

# YCONNECTION

Someone in your circle of friends, your neighborhood, or your extended family is a Slow Learner. If that person is an adult, chances are that boredom and loneliness are part of their everyday. It does not have to be that way! Please read on.

Did you know that 12% - 16% of the U.S. population is considered "Slower Learners"? That really means that if your circle of family, friends and neighbors consists of about 100 people . 12 - 16 of those individuals are Slow Learners . you may even know who they are. If a person has difficulty with academic things, is a little socially immature and doesn't quite 'fit-in' . it's likely that he/she is a bit 'slow'.

The Richardson YMCA hosts a unique program catering to the needs of these special adults. The program is called The Y-Connection, and has been in operation for the last 22 years. The Y-Connections is a social Program designed especially for these adults with below normal I.Q.'s to give them the opportunity to socialize and meet other adults experiencing similar problems. Our current program has about 50 members living in Dallas and the surrounding communities. They enjoy 4 - 6 social activities each month, ranging from a simple evening at the movies to an evening at the theatre or sports events. It is all about making friends and enjoying a life among your peers and not being left out because you are a little different.

So what is PASL?

PASL, the Parents/Advocates for Slower Learners, is a non-profit organization that provides membership and some financial help too. The Richardson YMCA, who structures and implements the social program. PASL also provides financial help to those young adults who would not be able to participate in the program if we did not provide scholarships for them.