



RENAISSANCE
CHURCH

Special Buddy

Job Description

(part-time, 3–4 hrs/wk)

Position Overview

A Special Buddy (for children with disabilities & special needs) acts as a part-time staff member who provides personalized support to children with disabilities, helping them actively participate in Ren Kids programs and activities by offering assistance with communication, mobility, sensory needs, and social interaction, essentially acting as a bridge to fully integrate them into the Ren Kids and the church community. Would work primarily with children ages 4–10 years old.

Responsibilities

- Responsibilities are primarily on Sunday mornings during the regular worship services. Some special events or childcare when needed.
- Work with the Special Needs Coordinator to implement accommodations after intake assessments have been conducted.
- Assist with tasks like navigating the Ren Kids area, finding seating, managing personal items, or taking breaks as needed.
- Facilitate Communication: Interpret curriculum, provide verbal cues, or use communication devices to help children with disabilities understand the Bible Stories and participate in activities.
- Offer Sensory Support: Offer calming strategies or adjustments to the environment to manage sensory sensitivities.
- Facilitate Social Interaction: Introducing individuals to other children, facilitating conversations, and encouraging social connections.
- Give Advocacy: Communicate any specific needs or concerns of the individual with disabilities to church leaders and staff. Create an inclusive experience for children with disabilities, allowing them to feel welcomed, valued, and fully part of the community.

Skills and Qualifications

Experience

- Prior experience working with children, preferably in a school or ministry setting.

General Understanding of types of Disabilities

- Preferred but not required—knowledge of developmental, physical, and sensory impairments.

Communication Skills

- Excellent communication abilities to effectively interact with individuals with special needs, their families, and church staff.

Compassionate Attitude

- A strong commitment to serve individuals with special needs and their families with empathy and respect.

Growing Faith

- A strong commitment to learn and grow to know, love, and serve Jesus. A desire to share God's love with the children you work with.

Organizational Skills

- Ability to manage multiple tasks and plan effectively. Ability to be flexible and to adapt to an ever changing environment and specific needs of children.

Dependability

- Must be reliable and able to maintain a regular schedule on Sundays to support the assigned child.

Please email resume to Glory DeSimone at glory@renchurch.com