

“They are so giving at this camp (Camp Shalom), not just with the kids but with the families, too. I get a notebook home every day where the counselors write how my son’s day was, and I can write back. It’s an incredibly special group of people. Camp Shalom was the reason I joined the Y and now we use the programs all year ‘round.”

STACEY BLUME

“There is no other program like this. The diversity of campers and counselors makes Camp Shalom special.”

JILL MYERS, CAMP SHALOM COUNSELOR

“I love enrolling Joseph in one of your classes. Your programs will surely have an impact on the lives of young children, as they do with my son Joseph.”

FRANCIS TAPICULIN

“From the beginning, I was reassured by the professional level of the staff; by the love and nurturing that Annie received. I always find it heart-warming to watch the interactions of the special needs children with typical children at the YJCC. The typical children learn to engage, respect, and enjoy the campers with special needs that they meet and see from year to year. To me, that is one of the most wonderful aspects of Camp Shalom, and of all of the YJCC’s special needs programs.”

NANCY LEEDS



The Bergen County YJCC welcomes children, teens and young adults from all backgrounds and from throughout the county to participate in our Special Needs Program. As a nonprofit community center, we rely on the generosity of all who wish to strengthen our outreach and support services. If you are able to help us sustain the

continuation and growth of our outstanding program, please contact: Gina Wellington, ext. 268.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- Family Resource Network
- The Epilepsy Foundation
- Autism Family Services of New Jersey
- Special Olympics of New Jersey
- Real Life Choices: NJ State Division of Developmental Disabilities
- S.P.E.C. Supporting Parents of Exceptional Children

Please call us to discuss how we can help your child and family: 201.666.6610.

BERGEN COUNTY Y,
A JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
605 PASCACK ROAD
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
NEW JERSEY 07676

201.666.6610
SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM,
GINA WELLINGTON, EXT. 268



There's a special place
for young people
with special needs.

THE BERGEN
COUNTY YJCC



AN ACCEPTING ENVIRONMENT
REINFORCING SCHOOL EXPERIENCES
FORMING RELATIONSHIPS
TRUSTING OTHERS
LEARNING LIFE SKILLS
FINDING CREATIVE OUTLETS
GROWING STRONGER THROUGH ATHLETICS
PROVIDING RESPITE FOR CAREGIVERS



Social and recreational opportunities are crucial for us all. For those with special needs, possibilities need not be limited. At the YJCC, we continually seek new ways to open our doors to all, offering programs that help foster social skills, enhance self-esteem—and offer a good dose of fun! Best of all, connections and meaningful peer relationships are formed, many that last a lifetime.

The YJCC welcomes children, teens and young adults with developmental delays and disabilities, physical challenges and neurological impairment, as well as those with multiple disabilities, to participate in classes, recreational groups and summer day camp. Opportunities are available for those as young as three, and young adults are enthusiastic participants in our summer program, Camp Shalom. The YJCC is spacious, air conditioned, wheelchair accessible and barrier-free.



YEAR-ROUND CLASSES

Sports and Fitness Sampler Sports, conditioning and exercise

Brunch Bunch Life skills cooking class

Bear With Me Therapeutic martial arts

Patiently Wading Water therapy and safety

Riding and Horsemanship Therapeutic horse-back riding

Movements through Music Therapeutic music class

Imagination in Motion Play skills, guided imagery and creative expression

Therapeutic Dance Movement and dance for the physically challenged

Special Needs Sports Challenge Fitness and exercise tasks

FUNDamentals in Art Adaptive techniques and tools to create a variety of art

Sunday FUNday Recreation/social skills for children on the autistic spectrum and with Asperger's Syndrome

FUNday Camp Week-long experience focusing on recreation/social skills for children on the autistic spectrum and with Asperger's Syndrome

CAMP SHALOM

Camp Shalom offers a summer experience filled with recreation, activities, support, socialization and companionship for its campers, while providing respite for parents. Campers are cared for in a stimulating, nurturing, and safe environment.

The camp's staff is comprised of volunteers, counselors, teachers and therapists who work with children with a full range of disabilities. The program is staffed one-to-one to provide close camper-counselor relationships.

Camp Shalom is a half day program, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 1:00 to 4:00 pm on Friday. There are eight one-week sessions; you may register for as many as you like.

Daily activities include music and art therapy, adaptive physical education, aquatics and cooking/snack preparation. We have weekly special activities like therapeutic riding, horsemanship and therapeutic martial arts, yoga, nature and picnics.



In addition, programs and events like weaving, pottery and a variety of musical entertainment enrich the camp experience. Related services, including speech, physical and occupational therapies, are offered at additional cost.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Yoga Time for Special Needs Families
For parents and children

Sibshops A supportive program for siblings of children with special needs