

What is CYO and Community Services?

CYO & Community Services has enjoyed a 60+ year history of providing community service in the Greater Akron area. The work of CYO is summarized by its mission statement:

CYO & Community Services is a partnership of youths, adults and parishes rooted in Catholic values, committed to fostering a culture of community service, and dedicated to serving the young, the disabled, the elderly and the poor.

CYO is a non-profit agency, which fulfills its mission by providing programs in the areas of camping, athletics, adult day services, youth ministry, neighborhood services and recreation for persons with disabilities.

The Recreational Respite Program began in 1989 at the request of families who needed a break from the twenty-four hour a day care that they provided to their family member with a disability. This program allows persons with disabilities to enjoy structured activities while the family receives a much needed break.

The program's members are given the opportunity to experience a wide variety of activities and field trips. CYO offers swimming, basketball, crafts, cooking, games, picnics, and socializing. And Recreational Respite is proud to have traveled to festivals, amusement parks, outdoor theatres, restaurants, train rides, and more. CYO Recreational Respite is a great place to make new friends, increase self-esteem and enhance social skills.

Most importantly, while the program members have been enjoying themselves, families have been able to take the time needed to refresh themselves so that they can continue to provide quality care in the home. Why not enroll your family member!



We have never had such a sense of relief in knowing while we are enjoying our much needed time together, he is enjoying himself—not sitting at home, but with friends being active!

CYO & COMMUNITY SERVICES
RECREATIONAL RESPITE PROGRAM
812 Biruta Street
Akron, Ohio 44307

CYO & COMMUNITY SERVICES INC.



Recreational Respite

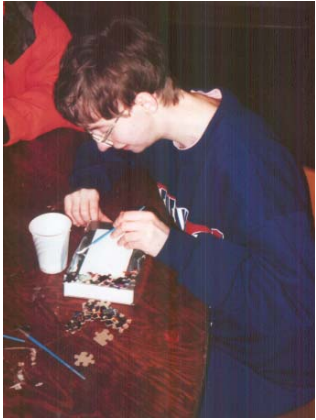
No Better Way to Spend
A Saturday Night!



A program for people caring for a family member with a disability in their home.

Funding for the CYO Recreational Respite Program is provided by CSBMR/DD, The ODMR/DD Family Resource Services Program, the United Way of Summit County and Donations.

Who is eligible to attend this program?



This program is for MRDD eligible persons ages 13 and older who are living at home with their immediate families. Persons living in alternate settings may be able to attend depending on space availability.

CYO welcomes persons of all religions.

CYO strives to meet the needs of all applicants.

Interested families are encouraged to call CYO to discuss the needs of their family member with CYO staff.

"Without CYO, our daughter would have little opportunity for social interaction with peers outside of school."

Who are the Program Staff at CYO Recreational Respite?

CYO is proud to attract degreed people from a variety of backgrounds such as education, psychology, speech pathology, social work, recreation and more. Additionally, CYO is pleased to employ enthusiastic and motivated college students, a few high school students and some volunteers. Staff members are fingerprinted and pass a criminal background check. The ratio for supervision will not be more than four participants per staff member.

What is the cost for Recreational Respite?

The program fees are noted in the Fee Insert. For some field trips, there may be additional activity charges, but these are always posted in advance in the newsletters. CYO does have some discretionary funding, and is always willing to work with any family that finds the fees to be a burden.



"My family member would miss it greatly! The 'stress relief' it gives us would not be there—our family would be very stressed without the break CYO gives us all!"

When and Where is CYO Recreational Respite Held?

Recreational Respite is held at least two Saturday evenings each month. The program usually meets at either Weaver School in Tallmadge, the CYO offices in Akron, or at Camp Christopher in Bath, Ohio. Newsletters are mailed to member's homes to keep families informed of what activities are being offered in the near future, where and when they will be held, and other relevant information. CYO offers 7 and 12 hour sessions, and several times each year the program hosts a long weekend of respite. This allows families a full weekend to get away, begin a home remodeling project, or just kick back and relax.



"Our son needs to have fun and friends and do meaningful activities with people other than his parents. We need time when we are not constantly accommodating his routine."

"This service is tremendously needed and appreciated. CYO presents a lifelong possibility of maintaining a relationship with our son."

What types of activities will be offered?

Recreational respite offers members the opportunity to take part in arts & crafts, cooking, games, bingo, dancing, music appreciation and meaningful social interaction. The program often takes field trips (almost monthly if weather permits!). In recent years the members have enjoyed visits to Lake Farm Park, the Train through Sugarcreek, The Wilds, the Cleveland Zoo, Portage Princess on Portage Lakes, Cedar Point, The Trumpet in the Land Outdoor Theater, Put-in-Bay, Hartville Flea Market and Restaurant, Walsh Farms and much, much, more. When the group travels, CYO provides transportation.



"For our daughter, it gives her a sense of feeling like she is a part of something on her own. She has her own circle of friends at CYO."



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Interested in enrolling your family member?

Call the CYO offices at 330.762.2961 ext. 207

CYO is on the web at www.akroncyo.org

Don't miss another Saturday!

CYO's policy on confidentiality is in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the state of Ohio laws governing the protection of individually identifiable information. CYO's Notice of Privacy Practices is available through the Program Director or can be viewed at www.akroncyo.org.