**COMMITMENT TO EVERYONE’S SAFETY AND WELL-BEING**

Friendship Circle provides very special and unique opportunities for volunteers, special friends and their families to enrich the lives of each other. In doing so, most participants will encounter new and sometimes challenging situations. Thus, it is imperative to set expectations at the beginning so that volunteers, special friends, and parents understand what they can expect. Therefore, volunteers, special friends, and their families each certify and agree by checking each box and signing below that they:

* Understand that participation in this activity is entirely voluntary and requires participants to abide by applicable rules and standards of conduct.
* Understand that participation in Friendship Circle activities involves a certain degree of risk and can be physically, mentally, and emotionally demanding. I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given consent for myself and/or my child to participate in this activity.
* Do not use or possess any illegal drug, alcohol or controlled substances at any time, including at Friendship Circle events or programs.
* Do not have any alcohol or tobacco products at Friendship Circle events or programs, including Friends at Home.
* Do not bring any weapons, firearms or other dangerous items to any Friendship Circle event or program.
* Do not have any unsecured firearms in a home which hosts a Friends at Home program;
* Have not and do not have any individual that has been convicted of a crime, other than minor traffic violations, living at or visiting a home that hosts a Friends at Home program and have not themselves been convicted of a crime.
* Do not themselves have and do not have any individual that has a history of violence or abuse of any kind living at or visiting a home that hosts a Friends at Home program.
* Agree to a background check by signing the attached authorization.
* Acknowledge the risk of injury from the activities involved in the Friendship Circle events or program and knowingly and freely assume all such risks.
* Will not participate in any activity that you believe you and/or your child cannot perform in accordance with the Friendship Circles activities’ instructions or in a safe manner.
* If you observe any significant hazard during your participation in any Event, you will stop participating in the event and inform the Friendship Circle of such hazard immediately.
* **Agree Friendship Circle is not responsible for any damages to personal property or injury in which the Friendship Circle had no knowledge of the particular hazard or any activity outside of Friendship Circle sponsored events.**
* **Friendship Circle is an independently owned, operated and controlled local corporation.**
* **Release Friendship Circle, the directors, board, officers, activity coordinators, and all employees, volunteers, related parties, and other organizations associated with the activity from any and all claims or liability arising out of this participation.**
* In case of emergency involving my child, I understand every effort will be made to contact me. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give my permission to the medical provider selected by the adult leader in charge to secure proper treatment, including hospitalization, anesthesia, surgery, or injections of medication for my child. Medical providers are authorized to disclose to the adult in charge examination findings, test results, and treatment provided for purposes of medical evaluation of the participant, follow-up and communication with the participant’s parents or guardian, and/or determination of the participant’s ability to continue in the program activities.

**Please sign as appropriate:**

Parent/ Guardian’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_