

**Helping children  
with developmental  
disabilities**



Bridge to Youth  
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[www.bridgetoyouth.org](http://www.bridgetoyouth.org)

January 21, 2007

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The purpose of this letter is to familiarize you with a community outreach organization, called Bridge to Youth, Inc. Incorporated in February of 2005 and approved by the IRS in May of 2006 to operate as a non-for-profit 501 (c) (3) organization, Bridge to Youth has focused its work on establishing and maintaining an activities program for special needs children. We have recently opened for our third year of providing sports, music, art, and dance therapy, as well as social skills training for nearly 70 children from Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan. We would like to take just a few minutes of your time and make a personal petition for your financial support for Bridge to Youth.

The majority of the children that come to our activities program for three hours every Sunday are autistic. They range in age from three to sixteen. Most of them are boys, as autism is much more prevalent in boys. We do have about fifteen girls enrolled in the program. About 70% of the children have been in the program since our opening in the winter of 2005. Our main method of advertising the program has been word of mouth. The parents are our voice-piece for two reasons. For families with autistic children, Bridge to Youth is one of only a few organizations offering an activities program dedicated to and professionally staffed for their children. The second reason the parents like to speak out on our behalf is that their children really enjoy the time they spend with us. The comfort level we have been able to provide for the children is a product of an exciting mix of caring, professionally-trained adults and energetic, community-minded teens, who come from as far as the Bronx, not just to fulfill a high-school service requirement, but to interact with a unique group of children.

Your generous donation will help Bridge to Youth achieve our immediate goal of funding the activities program's inherent costs: rent, supplies and equipment, professional staffing in art and music therapy and social skills training. While we have seen some progress in our efforts to procure public funding, almost all of our monies raised to date have come from gracious and good-hearted benefactors such as you.

This program has been the fulfillment of its committee members' long-standing desire to include special needs youths in our community's sports and arts programs. Every Sunday for three hours, we are witness to an enormously positive impact such a program can make not only on the lives of the children it serves, but on the lives of those who are helping these children.

Your generosity will amplify that impact, allowing us not just to continue our work, but to expand it for the children's benefit. On behalf of the Bridge to Youth and its Developmentally Disabled Children's Activities Program, we offer you our sincerest thanks. Your personal or business check may be made payable to Bridge to Youth, Inc. and sent to 1258 - 65th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11219. Attention Judy Behan, Tom Lee, or Rich Rizzuto. Our tax id # is 42-1660753

Bridge to Youth, Inc. is incorporated in New York State as a non-for-profit organization.  
It is also a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization as recognized by the IRS. Our EIN is 42-1660753.