



### What is “Different Like Me”?

A monthly get together for middle and high school kids who have Aspergers or High Functioning Autism who want to find kids like themselves with whom they can relax and have fun!

All over society there are places where we have to pretend to be like everyone else. This is exhausting.

*We all need a place where it is OK to just be ourselves.*

*Different Like Me* was founded by Rebecca Bickel, mother of a son with autism and therapist to children and families in the Greenwood community. Thanks to Rebecca kids have had a place to hang out where it is okay to be yourself.

### What is there to do at the club?

First and foremost, have fun! The monthly meetings in the Greenwood Community have “stations,” things to do, read or games to play. You can bring your favorite stuff from home as well. Sometimes community outings will be planned and families will be notified through email.

*Different Like Me* is a place to meet interesting people, like yourself. *Different Like Me* is a club, NOT a social skills or autism therapy group. There will not be formal “social skills” lessons or activities. The adult supervisor(s) will mingle to help everyone get to know each other and make sure all the safety rules are being followed.

### Who are the adult supervisors?

- ❖ Abbey Parker, LMHC (Licensed Mental Health Counselor) has 15+ years of experience working with kids as a leader, mentor, counselor, and professional. Abbey previously led a free game night for kids on the autism spectrum through her private practice and is excited for the opportunity to continue *Different Like Me* in the Johnson county community. Abbey enjoys getting to know the students interests and exploring how they can have fun in their own way.
- ❖ Jenna Corcoran, Staff Therapist, MS has worked with students in various capacities from young student groups and camps on grieving to college level transition and student employment. Jenna enjoys laughing and having fun – engaging with students and allowing them to share when they are ready.

Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a volunteer supervisor. Parents are welcome to stay for the club meetings.

### What are the Club Objectives?

- Increase peer networks and decrease social isolation
- Experience comfortable and accepting social contact
- Increase self confidence through feelings of acceptance from peers
- Provide opportunities for parents to network with other parents of similarly functioning kids

### How do I sign up?

To register, get on the email list or ask questions, email Abbey Parker at [abbey@stillpointconsultants.com](mailto:abbey@stillpointconsultants.com). Monthly reminders will be sent through email.