Media Alert

Contact: Jennifer Lyles Dowdle

UCP of Greater Birmingham

Marketing Director

[jdowdle@ucpbham.com](mailto:jdowdle@ucpbham.com)

205-492-0754

Inaugural Special Needs Basketball League Concludes with End of Season Tournament

Birmingham, AL – February 6,2017 – The Birmingham Area Basketball League for Adults with Special Needs hosts end of the season tournament on Tuesday, February 7 at the Hoover Rec Center. The league includes teams from UCP of Greater Birmingham, ARC, Independence Place, Exceptional Foundation, Unless U, and The Hoover Rec.

Start time for the first game is 10:30am. Cheerleading performance will be included between games. UAB players and coaches will be among the volunteers in attendance.

“The feeling of being a member of a team and the overall sports experience,” is what UCP of Greater Birmingham staff member Robert Derrington, who’s played team sports since he was a child, wants the participants to enjoy. Being a member of the UCP Team introduces each player to the concepts of comradery, satisfaction, confidence-building, winning and losing.

Robert, who also serves as League Commissioner, shares “the UCP basketball team practices hard several times a week. When they aren’t practicing, they are walking around campus as a team and eating lunch together. It’s rewarding to watch them experience what they may not have while in school.”

Each team plays twice a month, and the season runs from October through January, ending with a tournament at the Hoover Rec Center. While they are competitive and play to win, they also show enthusiasm for their fellow league members when they do well. Winning or losing takes a back seat to what each of the basketball team members gain through developing, growing, learning, and most importantly, having fun out in the community.