

We are kids ages 6-12 growing up with brothers or sisters with autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities, long-term illnesses, or mental health conditions. We can get pretty isolated and even forgotten. Sometimes we feel like no one understands us.

We often have more responsibility than other kids our age. We nervously wait while our siblings recover from seizures, surgery or see yet another specialist. We try to protect them, and get frustrated when we can't. Our parents are stressed and we don't want to make it worse for them. Like them, we worry. We fear what we don't know or understand. We are often quietly brave.

We also have a great time at Sibshops offered by WisconSibs, Inc. We meet other kids who share many of the same feelings we do. We talk about our challenges and hear how other kids deal with things. We play. We get information. We brag about our siblings. We make friends.

We celebrate being WisconSibs!

Join us!



wisconsibs
Sisters & Brothers of People with Disabilities

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Established in 1998 as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, WisconSibs, Inc focuses on the issues and opportunities experienced by children and adults who have sisters and brothers with disabilities. WisconSibs is the Wisconsin chapter of the national Sibling Leadership Network.



2018-2019

Information and Schedule



For kids ages 6-12 growing up with sisters and brothers with disabilities or long-term illnesses.

Presented by

wisconsibs
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a registered provider of Sibshops for over 23 years

What are Sibshops?

Sibshops are celebrations of the many contributions made by sisters and brothers of kids with special health or developmental needs. These workshops for “typical” siblings combine recreation, information and discussion. Kids age 6-12 attending WisconSibs Sibshops enjoy a lively, relaxed event that emphasizes a kids-eye view of sibling issues.



Sibshops are guided by facilitators in small, age-appropriate groups. Sibshop facilitators include school psychologists, teachers, counselors, and adult siblings. All are trained in sibling issues and always keep an eye open for participants who may need additional support.

Most WisconSibs Sibshops are 2-4 hours long, usually on a Saturday. Sibshops are held monthly, September through April. Each has a small participant fee.*

For locations of registered Sibshops in the US, visit: www.siblingsupport.org

Contact the WisconSibs office for more information about how WisconSibs, Inc may be available to help facilitate Sibshops with groups or organizations across Wisconsin.

*Financial assistance available.

Photos in this brochure were taken at our 2018 SibDays program. Sibshops will offer new activities to expand on Sibs of Tomorrow theme.



2018-2019 WisconSibs Sibshop Schedule

for children ages 6-12 who have siblings with disabilities

Sept 15	1-3 pm	Meadowood Farm, Brillion
Oct 13	3-5 pm (HULK)	SuperBowl, Appleton
Nov 10	9 am-1 pm	Syble Hopp School, DePere
Dec 8	9 am-1 pm	Celebration, Appleton
Jan 5	9 am-noon	Kroc Center, Green Bay
Feb 9	9 am-noon	YMCA, Kimberly
Mar 3	1:30-3:30 pm (SPA)	Old 45 Archery, Hortonville
April 6	SIBLINGS DAY CELEBRATION—KIDZ EXPO	
April 13	ASW Conference	Kalahari, WI Dells Sibshop
May 2-3	Circles of Life	Stevens Point Sibshop

Dates and locations may change or be added. For up-to-date schedule of WisconSibs Sibshops, visit www.wisconsibs.org

SPA=girls only with Moms HULK=boys only with Dads

Why did you enroll your child in WisconSibs Sibshops?

“I want her to be with other children with special needs siblings so she doesn’t feel she’s the only one.”

“He wants to talk to kids who understand what it’s like having a brother with Asperger’s.”

“She thinks they are fun and we believe they will help her be the best she can be.”

“Meet other people who share the same experience. Not to feel ashamed or embarrassed.”

“She asked to come to a Sibshop.”

“He makes so many sacrifices for his sister, he deserves a special time of his own, to celebrate the amazing kid that he is.”



Growing up with a sibling with disabilities

is a journey... a journey throughout life. Like all journeys, the path is filled with things we understand, but also many things we don't.

There will be challenges.

Siblings may often feel that their sibling with a disability is getting all the attention.

We believe that there are many moments in a sibling's life to celebrate.



With our Sibshops 2018-2019 theme, “**Sibs of Tomorrow**” we will have fun addressing the unique challenges and joys of siblings as they look forward to their future. (Note: Child on the cover decorated as a robot by her fellow sibs.)

Reservations are required for all Sibshops.

To make your reservation call: 920-968-1742 or email: info@wisconsibs.org.

Each Sibshop is \$15/sib. Discounts and scholarships are available. **Save \$5** on each Sibshop by registering for 4 Sibshops in advance. 4 for \$40*.

*Dates attending can be changed. No refunds.

A child's first WisconSibs Sibshop is always FREE!