

# U.N.I SOCIALIZING: HOW DOES IT HELP THE INDIVIDUAL?

## PERSONAL GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

Participants will acquire new social skills through the program that will allow them the opportunity for growth and development.

## COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Individuals will gain a better sense of the resources that are available to them and will be able to apply what they learn in the program to their daily lives.

## BUILDS FRIENDSHIPS

Participants will have the opportunity to engage in social activities with their peers which will allow them to gain a circle of support and give them a chance to create supportive and long lasting friendships.



## U.N.I. SOCIALIZING

Is inclusive of all children including those served by the regional center and neurotypical peers. U.N.I will ensure individualized support to families for the purpose of accessing and social and recreational programs by U.N.I. networking and interfacing with community leaders, self-advocates, and/or family members. Each proposed project type will be inclusive of all children and adolescents. U.N.I. will create and disseminate person-centered resource guides for I/DD individuals ages 3-21. Participants can choose social/recreational activities that match their interests and that have been verified and have negotiated service rates.



## UNDERSTANDING NEEDED INTEGRATION

### SOCIAL RECREATION

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## Program Outlook

U.N.I. will offer project types that will help participants decrease the most visible barriers to accessing and utilizing social and recreational programs/services. Individuals that choose to participate will achieve inclusive social recreations programs and engage in activities amongst persons with all abilities to develop meaningful relationships with their peers of the general population.

## Education and Training

UNI Education and Training project will provide services in English or Spanish depending on the participants preference. The goal of the Education and Training project is to train families and community recreation providers how to support children and adolescents with I/DD in social and recreational settings. Each participant and their family will have the opportunity to attend at least 1 education and training session that focuses on the expected supports that should be received in social and recreational settings in English or Spanish.

## Community Engagement and Friendship Outreach

UNI community engagement and friendship outreach project will provide services in English or Spanish depending on the participants preference. Each participant will engage in at least 1 new inclusive long-term social/recreational activity that does not have a season attached to the activity for like Karate and pottery, or engage in at least 2 new inclusive short-term social/recreational activities that have a season attached such as T-Ball, soccer or basketball. Each participant will join at least 1 organization such as Big Sisters/Brothers Programs. Each participant will make at least 1 new friend. Each participant and their family will participate in at least 1 U.N.I awareness event in the community/U.N.I and attend at least 2 monthly in-house events. U.N.I will host 1 peer mentorship training for I/DD individuals, their families and non-DD individuals. U.N.I will host 1 social skills training for participants and their families.

## Project Types

- Community engagement and friendship outreach
- Community Connector
- Education and Training
- Financial Assistance

## Community Connector

UNI community connector project will provide services in English or Spanish depending on the participants preference. Participants will engage in at least 1 "how to navigate resource guides" training. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with non-DD individuals by engaging in social/recreational activities alongside non-DD individuals. The goal of the Community Connector Project is to ensure individualized support to participants and their families for the purpose of accessing social and recreational programs.

## Financial Assistance

UNI financial assistant project will provide services in English or Spanish depending upon the participant's language preference. The goal of the Financial Assistance Program is to provide financial assistance for fees or reduced fees for inclusive social and recreational programs and activities to individuals. The Financial Assistance Program will not be income-based. U.N.I will assist 50 participants to sign-up for social and recreational services. Each participant will be provided with financial assistance to sign-up for 50 memberships/sports and the necessary resources needed to participate.