



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2019

Contact:

Summer Evans
Marketing & Communications Director | City of Waukee
O: 515.978.7905 M: 515.865.9882
sevans@Waukee.org

Metro Area Libraries Partner to Offer “Sensory Friendly” Times

Waukee, Iowa— Several Des Moines Metro area libraries are teaming up to offer Sensory Spaces, which are designated hours for individuals and families to enjoy a sensory-free experience in the libraries. The Des Moines Public Library's Forest Avenue and East Side branches, as well as the Grimes Public Library, were already offering similar services, but a collaborative conversation spurred the creation of an additional metrowide series.

“I attended a conference session about library programs serving individuals on the Autism spectrum,” said Keri Weston Stoll with the Waukee Public Library. “Following the conference, I asked the other area libraries if they would want to partner to offer more programming of this type. The overwhelming response was ‘yes’.”

The additional Sensory Spaces times will offer visitors with special needs quieter browsing, special programming and other adaptive services that will vary by location. Please check with each library to learn about all times and services being offered.

The first six metrowide sessions are as follows:

- May 5: Grimes Public Library from 12-1 p.m.
- May 18: Des Moines Public Library East Side from 9-10 a.m.
- June 8: Waukee Public Library from 4-5 p.m.
- June 29: Altoona Public Library from 8-9 a.m.
- July 6: West Des Moines Public Library 9-10 a.m.
- July 21: Johnston Public Library 12-1 p.m.

Other participating libraries include Clive Public Library, Kirkendall Public Library – Ankeny, Urbandale Public Library and additional Des Moines Public Library locations.

###

