News from Sharon's place

Spring 2025

The year got off to a tremendous start for Sharon's Place and our Friends.

In addition to our regular rec and art classes, we've added a monthly field trip. First Baptist of Canton has been extremely gracious in allowing us use of their bus, with one of their members driving, Our Friends have enjoyed the trips and the activities we've done so far.

In January, we all went to the Select Theatre in Mineola, where we rented the theater and had our own screening of The Chronicles of Narnia. In February, we went to Green Acres Bowl in Tyler for a morning of bowling followed by lunch at Braum's. For these two activities, we invited other special needs adults from the area and ended up including many more Friends in the fun.

Our March field trip was to the Dallas Children's Aquarium, where our Friends enjoyed seeing some of the unique sea creatures God created.

Our art classes so far have included a button art class, led by one of our Friends and her mother, a Valentine's Day heart project, and two art sessions during our SpringOn Day Camp. We also devoted one class to projects that our Friends will enter in the Van Zandt County Fair in April.

It is our wonderful donors and their generosity ($56,000 in our first year!), who have made our expanded range of activities possible. We thank you, and our Friends thank you!

New Friends

So far this year, we have had the pleasure of adding five new Friends to our regular Sharon's Place attendance.

Among our new Friends are the students in the special needs transition program at Wills Point ISD.

Our existing Friends have warmly welcomed them, and they are as happy to grow our group as we are.

More Info

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The Lord will fulfill
His purpose for me.
Psalm 138:8

Where Everyone Has a Purpose.

Sharon's place

In March, we staged a special event, and put our Friends in charge of leading it. On two Fridays – timed in sync with local schools' spring breaks – we had the SpringOn Day Camp.

We invited high school special needs students to be our honored guests, and our Friends were the hosts. The Friends helped plan the camp activities and what to have for lunch, and each Friend had a leadership role. From photographers to being buddies to our campers to check-in, reciting our opening Bible verses, being game leaders and serving lunch, everyone had a hand in it.

They all did their jobs very well, making sure our younger guests had a good time. Both day camps also featured fitness sessions presented by Special Strong.

Whether you are a prayer partner or financial donor, we thank you for your role in helping our Friends fulfill their God-given purpose!

In the next couple of months, we will continue to keep our Friends active. In addition to our regular once-a-week recreation and art classes, we have field trips planned to the Creation Museum in Dallas and the Caldwell Zoo in Tyler.

Sharon's Place has fun planned for our Friends and other special needs adults and students at the No Limits Livestock Experience during the Van Zandt County Fair. We'll have a photo stop and some nice giveaways for them.

In early June, our Friends will have a day of service when they help serve refreshments at the First Baptist Canton Vacation Bible School.

It's time once again for East Texas Giving Day. Last year's event, our first, gave us the kickstart to launch a successful first year. We humbly ask you to consider donating to us as part of the 2025 East Texas Giving Day.

Early giving starts April 7, and the big day is April 29. A generous donor has agreed to match all donations to Sharon's Place up to $5,000, so please consider giving, knowing your donation will be doubled.

Kristine and one of our Friends will also appear live on KETK in Tyler to talk about Sharon's Place as part of East Texas Giving Day.

KETK

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