



Sibshop being held at Syble Hopp School

755 Scheuring Rd, De Pere, WI

November 10, 2018
9:00 am—1:00 pm
(includes lunch)

For children ages 6 and older who have siblings with disabilities. Teen sibs welcome.
Bring swimsuit and towel for swimming in the pool.

WHAT ABOUT PARENTS?

Parenting is hard. Raising siblings when one has special needs can be especially challenging. **There will be a FREE WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS starting at 9:00 am while siblings are in the Sibshop.**

This informative workshop includes **discussion, tips from other parents, information,** and a lively **panel of adult siblings** who will provide insights from their experiences growing up.

Child care not available.

Sibshop is FREE for Syble Hopp families (and any other first-time participants), **but registration is required.**

Email info@wisconsibs.org or call 920-968-1742 by November 3



Big sibs and little sibs share much in common and have lots of fun together at sibling events throughout the year.

Sibshops are generally for children. Teen sibs are invited to get involved as mentors and volunteers.



"My son loves Sibshops. He has learned to speak freely with other "sibs" and to open up with us about the challenges of having a brother with a disability. The best way to see the benefits of Sibshops is to watch him interact with kids at school when they ask questions about his brother (who has autism). He knows he's not the only kid who faces these kinds of questions. He answers simply, directly and without embarrassment."

Mom of 12 year-old "WisconSib"

wisconsibs
Sisters & Brothers of People with Disabilities

Proud to be a registered provider of Sibshops.
Visit www.wisconsibs.org for more information about Sibshops



Just a few facts...

About individuals who have siblings with special needs and an organization dedicated to serving them.

Who we serve

Since 1998, WisconSibs, Inc (formerly the Fox Valley Sibling Support Network) has offered peer support and educational programs to hundreds of children, teens, and adults who have brothers and sisters with disabilities.

For children who have brothers or sisters with special health or developmental disabilities, WisconSibs offers an award winning** program called *Sibshops*.

For teens, summer camps for siblings and leadership/mentoring opportunities throughout the year are available.

Over half of the children who attend Sibshops and other programs have siblings with autism. Others have siblings with developmental, cognitive, physical, mental or other disabilities. Nearly half have a dual diagnosis.

For adults, WisconSibs offers regular educational and social events throughout the year plus a future planning program called Journey Forward.

Based in Appleton, WisconSibs serves as the Wisconsin chapter of the national organization it helped start, the Sibling Leadership Network.

***Winner of the 1992 National Award for Innovation by The Association for the Care of Children's Health*

① Generally, siblings have the **longest relationship** with an individual with disabilities. **Longer than parents. Longer than teachers or therapists. Longer than anyone.** Yet few, if any, programs have been available to them until now.

① According to pediatric records, **siblings of children with disabilities are 3 times more likely to feel sad, nervous, or afraid** than children not growing up with a sibling who has disabilities. This can affect concentration and behavior in school.

① Girls and women are most in danger of negative experiences living with a sibling with special needs.

① Research reports that over 60% of today's children who have a brother or sister with a disability expect to care for their sibling as adults. Most don't feel prepared emotionally or financially.

① Half of children with Down Syndrome born in 1968 survived past their first birthday. Now they are more apt to live 60+ years. Together with government support decreasing, adult siblings will likely assume at least part of the financial, emotional and social responsibilities of their brother or sister.

① Siblings of children with disabilities often are ambivalent. The experience can be very rewarding while very challenging. The key to keeping it positive is to be able to express honest feelings, be informed and find opportunities to celebrate and share with other siblings.



Siblings we serve are called **WisconSibs**. Parents, professionals, and individuals with disabilities are **WisconSib Fans**.

Did you know? WisconSibs, Inc is the only organization in the Fox Valley dedicated only to the interests of children, teens, and adults who have brothers or sisters with disabilities. In fact, it is considered the first of its kind in the United States.