



Friendship
House
CHANGING DISABILITIES INTO ABILITIES



May 2026

Dear Golf Participant/Supporter:

The **Ottawa Friendship House and UAW Region 4 Golf Invitational** is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2026, at Deer Park Golf Club. We thank you in advance for your support and donation(s) to the Ottawa Friendship House (**Tax ID: 36-2600477**).

In the early 1950s, Jane McCormick, a mother of a young son born with Down syndrome, recognized the pressing need for structured programs to support children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). Teaming up with **Pat and Theresa Greathouse**, alongside other concerned parents, McCormick spearheaded the establishment of Echo School, initially named Every Child Hope and Opportunity, in 1953. Echo School emerged as a crucial alternative to institutional care for children with disabilities, thriving thanks to robust community support and the generosity of **United Auto Workers (UAW) Region 4 members**, whose contributions were pivotal to its success.

By 1966, the original cohort of children had reached adulthood, requiring avenues for purposeful and meaningful lives. Thus, Echo School transitioned into Ottawa Friendship House, broadening its scope to embrace inclusion, social integration, and the enrichment of the lives of adults with IDD. This evolution stood as a testament to the enduring legacy of advocacy and solidarity championed by **UAW's Region 4 and families like the Greathouses**.

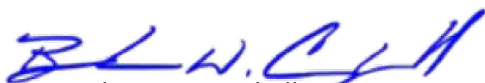
In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Ottawa Friendship House relocated to its present location just south of Ottawa, constructing its initial residential homes for semi-independent living. Among the first residents was Bob, one of the inaugural students at Echo School, who also engaged in Friendship House's sheltered employment program.

Over the years, Friendship House has expanded its services significantly, establishing Community Integrated Living Arrangements (CILAs), Intermittent Community Integrated Living Arrangements (ICILAs), supportive day programming, and a Community Employment initiative. Notably, the sheltered employment program has transitioned into a professional work center, ensuring that adults with IDD receive a living wage and are no longer dependent on piece-rate positions. These advancements are the fruits of collaborative efforts among families, **UAW Region 4**, and the broader community, driving Friendship House's mission forward and enabling individuals with IDD to realize their full potential.

Today, Ottawa Friendship House stands as a beacon of collective action and solidarity, serving 100 individuals from Ottawa and neighboring communities. The enduring legacy of Jane McCormick, **UAW Region 4**, and the journey from Echo School to Ottawa Friendship House underscores the profound impact of advocacy, compassion, and community support in uplifting the rights and dignity of over 100 individuals with IDD in Ottawa, Illinois, and its surrounding areas.

If you have questions or need any additional information regarding the golf invite, please contact Kelli Harrison at (309) 645-4960.

Sincerely,


Brandon W. Campbell, Director
Region 4, UAW


Allison Perez, Executive Director
Ottawa Friendship House

900 E Center Street, Ottawa, IL 61350



OTTAWA FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

&

UAW REGION 4

CHARITY GOLF OUTING

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

DEER PARK GOLF CLUB


100 DEER PARK LANE, OGLESBY, IL 61348



REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 9-9:45 A.M. AND 10 A.M. SHARP START – FOOD PROVIDED

GOLF REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2026

	Price	✓
GOLD SPONSOR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONE (1) FOURSOME ENTRY (4 GOLFERS) • EXCLUSIVE HOLE SPONSORSHIP SIGN ON THE COURSE • RECOGNITION IN EVENT BROCHURE/PROGRAM • RECOGNITION IN LOCAL PUBLICATIONS/MEDIA (IF APPLICABLE) • EVENT SWAG FOR ALL FOUR GOLFERS • LUNCH AND BEVERAGE TICKETS INCLUDED FOR FOURSOME • TWO (2) HOTEL ROOMS FOR ONE NIGHT AT THE EVENT HOST HOTEL PAT GREATHOUSE CENTER <i>*(TO BE USED AT SPONSOR'S CONVENIENCE, SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. SPONSOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO CALL 847-459-3888 TO BOOK RESERVATIONS)*</i> • VERBAL RECOGNITION DURING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS 	\$4,000.00	
SILVER SPONSOR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ONE (1) FOURSOME ENTRY (4 GOLFERS) • HOLE SPONSORSHIP SIGN ON THE COURSE • RECOGNITION IN EVENT BROCHURE/PROGRAM • RECOGNITION IN LOCAL PUBLICATIONS/MEDIA (IF APPLICABLE) • EVENT SWAG FOR ALL FOUR GOLFERS • LUNCH AND BEVERAGE TICKETS INCLUDED FOR FOURSOME • VERBAL RECOGNITION DURING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS 	\$3,000.00	
BRONZE SPONSOR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HOLE SPONSORSHIP SIGN ON THE COURSE • RECOGNITION IN EVENT BROCHURE/PROGRAM • RECOGNITION DURING EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS 	\$2,000.00	
TEAM: GOLF, FOOD AND EVENT SWAG FOR TEAM (NO SPONSORSHIP)	\$500.00	
INDIVIDUAL: GOLF, FOOD AND EVENT SWAG FOR INDIVIDUAL (NO SPONSORSHIP)	\$125.00	
<p style="text-align: center;"> CHARITABLE DONATION SPONSOR:</p> <p>ANY DONATION AMOUNT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED AND HELPS SUPPORT OUR CAUSE. DONORS WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN THE EVENT PROGRAM UNLESS ANONYMITY IS REQUESTED.</p>		

MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: OTTAWA FRIENDSHIP HOUSE

**Mail to: Ottawa Friendship House
1718 N 2525th Rd
Ottawa, IL 61350**

Check # _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Complete Registration on page 2 ----->

VENDOR/LOCAL UNION NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

CONTACT PERSON NAME: _____ CELL: _____

EMAIL: _____

LETTERING REQUESTED ON HOLE SPONSOR SIGN:

GOLFER #1 _____

GOLFER #2 _____

GOLFER #3 _____

GOLFER #4 _____

**REGISTER ONLINE WITH QR CODE OR MAIL
CHECK & REGISTRATION FORM TO:**

**OTTAWA FRIENDSHIP HOUSE
1718 N 2525TH RD
OTTAWA, IL 61350**



**Email a copy of Registration form to:
yespinosa@uaw.net**

For Questions or Further Information Contact:
KELLI HARRISON, IL CAP REPRESENTATIVE
(309) 645-4960