



October 2024 Newsletter



ECHS Mentor Hadley and her buddy

Mentor

Athletes for kids has been an incredible experience for me and has taught me so much about friendship and love. Every single week I look forward to the time I have with my buddy. It is the time where all the other stress in my life goes away, and I can be present and have an amazing time with her. I get to hear all about her day and learn who she is as a person. It is incredible to watch her grow and move into different stages of her life. Getting to go to her soccer games and see how much she loves the sport just like I do has been one of a kind. I love seeing how excited she gets when she explains her Legos to me or how kind she is when she beats me in foosball. It has taught me so much and inspires me to bring that same excited spirit and attitude into my everyday life. I am eternally grateful for the friendship I have with my buddy and can't wait to spend more time with her!

Mentee Parent

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It is hard to believe we are approaching our second year with our mentor, Hadley. She has been an incredible support for our daughter during this time of transitions as she begins middle school. Despite her busy schedule and travel commitments with her soccer team, Hadley consistently makes time to meet with our daughter. I enjoy listening to their conversations as they engage in various activities, whether it be painting clay, constructing a Lego project, or playing a game together. Hadley is always willing to participate in whatever our daughter proposes. She truly has a generous spirit. Not only has Hadley been a valuable presence in our daughter's life and within our family, but we also recognize that she will continue to shine as she embarks on her next journey when she moves out on her own next year for college. We will miss her immensely.

Upcoming Event



Fall FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 20th
1:00 - 2:30 PM

Beaver Lake Pavilion
25103 SE 24th St
Sammamish, WA 98075

JOIN THE FUN!
Games, activities, and AFK friends. Costumes encouraged!

Hosted by the National Charity League of Young Women Lake Sammamish Chapter

AFK Youth Mentoring

The poster features a warm autumn color palette of oranges, yellows, and browns, decorated with scattered leaves. It includes a central text box with event details, a row of four small photos showing people at the festival, and the AFK Youth Mentoring logo at the bottom right.

Fall Festival

Join us on Sunday, October 20th from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at Beaver Lake for our fourth annual Fall Festival hosted by the National Charity League of Young Women, Lake Sammamish Chapter.

Have fun with games, activities, and AFK friends. Costumes encouraged! Mentors, buddies, and siblings welcome!

[Click Here to Register](#)

With Gratitude





Thank you to Michael Gardner!

This month we celebrate and thank AFK Board member Michael Gardner. Michael has served on the board for the last two years, and his contributions to the program are many. As a coach and teacher at Skyline High School, Michael has recruited mentors and played a pivotal role in running mentor-buddy events, as well as securing the venue for the annual senior mentor celebration for the last two years. Recently, Michael has agreed to be the Club Advisor for the AFK chapter at Skyline, and he continues to champion the program on and off the field. Michael's son, Gavin, joined as a mentor last spring and his entire family is an integral part of the AFK family. Thank you, Michael!

AFK Moments



As we look back on a month of memories, we look forward to more friendship moments and choosing kindness, acceptance, and inclusion every day.

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