

The Community Friends Program

- Article I Name: The name of this organization is the Community Friends Program.
- Article II Purpose: The purpose of this organization is as follows:
The Community Friends Program matches local children ages 6-12 and up with Middlebury College student volunteers. The goal of the program is to foster positive relationships between volunteers and children, helping the children to develop self-esteem and trust. Volunteers meet with their Community Friends once a week and engage them in a variety of fun events (athletics, outdoor trips, craft making, etc). In addition, Community Friend Coordinators plan monthly events that allow the children to interact with one another.
- Article III Membership: Membership will be open to all interested Middlebury students.
- Article IV Officers: Officers of Community Friends will serve as coordinators. All officers must be Middlebury College students. There will be 5-7 coordinators chosen for an academic year.
Responsibilities are as follows:
- Interview prospective volunteers.
 - Help to match new volunteers with children.
 - Help plan and organize monthly events.
 - One of the coordinators will act as liaison between Community Friends and SGA Finance Committee.
- Article V Elections:
- A. Student Coordinators: Elections for student coordinators will take the form of an application and interview process and will be held by March 15. Students interested in being coordinators will fill out an application at the beginning of spring term. The present student and staff coordinators will serve as an interview panel to select students to fill spots vacated by graduating students. In addition to the staff coordinator, at least three of the student coordinators must be present at the election. Coordinators will be elected by a simple majority.
- B. Volunteers: Each volunteer will apply and have two references checked. It is recommended that the student volunteer obtain one of the references from a Middlebury College staff or faculty member. Once the references are received, they will be interviewed by a coordinator and matched up with a child.
- Article VI Meetings: Coordinator meetings will be held once a week to discuss upcoming events, the status of interview/match process, and any concerns of the Community Friends program. Additional meetings will be held as necessary.

Article VII Committees: The student coordinators are granted the power to create and appoint committees at their discretion.

Article VIII Faculty Advisor: The membership recommends a faculty/staff advisor.

Article IX Affiliations: The Community Friends Program will be affiliated with the Counseling Service of Addison County as a referral and potential funding source. The staff coordinator will meet with someone from CSAC for programmatic support.

Article X Discrimination Policy: This student organization operates in full accordance with Chapter Four, Section II, A of the Middlebury College Handbook concerning Student Organization Policies of Discrimination, Freedom of Association, Anti-Hazing, Freedom of Inquiry and Expression, Student Publication, Funding, Advertising, and Scheduling. Any and all changes made to the Student Organizations Policies section of the Middlebury College Handbook will immediately become policies adopted by the Community Friends Program.

Article XI Ratification:
A. The constitution has been ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
B. The constitution has been approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Article XII: Amendment:
A. The constitution must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the membership.
B. The constitution must be approved by the Student Government Constitution Committee.

Approved as to form: December 6, 2002

Submitted: Spring 2008