

,PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Special Recreation Service of Northern Lake County–Waukegan Park District
Partners with Clearbrook**

**Take A Break Volunteer Program for Children with Disabilities Expands to Lake
County**

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL (August 25, 2010) – Clearbrook’s innovative volunteer program, Take A Break in the Afternoon, will be available to families in Lake County beginning Thursday, September 9th, thanks to collaborative efforts between the Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County (SRSNLC)-Waukegan Park District and Clearbrook, a northern Illinois-based non-profit. For 12 years, Clearbrook’s Take A Break Volunteer Program has offered an innovative service that matches the spirit of volunteerism with the needs of families who have children with developmental delays by providing them with regularly scheduled time away.

The Take A Break in the Afternoon Program will provide a break to families twice a month who have a young child with a developmental delay (birth through four years of age) and their siblings. This program offers families an opportunity for planned breaks one Thursday a month from 12:00 pm until 3:00 pm and one Saturday a month from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. Trained volunteers along with Clearbrook staff will provide the

opportunity for children to play and socialize. The program will be housed in the Douglas House, Upton Park, 732 Genesee Street, Waukegan.

For additional information, including becoming a volunteer, please contact Tina Yurik, Program Coordinator at (847)392-2812 ext. 35 or e-mail tyurik@clearbrook.org.

ABOUT CLEARBROOK

Based in Northern Illinois, Clearbrook was founded in 1955 and has since evolved into a recognized leader in the field of developmental disabilities. Today, Clearbrook creates innovative opportunities for approximately 3,300 children and adults with developmental disabilities including autism, Down syndrome, and cerebral palsy - as well as their families. Clearbrook provides personalized children's, day training, employment, residential and clinical services at more than 45 locations throughout the Chicagoland-area. In addition, Clearbrook is the largest provider of in-home services in the state of Illinois. Clearbrook employs more than 800 people and proudly reports that 85 percent of every dollar raised goes directly into programs and services. For more information, please visit clearbrook.org.

ABOUT SRSNLC-WAUKEGAN:

Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County is a cooperative of Lindenhurst Park District, Round Lake Area Park District, Waukegan Park District, and Zion Park District. As an extension of the Park District, SRSNLC conducts a variety of year round

recreation programs for individuals with disabilities, ages three and older, and also assists the Waukegan Park District with inclusion needs. Program options include: social outings, dances, indoor and outdoor fitness programs, art and craft programs, bowling leagues, summer, spring, and winter day camps, youth and teen specific programs and sports teams that compete in the Special Olympics of Illinois. It is the MISSION of SRSNLC to educate our citizens to become responsible, productive, healthy, and contributing members of our society by preparing them through recreation with a dynamic and caring environment, which excites them and invites them to participate.

ABOUT THE WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

Established on December 26, 1916 the district has 47 properties and 720 acres of land, which includes the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and the 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. The District operates recreational centers, the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, an outdoor swimming pool, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, basketball courts, the Waukegan Skate Park, and the Waukegan BMX track. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages including special populations. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. Sixty-one authorized full-time staff and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal and temporary employees. The district is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains IAPD Distinguished

Agency accreditation and is also accredited with the Park District Risk Management Agency and maintains a Level A Loss Control Program.