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<https://www.ferniesibshops.com>

About Sibshops Fernie

Sibshops Fernie is a local non-profit organization dedicated to providing peer support workshops for the often overlooked siblings of children with special needs. "Special needs" can mean anything from developmental or physical disabilities to chronic health conditions, mental health issues, or substance use challenges. If your sibling has any kind of unique needs, Sibshops is for you.

Brothers and sisters of a sibling with a disability will likely have the longest-lasting relationships. During their lives, they will experience many of the unique concerns and joys that their parents do. However, few siblings have ever had the chance to talk about their experiences with others who truly "get it", until now.

Our mission is to create a safe, fun, and understanding environment where siblings can connect with peers who share similar experiences. Through engaging activities, discussions, and games, Sibshops offers a space for siblings to build friendships, gain support, and celebrate their unique roles within their families. Children participate in games, cooking, crafts, and other fun activities, while learning from one another in a positive and supportive space.

At Sibshops Fernie, we believe that the kids are the teachers. The children lead the way, sharing and growing together, while our team provides resources and guidance. The real learning comes from their interactions with each other and their self-discovery.

Why It Matters

Siblings often face emotional challenges like isolation or feeling overlooked. Sibshops gives them the spotlight, a safe space to express themselves, and the opportunity to connect with others who truly understand their journey.

Through our workshops, siblings learn they are not alone. They share their experiences, celebrate their roles, and recognize the unique bond they have with their brothers and sisters. This connection fosters a sense of belonging and community, helping them build friendships with peers who relate to their challenges. By creating an environment where they can openly discuss their feelings, siblings develop healthier communication skills and emotional resilience.

Get In Touch

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Empowering Siblings = Empowering Families

By supporting siblings of children with special needs, we uplift the entire family dynamic. These resilient siblings often become their brothers' and sisters' strongest advocates, understanding their unique challenges more deeply than anyone else. When we empower them, we strengthen their voices and, in turn, the voices of their families, fostering a community where every member is heard and valued.

Support Sibshops Fernie

Your donation directly supports Sibshops Fernie by funding facilitator training, securing workshop spaces, and providing crucial resources like our website and program materials. Every contribution helps us continue empowering siblings and supporting families.