

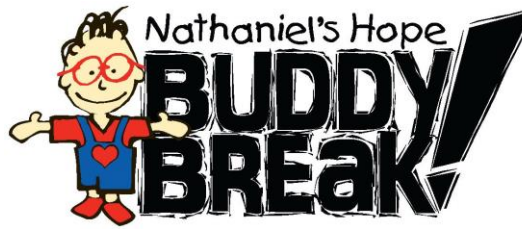


# hope

“Buddy Break is such a gift for my family! My kids have found a place where they fit right in, are cared for, and loved. My son with special needs has a wonderful time playing with his Buddy and his sibling gets to talk to other children “like me, with a special brother or sister.”

Meanwhile, I have time to get a few things done, reconnect with friends, or even just sit still with a sense of peace so that I can be a stronger and better parent. Thank you so much for all you do. I am incredibly grateful!”

~ Lucette, VIP Parent



## Hales Corners Lutheran

12300 W. Janesville Rd.  
Hales Corners, WI 53130  
414-529-6700 ext.191  
[buddybreak@hcl.org](mailto:buddybreak@hcl.org)

## 2017 Buddy Break Schedule

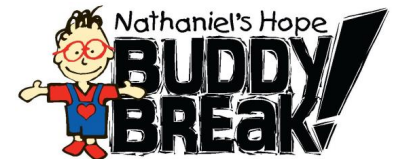
Sundays - 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

- January 15- **Star Wars Saga**
- February 19- **Magic Mania**
- March 19- **Life Sized Games**
- April 23- **Super Heroes**
- May 21- **Family Fishing Event**
- June 19-23- **VBS...no Buddy Break**
- July 16- **Construction Craze**
- August 20- **Farming Frolic**
- September 17- **Hollywood Hype**
- October 15- **Football Frenzy**
- November 19- **Safety/Health Day**
- December 17 – **Christmas Joy**

We invite you to visit Buddy Break. Reservations are required, so call now! If you have made a reservation and are not able to attend, please call to cancel, even if it is the day of Buddy Break.

For additional locations and dates, visit:  
[www.NathanielsHope.org](http://www.NathanielsHope.org)

# Giving Caregivers of KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS a Break!



## Who are VIP kids?

VIPs are kids with special needs, which include any physical, cognitive, medical or hidden disability, chronic or life-threatening illness, or those who are medically fragile.

## Who are Buddies?

Buddies are friends of VIPs.

## What is Buddy Break?

Buddy Break is a free kids/respite program where kids with special needs (VIP kids) make new friends, play fun games, enjoy crafts, therapy dogs, stories, music, activities and more! Siblings have fun too! Meanwhile, their caregivers get a break from their ongoing caregiving responsibilities for three hours one Sunday afternoon a month.

## Why is there a need for Buddy Break?

The weight and stress of finding proper doctors, teachers, and financial resources for a VIP child's care can be overwhelming. Those responsibilities, along with the never-ending demands of daily care-giving and life in general, leave little opportunity for caregivers to take time for themselves, run errands, or spend time with a spouse or other children—things desperately needed to survive. Buddy Break provides a safe place for VIPs and their siblings to have fun and establish meaningful friendships with other kids and adults while their caregivers get a break.



## How do I sign up as a VIP?

This program is for VIP children ages 2 to 16 years old, and their siblings: 4 years old to 5th grade. Hales Corners Lutheran Church expanded their program based on their ability to serve an older age range.

### To Sign Up:

1. Go to [www.BuddyBreak.org](http://www.BuddyBreak.org) or call the church office at 414-529-6700, ext. 191.
2. Identify Hales Corners Lutheran Church as the location and complete the secure VIP Family Info Form online.
3. Call to reserve your space at a VIP orientation (required). This allows the Buddies to meet you and your children and gives you a chance to see Buddy Break before you begin participating. Orientation is held monthly during the Buddy Break Session.

## How do I sign up to be a Buddy?

No previous experience with VIP kids is necessary to be a Buddy; just a loving heart, open arms, and a willingness to learn. Each VIP kid is paired one-on-one with a screened volunteer Buddy, who is at least 14 years of age and has completed a two-hour Buddy Training 101 class. As a Buddy, identify a Buddy Break location where you would like to serve — visit [www.BuddyBreak.org](http://www.BuddyBreak.org). Contact Hales Corners Lutheran Church to schedule a visit.

## Where is Buddy Break?

Buddy Break is a growing ministry to the VIP community done in partnership between Nathaniel's Hope and local churches across the nation. Once a VIP attends orientation or a volunteer becomes an official Buddy, he or she may participate in any Buddy Break program anywhere by calling the location to make a reservation. You can even participate in Buddy Break more than once a month.

If you would like to start a Buddy Break program, please contact Nathaniel's Hope and we will provide your church with the training and tools to make Buddy Break a fun, safe, and successful program!

"I came to the church broken and feeling no one would be able to understand the needs of a single mom with a special needs child. The Lord has worked and used you to bring hope, encouragement, joy, love and compassion to someone that has been on this road for a long time, getting weary and tired. I will never be able to thank you enough."

Tammy,  
VIP Parent



"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord... "to give you a future and a hope."

-Jeremiah 29:11



