TBA

MedFest, Special Olympics Headquarters Normal

#### October 23 - 24

Fall Games (Volleyball) Rockford Harlem

#### December 4-5

State Bowling Peoria

#### December 11

Region Snowshoeing Mendota

#### Ron Knisley Memorial Shoot Out Tournament December 29 & 30

Illinois Wesleyan University

January 23, 2022 (tentative)

District Basketball
Bloomington

#### February 1 - 3, 2022

State Winter Games Galena

#### March 11 - 13, 2022

State Basketball Bloomington and Normal



#### **Sports & Fitness**

#### **Adaptive Learn to Skate**

We're back on the ice! This program will introduce you to basic skills in ice skating. No prior experience is necessary. This program is specially adapted for individuals with disabilities to learn introductory ice skating techniques, learn balance and feel comfortable on the ice. Skate rental is included in the program fee. Be sure to wear long pants and layers. This program incorporates the use of several volunteers so that each skater or pair of skaters has an assistant on the ice.

Who: Ages 8 and older

When: Wednesdays, September 8 - October 27

5:00 - 5:30 pm

Where: Bloomington Ice Center

**Cost:** \$48

**Limit:** Minimum 3; Maximum 6

#### **Recreational Bowling**

Here's your chance to bowl just for fun. No competition, no stress, and no hurry. Participants will be assigned to lanes and bowl two games during the scheduled program time. This is the SOAR bowling program where socialization is a part of the game!

**Who:** Individuals age 10 and up who can bowl two games

independently or with ramp. We do NOT use bumpers.

When: Mondays, September 13 - Nov. 29

10:00 - 11:00 am *OR* 

4:00 - 5:00 pm

Where: Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

**Cost:** \$63 payable to Pheasant Lanes (*lane fee*)

and \$15 payable to S.O.A.R. (registration fee)

Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 30



#### **Cardio Fitness**

Get fit with SOAR. This program will focus on exercises designed to get our heart rate up and improve cardiovascular endurance. Participants will complete a variety of exercises each week as well as participate in health-related educational activities. Activities will be geared to the health level of each individual with a target goal of improving health, fitness, and well being.

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Mondays, September 13 - November 29

6:15 - 7:15 pm *OR* 7:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Rooms 202/205

**Cost:** \$36

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 9

#### **Seat to SOAR**

Get off your seat and soar with the SOAR walk/run club! This program encourages the lifetime fitness activities of walking and running. By using a progressive training program and walk/run mentors, you will be able to increase fitness and endurance at your own pace. The ultimate goal of this session is to be ready to enter independently one of the many walk/run events in the area.

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Tuesdays, September 14 - October 19

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Where: White Oak Park

**Cost:** \$18

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 12

#### Walk the Zoo

Here's a great opportunity to get your steps in for the day, with a beautiful view of the Miller Park Zoo. Feel free to register a walking partner too! We've mapped a course and will walk the entire zoo with a few stops to check out the animals and grab some water. Be sure to wear your walking shoes and bring a water bottle. Please remember that masks may be required inside the zoo area.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Thursdays, October 7 - 28

9:00 - 10:00 am

Where: Meet at the front entrance to Miller Park Zoo

**Cost:** \$20

#### **Fitness**

#### **Open Gym I**

Come and play or shoot some hoops. This will be an unstructured but supervised program. Basketballs will be provided. Participants must wear athletic shoes and have a registration form on file with SOAR to participate. Participants may come for part or all of the scheduled program time. "Drop ins" welcome!

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Wednesdays, September 15 - October 27

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

**Cost:** \$14 (or \$2/night)

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 15



#### **Open Gym II**

Come and play or shoot some hoops. This will be an unstructured but supervised program. Basketballs will be provided. Participants must wear athletic shoes and have a registration form on file with SOAR to participate. Participants may come for part or all of the scheduled program time. "Drop ins" welcome!

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Wednesdays, January 26 - February 16

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

**Cost:** \$8 (or \$2/night)

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 15

#### How to wear a face mask correctly



#### **Dance to SOAR I**

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Wednesdays, October 13 - November 3

7:15 - 8:15 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 205

**Cost:** \$16

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12

#### Dance to SOAR II

Spend an hour dancing your way to fitness! Get your heart rate up and get your whole body working as you move to the tunes. No slow dance romance here, this is a workout!

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Wednesdays, January 5 - January 26

7:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 205

**Cost:** \$16

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12

#### **Virtual Programs**

#### **SOAR Social Hour**

Get together with friends to chat, dance and socialize virtually. We'll meet via Zoom once a month. Join us to hang out with friends each month. Zoom link will be sent to those who register the day before the program date listed.

Who: Ages 15 and older

When: Fridays, 9/10, 10/8, 11/19 & 1/21

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Where: Zoom link will be sent via email each month

Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20

#### **Virtual Game Night**

Get together with friends for a fun game night!! We'll play some classic games like Scattergories, Gues Who, Mad Libs and more. SOAR will provide supplies, as needed, to you the week of the program. Zoom link will be provided the day of the program. Bring your game face!

Who: Ages 15 and older

**When:** Fridays, 9/10, 10/8, 11/19 & 1/21

6:30 - 7:30 pm

Where: Zoom link will be sent via email each month

Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link

#### **Art & Music**

#### **Fall Decor**

Pumpkin, gourds, leaves and more. It's time to change your seasonal decorations to the beautiful colors of fall. We'll create some projects to decorate your home or outdoors, including a fall garland and painted gourd. Dress to get messy as we'll be using paint and glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesdays, September 14 - October 19

6:15 - 7:15 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$24

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Minimum 10

#### **Music Experience**

Make music with us! Participants will engage in a variety of musical games and activities, as they explore instruments, movement and songs. LIVE and recorded music, combined with adapted movements and instruments will meet each ability level and engage all participants to their fullest potential. This program is created by Developing Melodies, with a Board Certified Music Therapist, lending their experience teaching and creating music.

Who: Ages 15 and older

When: Tuesdays, September 14 - October 19

6:00 - 7:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 203

**Cost:** \$48

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12



#### **Halloween Crafts**

Let's get spooky! In this program, we'll create some projects with Halloween as our theme. Don't worry, these crafts won't be too scary to show off. You'll want to dress to get dirty as we'll use paint and glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesdays, September 14 - October 19

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$24

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 10

#### **Holiday Performers**

Here's your chance to shine! Have fun and gain confidence while developing your special talents on the stage. If your talent is dancing or acting...we're looking for you! Everyone will perform and have a great time focusing on presenting a holiday-themed show. Participants must be able to go up and down stairs with little to no assistance and follow verbal instructions. The program will conclude with a dress rehearsal on December 1 and the actual performance on December 2 and 3. Tickets for spectators will be required to attend the performance. More details about securing tickets will be sent at a later date. No transportation is available for show dates. Dress rehearsal and shows will be held at Heartland Community College. Attendance is mandatory each week, including the dress rehearsal. Please check your calendar for conflicts before registering as participants will only be allowed to miss 2 rehearsals and MUST attend dress rehearsal and performances.

**Who:** Ambulatory, ages 16 and older

When: Wednesdays, October 13 - November 17

+Dress Rehearsal 12/1 and Shows 12/2 & 12/3

6:15 - 8:15 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107/gym

**Cost:** \$35

Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 20

#### **Holiday Crafts**

The holidays are here! Let's get ready to decorate for the holidays with some one-of-a-kind crafts. From décor to Christmas cards, we'll have your holidays covered. These unique crafts also make great gifts.

**Who:** Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesdays, October 26 - November 16

6:15 - 7:15 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$24

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 10

#### **Door Decor**

Welcome friends and guests with a crafty wreath or door hanger. We'll create some door decorations using the holidays and winter as our theme so you have something to show off this season.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesdays, October 26 - November 16

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$24

Art &Music Cooking

#### **Pumpkin Painting Party**

How about a painted pumpkin for your front porch? Painted pumpkins last longer than jack-o-lanterns, they require no sharp tools and they don't stink after a few days! It's a great alternative to the traditional carved porch pumpkin. We'll gather to decorate pumpkins using paint and other embellishments then have a hot dog roast by the fire for dinner.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Thursday, October 28
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Hike Haven, Forrest Park

Cost: \$5

Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20



#### **Soups & Sandwiches**

Fall is the perfect time to prepare comfort foods. We'll cook up some warm soups and pair it with easy to make sandwiches. Participants will assist with chopping, slicing, dicing, mixing and preparations for a full meal so be ready to help in the kitchen. A full dinner will be served, so come hungry!

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Wednesdays, September 15 - October 6

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

**Cost:** \$20

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Making Fall Desserts**

As we near the holidays, it's the perfect time to make pies, cookies and treats to share with loved ones. Join us in making some yummy treats and desserts to try and to share. Be ready to get in the kitchen to help prepare the treats and come hungry.

Who: Ages 16 and older
When: Saturday, November 13

9:00 am - 11:30 am

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, lower level

**Cost:** \$12

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### How to wear a face mask correctly









#### Craft-a-Palooza

Calling all crafters! Let's make something! This session we will get ready for the holidays with Thanksgiving, Christmas and winter themed crafts. We'll have lots of options, so you can create as many projects as you have time for. Some projects may need to be picked up later, depending on drying time. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy!

Who: Ages 14 and older When: Sunday, November 7

2:30 - 5:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$10

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Lunch Bunch**

Here's another chance to perfect your cooking skills. In this program, we will chop, dice, slice and mix our way to a delicious lunch. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. The group will also plan the next week's meal and create our shopping list. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared.

Who: Ages 22 and older

When: Mondays, December 6 & 13

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$10

#### **Zoo Education**

#### **ZOOper Fridays**

Calling all animal lovers! Each month, we'll meet at the zoo to learn abuot a specific animal. A zoo education session will also include time to visit the animal's habitat inside the zoo. Wear your walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. This program includes 5 classroom dates and admission to the zoo each program date. **NOTE:** Masks may be required.

Who: Ages 22 and older

**When:** Fridays, 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, 12/17 & 1/21

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at front entrance to Miller Park Zoo

**Cost:** \$60

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 10



#### **SOAR Animal Crackers**

Animal Crackers is a Miller Park Zoo classic! Join us twice for a story, animal encounter, and a short zoo exploration. Our topic is always a surprise  $\sim$  we have a great time guessing which animal will visit! One adult accompanies each child to class but does not pay an additional registration fee. The registration fee includes admission to the Zoo for the participating child & one adult on the day of class. Only register the participant. **NOTE:** Masks may be required.

**Who:** Ages 4 - 7 accompanied by parent

When: Saturday, September 25 and Saturday, October 23

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Where: Miller Park Zoo Cost: \$13/parent & child

\*Unregistered siblings of any age may not attend.

**Limit:** Minimum 3, maximum 6

#### I Spy

A new program for our younger folks to get to know the Miller Park Zoo! We will do a little bit of chat time learning about an animal or two, with a possible encounter, and then go out to the Zoo to find them and watch them in their natural setting for a bit. **NOTE:** Masks may be required.

Who: Ages 4 - 12 accompanied by parent

When: Thursday, September 23, October 21, November 18

and December 16 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Where: Meet at the front entrance to the Miller Park Zoo Cost: \$13/parent & child and accompanying adult

\*Unregistered siblings of any age may not attend.

**Limit:** Minimum 4, maximum 6

#### **Just for Teens/Young Adults**

#### **Fall Friday Fireside Teens**

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR teen friends for an evening around the fire to chat with friends, playing games inside or out. A meal will be included each night. A memo will be sent to those who register to let you know meal plans.

**Who:** Ages 13 - 19

**When:** Fridays, 9/17, 10/1, 11/5, 12/17, 1/7

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Hike Haven in Forrest Park

**Cost:** \$25

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Fall Friday Fireside Friends**

Get together one Friday a month with your fellow SOAR friends for a night around the campfire to chat with friends, play games inside or out. A meal will be included each night. A memo will be sent to those who register to let you know meal plans.

**Who:** Ages 20 - 26

**When:** Fridays, 9/24, 10/15, 11/12, 12/17, 1/14

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: Drop-off/pick up at Hike Haven

**Cost:** \$25

Volunteer at the

# Midwest Food Bank

Dates/Times TBD Contact Maggie Rutenbeck at mrutenbeck@cityblm.org if you are interested in volunteering



#### **Facility Directory**

#### **Community Activity Center**

1110 Douglas St. Normal, IL 61761 (309) 454-9540

#### **Lincoln Leisure Center**

1206 S. Lee Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 434-2819

#### O'Neil Park

Field/Pool 1515 W Chestnut St. Bloomington, IL 61701

#### **Government Center**

115 E. Washington St. Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 434-2260

#### **Miller Park Pavilion**

1122 S Morris Ave Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 434-2255

#### **Pheasant Lanes**

804 N. Hershey Rd Bloomington, IL 61704 (309) 663-8556

#### **Hike Haven**

218 Tanner St. Bloomington, IL 61701

#### **Miller Park Zoo**

1020 S Morris Ave. Bloomington, IL 61701 (309) 434-2250

#### **Sugar Grove Nature Center**

4532 N 725 East Road McLean, IL 61754

#### **Youth Programs**

#### **SOAR for Starters**

This program is targeted to youth that are too young for most other SOAR programs. On two Saturdays every month we will explore a variety of activities including games, music, dance, fitness, crafts, and social interaction. A 1:2 staff to participant ratio will be provided. Development of fundamental motor skills and eye-hand coordination will be emphasized. Dress in clothing for activity and wear gym shoes. Since some activities involve things like paint, participants should also wear clothes that can get messy!

Who: Ages 4 - 7

**When:** Saturdays, 9/11, 9/25, 10/2, 10/16, 11/6, 11/20, 12/11,

1/8, & 1/22

10:00 - 11:30 am

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

**Cost:** \$45

**Limit:** Minimum 4; Maximum 8



Animal Crackers is a Miller Park Zoo classic! Join us twice for a story, animal encounter, and a short zoo exploration. Our topic is always a surprise ~ we have a great time guessing which animal will visit! One adult accompanies each child to class but does not pay an additional registration fee. The registration fee includes admission to the Zoo for the participating child & one adult on the day of class. Only register the participant.

**Who:** Ages 4 - 7 accompanied by parent

When: Saturday, September 25 and Saturday, October 23

1:00 - 2:00 pm

Where: Miller Park Zoo
Cost: \$13/parent & child

\*Unregistered siblings of any age may not attend.

**Limit:** Minimum 3, maximum 6



#### Let's Build!

Using rocks, wood, and other recycled/reclaimed materials we'll build some buildings...who knows...maybe a whole city!!

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, September 25

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

**Cost:** \$6

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

#### **Service Friends**

We're going to meet a couple friends that provide service to individuals who may need a little extra support. Some of these friends have 4 legs and wag a lot! We're going to learn about their service jobs and all the training they go through to help others. We will also learn appropriate behavior when we see our friends while they are at work.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, October 2

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Hike Haven in Forrest Park

Cost: \$6

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Patriot Day**

We'll celebrate Patriot Day with a craft, some games to be played and make a snack. If it's nice, we'll include a walk to the Firemen's Memorial in Miller Park.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, September 11

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

**Cost:** \$6

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Page 12

#### **Let's Get Popping!**

Did you know October is Popcorn Popping MONTH?! We'll make some popcorn balls for munching and then string some popcorn for our feathered friends outside.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, October 16

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

**Cost:** \$6

#### **Youth Programs**

#### **Nacho Average Day**

It's National Nacho Day! We're going to make nacho collages (it's an art thing, really!) Then of course we'll make some REAL dessert nachos to snack on.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, November 6

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

**Cost:** \$6

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### Take a Hike!

A new twist on an old theme! We are going to MEET at Sugar Grove Nature Center...which means you get to invite a family member or friend to join us on the walk (or they are welcome to bring a book and enjoy the peaceful setting at the Center while we hike). Bring water and sunscreen and wear good walking shoes, there's a lot to see in the woods! An email will be sent to those registered.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, November 20

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Where: Sugar Grove Nature Center

4532 N 725 East Road, McLean, IL 61754

**Cost:** \$6

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Cookie Decorating Extravaganza**

Our friend Chef Tammy is back to help us do some fancy fingerwork to make some festive treats to sample and take home!

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, December 11

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost: \$6

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Chase the Blues!**

We'll dial up our energy and chase the winter blues away with some games and activities in the gym.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, January 8

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Gym and room 208,

**Cost:** \$6

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Chase the Flakes!**

Snow play, snowflakes, snowshoes, bonfire...snow doubt about It... we're having a snow day! AND Hot Chocolate of course! Dress to be outside!

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Saturday, January 22

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Where: Hike Haven

**Cost:** \$6

**Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 12



#### **Columbus Day Break**

Join us for a day of fun at Pheasant Lanes. We'll enjoy some bowling, lunch and mini golf. Bowling fees, shoe rental, mini golf and lunch is included in your registration fee. Participants may bring cash for the arcade, if there is time at the end.

**Who:** Ages 8 - 21

When: Monday, October 11

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

**Cost:** \$30

#### **Special Events**

#### **Outdoor Movie & Picnic**

Join us for the last outdoor movie of the season. The Secret Life of Pets 2 will be shown at Connie Link Amphitheater. We'll also have a picnic dinner with Gondola, chips and water. Bring your lawn chair or a picnic blanket to sit on and dress for the weather.

Who: Ages 14 and older When: Saturday, September 25

6:15 - 9:15 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Underwood Park Shelter, Normal

Cost:

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

#### **Game Nights**

We are busting out the board games, card games and lots of fun! Join us for a different game each week with friends. Bring your game face!

Who: Ages 15 and older

When: Thursdays, September 30 - October 21

6:00 - 7:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost: \$16

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12



#### **Fall Hunt Around Town**

Here's a new way to discover all the places in your own hometown! We'll meet in Uptown Normal for a Scavenger Hunt around town, then have lunch at Firehouse Pizza. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Who: Ages 12 and older When: Saturday, October 2

9:30am - 12:30 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Normal Public Library

Cost: \$12

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8



#### **Proving Ground Bouldering Gym**

Ready to do something new and active? We'll head to the new Proving Ground Bouldering Gym where we'll be able to learn how to boulder (climbing horizontally rather than just vertically) and spend some time climbing in the gym with expert support. Registration is per class. Participants may register for one or both classes. Equipment is provided. Please wear comfortable closed toe shoes and clothes suitable for climbing/exercising.

Ages 15 and older When: Sunday, October 3 3:00 - 4:30 pm

When: Sunday, October 17 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Where: Proving Ground, Normal, IL

Cost:

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

#### **Candy & Costumes Walk Thru**

We're not quite ready to bring back the Halloween Dance, but we know you have amazing costumes ready to show off! Dress up and head to White Oak Park to walk thru our family friendly Halloween experience, packed with costumes, Halloween decorations and of course, candy! No need to register. Just show up!

Who: SOAR participants, families and friends

Friday, October 22 When:

6:00 - 8:00 pm

Where: White Oak Park parking lot Cost: FREE, no registration required

#### **Special Events**

#### **Bingo & Popcorn**

Calling all Bingo players! Join us for a few rounds of bingo plus a popcorn snack. You'll leave with some great prizes and big smiles after having some fun with friends.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Thursday, November 4
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, lower level

**Cost:** \$8

Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20



#### **Christmas Party**

Time to celebrate the holidays with friends. At our Christmas party, we'll make treats, create a gift for a friend and play a fun game. Be sure to dress festive and take lots of pictures with your friends.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Wednesday, December 8

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Normal Community Activity Center

Cost: \$5

Limit: Minimum 10; Maximum 30

#### **Wii Games**

Do you love Wii sports and Just Dance? Let's get together for some games on the Wii. We'll enjoy some of the popular games and visit with friends. Due to the popularity of the program it will be offered twice. Please only register for one date.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Monday, December 13 OR Wednesday, December 15

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

**Cost:** \$6

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

#### **Family Bowling**

Bring out your family and friends for a fun afternoon of bowling. The concession stand will be open. Please register each person. Registration will also be taken at the door, but early registration is encouraged. Registration fee includes 2 games bowling and shoe rental. If bowling ramps are needed, please contact SOAR at least a week prior to the event. No reminder memo will be sent.

Who: SOAR participants and their families

When: Sunday, January 9

3:00 - approx. 5:00 pm

Where: Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

Cost: \$12/person

Limit: Minimum 12; Maximum 40

#### **Monday Night Movies**

While the weather outside is frightful, we'll stay in with a fun movie and popcorn with friends! Join us at Lincoln Leisure Center for a movie night. Movies are listed below. Registration is per date. Participants may register for one or both movie dates.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Mondays, January 10 (Cruella – PG13)

6:00 - 8:30 pm

When: January 17 (Raya & the Last Dragon-PG)

6:00 - 8:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost: \$5/night

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12



#### **Bingo Blast**

Calling all bingo players! Join us for a dessert before we play a few rounds of bingo and win some cool prizes.

Who: Ages 12 and older When: Monday, January 24

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Where: Normal Community Activity Center

**Cost:** \$8

## September 2021

Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness  19 20 21 22 23 24 25  Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament  Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness  Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament  Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament  Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament  Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness  Recreational B				ptember 2			
So	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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## October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					Friday Fireside Teens	SOAR for Starters Service Friends Fall Hunt Around Town
Proving Ground	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Fall Decor Halloween Crafts Music Experience Seat to SOAR	Learn to Skate Open Gym Cooking SO Bocce Soups & Sandwiches	Game Night Walk the Zoo	Social Hour Virtual Game Night <b>8</b>	Snowshoeing Area Bowling Tournament
10	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness Columbus Day Break	Fall Decor Halloween Crafts Music Experience Seat to SOAR	Learn to Skate Open Gym Holiday Performers Dance to SOAR SO Bocce	Game Night Walk the Zoo	ZOOper Fridays Friday Fireside Friends	SOAR for Starters Snowshoeing Bocce Qualifier Let's Get Poppin'
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Proving Ground	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Fall Decor Halloween Crafts Music Experience Seat to SOAR	Learn to Skate Open Gym Holiday Performers Dance to SOAR	Game Night I Spy Walk the Zoo	Candy & Costumes	Snowshoeing SOAR Animal Crackers State V-Ball
State V-Ball	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Holiday Crafts Door Decor	Learn to Skate Open Gym Holiday Performers Dance to SOAR	Walk the Zoo Pumpkin Painting Party		Snowshoeing
24	25	26	27	28	29	<b>30</b> Page 17

#### **November 2021**

			vember 20			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Holiday Crafts Door Decor SO Basketball	Holiday Performers Dance to SOAR	Bingo & Popcorn SO Basketball	Friday Fireside Teens	Nacho Average Day Snowshoeing SOAR for Starters
Craft-a-Palooza	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Holiday Crafts Door Decor SO Basketball	Holiday Performers	SO Basketball Veteran's Day (Office Closed)	Friday Fireside Friends	Snowshoeing Making Fall Desserts
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	Holiday Crafts Door Decor SO Basketball	Holiday Performers	SO Basketball I Spy	ZOOper Fridays Social Hour Virtual Game Night	Take A Hike Snowshoeing SOAR for Starters
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	23	24	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed)	27
	Recreational Bowling Cardio Fitness	SO Basketball				
28	29	30				

## **December 2021**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
v	·	v	Holiday Performers Dress Rehearsal	Holiday Performers Show SO Basketball	Holiday Performers Show	Snowshoeing
			1	2	3	4
	Lunch Bunch	SO Basketball	Christmas Party	SO Basketball	SO Celebration	SOAR for Starters Regional Snowshoe competition Cookie Decorating
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Lunch Bunch Wii Games	SO Basketball	Wii Games	SO Basketball I Spy	ZOOper Fridays Friday Fireside Teens & Friends	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)	25
26	Christmas Holiday (Office Closed)	29	RKM Shoot Out IWU	RKM Shoot Out IWU	21	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**January 2022** 

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Fall 2021 SOAR Program Registration Form
Please return the completed form along with the fee to the SOAR/Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office, PO Box 3157, Bloomington, IL 61702-3157. For further information, call (309) 434-2260.

Address  City Birthdate Disability  Primary Emergency Contact 1st	z Phone t Phone t Phone	ip Home :			
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PROGRAM NAME					PROGRAM FEE
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To help S.O.A.R. provide safe and satisfactory participation in programs, behaviors, living situations or other issues that may effect participation in					
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Transportation:	:	safety of each person.			
I Do 🗖 Do Not 📮 give my permission for the participant to receive trans		<i>I Do</i> □ <i>Do Not</i> □ agree			
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Authorized Signature					•

#### **Registration & Other Information**

**Other ways to register -** Return the seasonal registration form on page 21 and payment at the time of sign-up to the Bloomington Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts office. Registration may be done on-line or through the mail. **Send to:** 

SOAR Program Registration PO Box 3157 Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

**Notification of Acceptance -** SOAR will notify you only if you have not been accepted into a program. Once the registration procedure has been completed and accepted by SOAR staff you are registered. Please attend the program as scheduled in the brochure. Reminder memos are only sent for those events that state in the brochure....

"reminder memo will be mailed."

#### **Program Cancellation**

- A program will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants needed is not met. SOAR staff will notify people by mail if this situation arises.
- In cases of bad weather, participants should call the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260 or the Bloomington Parks and Recreation HOTLINE at (309) 434-2386 after 3:00 pm to see if a program has been cancelled.

#### Typo, Human Errors, We Goofed...!?

Occasionally there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements or fees in the brochure. If so, the staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Thank you for your patience and understanding should any of these situations arise.

**Registration Deadline -** On-line registration begins at 7:00 am on August 12. Registration won't be accepted for a program that has already begun. Registration deadline for all special events is one week prior to the date of each event if openings are available. **Please register early; many SOAR programs fill quickly!** 

**Payment Plans -** Full payment of program fees should be included with the registration form. However, payment plans can be arranged for those individuals who need to spread their payment out over several months. Payment in full must be received in the SOAR office prior to registering for a new program session. Payments for special events must be paid in full at the time of registration. No payment plans will be set up after August 27.

**Financial Assistance Policy -** Partial financial assistance is available for those who need it in order to pay the program registration fees. Those requesting assistance need to fill out a Scholarship Request Form (available at Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office) and submit it to Nicole along with a completed registration form. Financial assistance is not provided for bowling fees or special events with contractual or admission costs. The deadline to request assistance for programs is August 27.



- Login
- · Go to Registration Tab
- · Select Activity Registration
- · You can search under "Category"
- Or go to Advanced Search to narrow down your options
- Choose your Category and click on the black triangle next to what you have chosen
- · All programs for that category will appear
- · Locate the program you want to register for
- Select the program and click on the "Register" button on the left hand side
- · After you register you will be advanced to the next screen
- · All Activity Information will appear in the first box
- "Registrant Information" will be available in the second box
- Select the participant that you want to register in the drop down box next to the asterisk labeled "Name of Registrants"
- · Click "Add to Cart" at the bottom of the box
- If you are finished go to the "Checkout Box" on the right hand side and complete your transaction
- If you want to register for more than 1 program click "Continue Shopping" on the left hand side and repeat the process until you are finished then go to the "Checkout Box" on the right hand side and complete your transaction

#### **Refund Procedures**

A full credit or refund will be issued if a program is cancelled by SOAR. To be eligible for a requested refund, the request must be made no less than five business days prior to the start of the program. A refund minus a \$5 service charge will be issued to participants withdrawing from a program. Refunds of special event/program fees for which SOAR has incurred a cost due to ticket purchase, deposits, rentals, etc. will only be made if SOAR is given 48-hour notice and the vacancy caused by the cancellation is filled. A \$5 service charge will be deducted. A pro-rated refund may be given if a program is deemed inappropriate for an individual. Credits for future registration costs will be issued for all refunds of \$20 or less. Refunds will be issued by check on a monthly basis after being approved by the Bloomington City Council. Please allow at least three weeks for the processing of refunds.

#### **Questions/Information**

If there are any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general, feel free to contact the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115.

Fax: (309) 434-2483. Web site address is www. Bloomingtonparks.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

nkohler@cityblm.org mrutenbeck@cityblm.org

Please...don't call/leave messages for SOAR staff at Lincoln Leisure Center. This isn't our office. All calls should go to (309) 434-2260.