



Robin and Mani's All Buddy Camp

Robin Aldridge was a long time special education teacher, advocate and friend. Her daughter Mani, a student at CHS, loved the arts – drawing, dance, music, and drama.

In their honor, Charlottesville and Albemarle County Parks and Recreation have partnered to provide a week-long summer camp for 4 -5 year old students with disabilities.

Robin and Mani's All Buddy Camp will help participants build self-esteem, develop better social skills and self-expression, make and maintain friendships, and improve fine and gross motor skills by partnering preschool students with disabilities with local high school students as 'buddies' in a holistic program centered on the creative arts, fun, and field trips.

This camp may also encourage future professionals, by providing hands-on training via a "buddy system" for local high school and college students interested in working in the field of special education, recreation, fitness, or the arts.

For more information about the camp, or to make a donation, contact Sarah Blech at 970-3264 or blechs@charlottesville.org

Committee members:

Helene Freiman – ACPS*
Judy Spellman - ACPS
Angie Amburn - ACPS
Paige Lindblom – CCS**
Beth Jenkins - CCS
Erika Viccellio – Charlottesville Free Clinic
Diane Talarico-Cavanaugh - ACPS
Kim Rambow – Bright Stars
Rachel McLaughlin – CCS
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Cathy Wojcik - ACPS
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Melinda Whitehurst- CCS
Amy Smith – Albemarle Parks and Recreation
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Sheila Sparks- CCS
Sarah Blech – Charlottesville Parks and Recreation
Stephanie Morris - Parent