



A community network of
people helping people.

What is a FANS Network?

A FANS Network is a group of people who are committed to enhancing the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. We are looking for Friends, Allies and Neighbors to join us in this mission. The Network will help in a variety of ways, both big and small, because we believe that the journey of life is better when people help and support each other.

How does FANS work?

It's easy. There is no official commitment, no formal membership and no standard protocol. Your contact information is included in the FANS list (usually email but addresses and phone numbers are okay too). You will get information about a variety of needs of individuals with disabilities and/or their families. If you are interested in getting more information on helping meet that need, just respond to the message. A FANS Coordinator will contact you to provide more information. If not interested, just hit delete. If you know someone who might want to help, feel free to forward on.

Joining a specific FANS Team

Some FANS choose to sign up for a specific FANS Team that helps specific people in a specific service area. For example, the **Caring Craftsmen Team** volunteers to help with (usually light) home repairs. When we receive specific requests for assistance in that area, we contact the members of that specific team. There are a variety of teams including social companions, furniture deliverers, meal makers, sports buddies, grass cutters, and many more. If you have an interest or a skill, we can put it to good use helping someone in need. We also have **Make a Memory Teams** who donate sports tickets, concert tickets and fancy restaurant gift cards to provide experiences to people who would otherwise not experience those things. We have **Make Their Day Teams** who provide individuals with care packages or special meals, as well as **Meet a Practical Need Teams** who provide grocery gift cards or fuel cards to families in crisis.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” ~Margaret Mead

For more information about being a part of Allen County’s FANS Network, please contact Sarah Troyer by email: stroyer@acbdd.org or phone: (419) 221-1385 ext. 1008.

