

We Couldn't Be More Grateful For...

COF would not have been made possible without the support of these organizations and individual people. Thank you so much!

Korean Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
Cerritos Mission Church
Bell Memorial UMC Women's Coffee Break Team
Open Bank
Han Mi Bank
Paris Baguette
Hundai Corporation
Copier Expo Inc.
Noxxon Enterpris

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Chino Hills
Kim Tae Soon Rehabilitation Hospital
Lamb's Auto Center
Han Sang Restaurant
New Garden Restaurant
KIA
The teachers who inspire us
The mothers who support and provide food for us
Many other private donations

MISSION STATEMENT

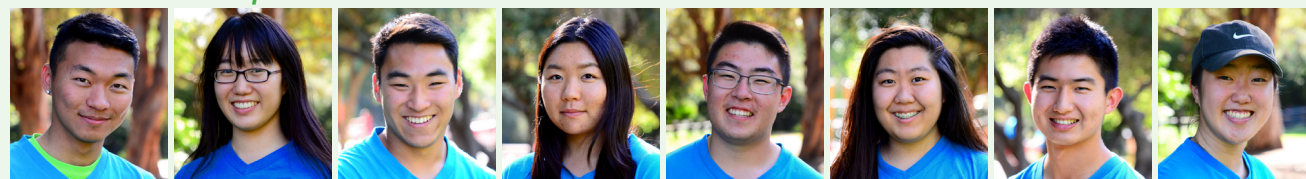
Circle of Friends in Love is a non-profit organization that promotes friendships between students with developmental disabilities and high school volunteers whose vision is to enhance the lives of children with developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for social connections with peers, encourage high school students to have open minds and hearts for students with developmental disabilities and build lifelong friendships through cooperation, hard work and interaction.

Our Staff



Stacy Kim Misun Byun Yoonie Kim Ross Gable Sharon Shin Harry Bae Intern Memi Iriye Science Instructor Sophia Shim Art Instructor

COF Leadership 2015~2016



Joseph Lee Sarah Chong Percy Chung Irene Yu Chris Hong Angela Lee Alex Tang Rebecca Lim

PTA - Insun Kim, Verginia Liao, Janet Choi, Kyung Kwon, Lawrence Chao

Newsletter

Circle of Friends

Volume 9 May 23, 2016

It takes two to make a friendship, and just you to make a difference.

작은 부탁... Can you do me a favor?



Haera Kim, Phil's Mom

필훈이가 12살 때쯤 COF를 나오기 시작해서 이제 24살이 되었으니 12년째이다. 그동안 20명이 넘는 많은 봉사자들이 필훈이와 함께 했다. 지금은 서른을 바라보는 형과 누나도 있고, 아직 필훈이보다 어린 봉사자들도 많다. 필훈이는 그 봉사자들 이름을 다 기억하지 못한다. 그래도 고마운 것은 많은 봉사자들이 아직도 필훈이를 기억하고 우연히 마주 칠 때면 "Hi, Phil"하며 지나간다. 비록 긴 인사는 아니지만 그 한마디 인사가 옆에서 바라보는 나의 마음을 한없이 기쁘게 한다. 그리고 그 한마디 인사에 나는 그 봉사자의 삶을 위해 기도한다. 이번에도 많은 봉사자들이 졸업과 함께 COF를 떠난다. 그런데, 애들아, 언제 어디서든 너희들이 버디를 만나거든 꼭 이렇게 한마디만 해 주렴. "Hi, Phil", "Hi, Paul"하고.

When Phil was 12 years old, he first joined COF. Now 12 years have passed and Phil is 24 years old. During these 12 years, Phil has had over 20 volunteers, some who are almost 30 years old. There are still many volunteers who are younger than Phil and Phil cannot even remember their names. However, I am thankful because they take the time to say "Hi Phil" when they see him. Even though it is not a long greeting, just watching that from the side fills me with indescribable joy. With that one greeting, I pray everyday for our volunteers. This year many of our volunteers are graduating and leaving COF. However, volunteers, if you ever see one of our buddies coincidentally, please always greet them. "Hi Phil." Like that.

Phil十二歲時第一次加入COF,十二年過去,Phil已經二十四歲了。在過去的十二年間,幫助Phil的志工已經超過二十位,其中七位已經快要三十歲了。還有很多志工比Phil要年輕,而Phil甚至記不得他們的名字了。不過,我非常感謝,因為在看到Phil時,花時間跟他說「嗨,Phil。」雖然只是短短問候,但讓在旁邊看到的我內心充滿難以形容的喜悅。為了這個問候,我每天都為我們的志工禱告。今年,許多我們的志工就要畢業,即將離開COF。但是,各位志工,如果你們無意之間再遇到你們的「好夥伴」,請一定要跟他們打招呼。就像說「嗨,Phil」一樣。



Circle of Friends
www.cof4u.org



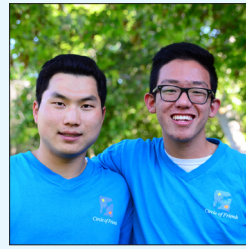
Monday Buddies & Volunteers



Paul & Denny



Paul & Eric



Jeremy & Matthew



Danny & Jonathan



Elliot & Calvin



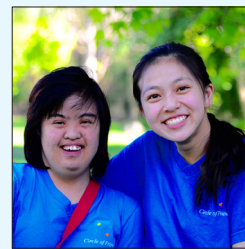
Joshua & David



Pei-lin & Julie



Angelina & Jodie



Charlene & Krystal



Zenus & Austin



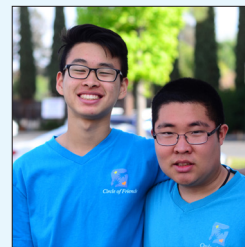
Nick & Phil



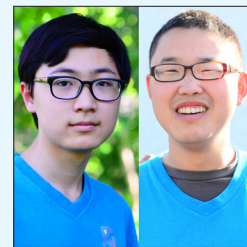
Justin & John



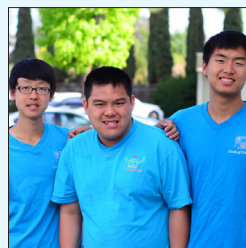
Joshua & Samuel



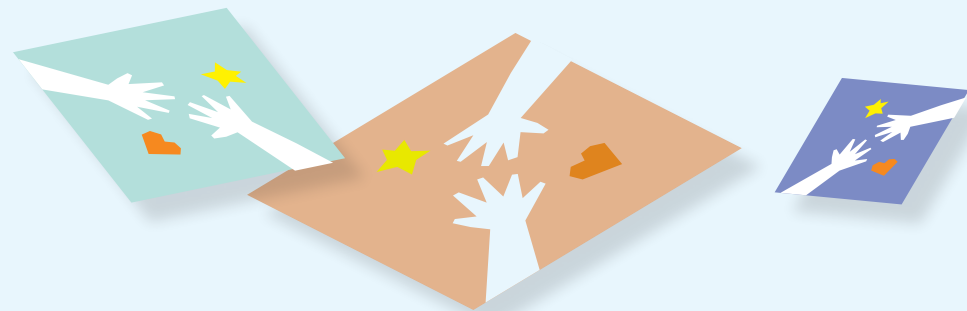
David & Karem



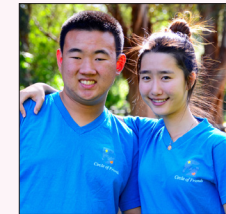
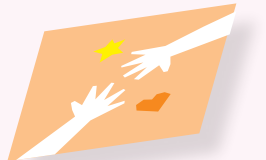
Timothy & Bill



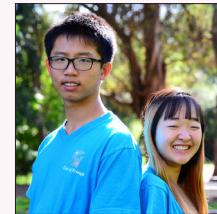
Andrew, Wilbur & Andrew



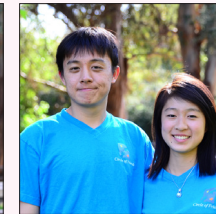
Wednesday Buddies & Volunteers



Joshua & Shelby



Kevin & Judy



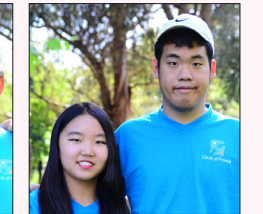
Darian & Kaly



Sharon & Jeong



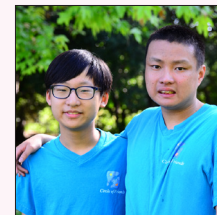
David & Kevin



Kelly & Andy



Mike & Paul



Timothy & Eric



John & Aaron



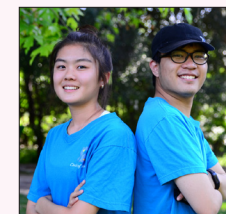
Aiden & Christy



Caleb & Brian



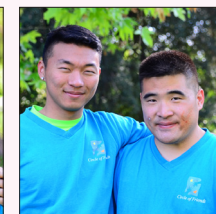
Jaylin & Daniel



Ashley & Ernest



Haemi & Sharon



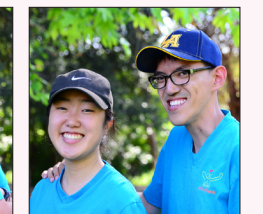
Joseph & Phil



Song & Yujin



Sarah & Johnathan



Rebecca & Lawrence



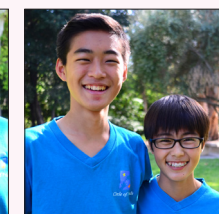
May & Jeffery



Lauren & Erin



Ella & Linda



Jae & Dean



Sabin & Daroo



Jason & Sean



2015 Graduation

As we say goodbye to our beloved seniors, we recognize those who have worked hard and given their all to COF.



Summer Camp

A week of fun activities ranging from amusement parks to scavenger hunts that filled the air with laughter.



Outings

Taking a break from our everyday routine, we enjoy walking through the park and bonding with our buddies through a friendly game of bowling.



Dance Party

The newest event that brought volunteers and buddies together through dancing, jumping, and partying.



Run for COF

Sacrificing their sleep for an early morning run with the COF family, the volunteers and buddies enjoy jogging alongside one another.



Christmas Party

Celebrating the most spirited holiday with our buddies, volunteers, and their families with music and entertainment.



COF Event

BRIGHT LIGHTS

(Dance Party 2016, 3/18/16 @ SGPRC)

The room darkened as the dance was about to start and dazzling lights in a variety of colors lit up the room. The first thing I noticed were these lights shining so brightly in the darkness but I soon realized that the brightest glow in that room wasn't coming from the decorative lights but rather from the bright smiles on everyone's face as they danced with abandon. We danced, we sang, we laughed, we yelled, we jumped all while holding each other shoulder to shoulder, forgetting all our differences as we just danced our hearts out, no longer caring about how we looked and how we acted. Dancing like that with complete abandon brought a joy and exhilaration to me that I have never experienced before and I can say with complete certainty that everyone else on that dance floor was having just as much fun as I was. -Chris Hong



A RUN TO REMEMBER

(Run For COF 2016, 4/9/16 @ MSAC)

It was a gloomy day, where the cloud overcast the sun. Yet, dozens of buddies and volunteers alike gathered at Mt. Sac for the annual 5K run. As encouragements were exchanged, volunteers lifted the spirits of the buddies, and buddies spurred on volunteers, helping each other get to the finish line. When asked how they felt about the race, people had many different things to say. "It was definitely hard... but it was worth it. The feeling of being able to pull through with a partner is indescribable," said senior volunteer Jason Yi. Karem Han, a buddy, exclaimed as he finished, "Did you see me? I'm so fast!" Running is more than just exercise; it is an activity that bonds people together. As all the worries and anxieties about our busy life faded away, buddies and volunteers were able to run towards their new future in front of them together.

-Percy Chung, Leader



MUSIC TO MY EARS

(Handchime Performance Team, 2016)

I am very thankful for the members for helping me set up and clean up the handchimes every week and to Mr. Byun because he always taught students with patience, played instruments with them, and chose different songs. At first the music did not sound perfect, but everyone did their best practicing the songs. The students incorporated dance moves to go along with the songs. Our first performance at the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church of ECO with COF was an amazing experience. I remember going to the church and seeing the moms and volunteers putting bowties on the buddies, making sure they looked perfect. Everyone was ready and we looked like a true, unified team. After our performance, I was able to see how proud the parents were of their children. It was a very heart-felt moment. I await the final day where I will have my last performance. Being able to perform with them one last time will be a great honor.

-Sarah Chong, Leader



2016 Senior's

Percy Chung

My favorite COF memory was when I'm teaching dance and no one listens to me.



Irene Yu

young volunteers, be thankful that you're able to work for such a wonderful cause.

Chris Hong

My most embarrassing moment at COF was probably when the games I had planned as an MC for the 2015 orientation went terribly wrong and I ended up having to relinquish the mic to several other people before things settled down.

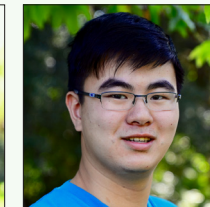
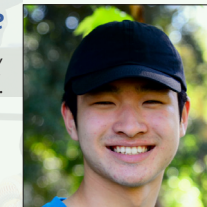


Matthew Park

My favorite COF moment was when Calvin made a game-winning half-court basketball shot

Paul Lee

Hey, all the young volunteers, Don't forget to call.

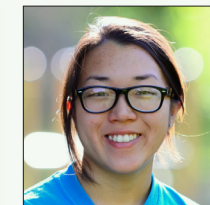


Denny Fong

I joined because my brother was in COF and extracurricular, stayed because COF grew on me.

Soung Youn

My advice to the younger COF volunteers is to be consistent and passionate. You are sacrificing your own time and the buddies and their parents come to expect something good. So do it, do your best. And do it with a smile and a positive attitude.



Brian Shin



Joseph Lee

My favorite COF memory was when Caleb ran into a huge puddle of mud. I remember chasing him and yelling at him to come back as he ran straight to the puddle. After He started playing in the mud for a couple of minutes, I stopped telling him to get out. Instead, I just started laughing because he was in a state of happiness.

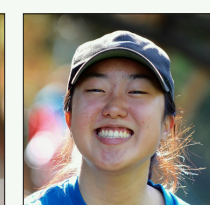
Probably at the dance party. I danced without a care in the world. To be honest I don't even remember what happened. I just know I had tons of fun that night. I think I may have danced too hard...

Sarah Chong



Judy Choi

Jason Yi

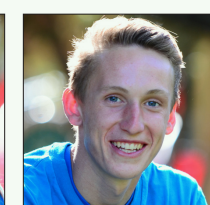


Rebecca Lim

For young volunteers, be patient and put your heart into COF. You'll get so much more than just community service hours from COF. You get to learn about the buddies, yourself, make new friends, and have a lot of fun all at once! It's a lot of work but it's worth it.

My favorite COF moment is the dance party. I honestly expected people to just mingle while music was playing, but everybody was dancing and jumping.

Jeong Kim



David Ripley