



CONNECTING PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY PATIENTS THROUGHOUT THE NATION


Summer 2016
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Waging a **SPARKLE** Campaign!

Cancer Can't Dim our Shimmer!!!

By: Malisa M. Mireles, Oconto, Wisconsin

 In February 20th, 2016, my daughter was diagnosed with stage 4, high risk, Neuroblastoma. A diagnosis that sent us into shock...wait...WHAT?! Seriously?! It was impossible to comprehend this kind of news and even more difficult not to become a puddle of muck on the floor beneath us! I couldn't hear, I couldn't see, and I couldn't breathe! It must have been a mistake.

The whirlwind of events started the day before, when blood work came back with concerns that sent us to the Children's floor at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, WI. Further evaluation led into the late hours and an overnight stay. I remember feeling hopeful that these more extensive scans were going to finally give us the reason behind the extreme pain that Elysia (aka Miss E) had been experiencing in her hips and knees over the course of the past several weeks. A pain that went unanswered with our initial doctor visits, a pain that hung over our family like some mysterious shroud - until that day.

The wait was over, the results were in, and we were getting the answers to the what (certainly not what we wanted to hear) but not the why (why, is this happening to her...to us)? Or the how (how, did this happen)?? Well, we're learning that those questions will never be answered but we're also learning that you march forward anyway.

So, this new path we are now forced to follow feels much more like a full on war in comparison to a single "battle." My daughter is not a soldier, she is a sweet and innocent little nine-year-old girl who was born with glitter in her veins! She loves all that sparkles, and her smile melts the hearts of all who meet her! I also can proclaim that this is, without a doubt, way more than she can handle, on her own, and she is not about to! Am I being negative?! I don't think so. I feel I am just being honest!





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The days and weeks immediately following Miss E's diagnosis are a bit of a blur, but I do know that we most likely cried enough tears to fill a small ocean. The roadmap of 18 months of treatment was presented and briefly explained. Surgery happened, and now we are somehow already at the end of round three of chemo.

The rollercoaster of emotions is overwhelming, it can be dark, and scary! I would advise those that enter into this "club" (that no one requests to be a member of), not to stay in the darkness for long. It is too toxic and cancer is toxic enough all by itself!

Launch the enlistment of your prayer warriors and focus your gaze on each day as it comes - giving much appreciation for the good days! Be silly and laugh often (the best medicine for the soul). Don't clutter your mind with statistics; concentrate only on what is true. Sever the worry of what may or may not happen, and embrace the love and support from your family, friends, and your community! The support we have personally received is humbling, and the outpouring of kindness upon our family leaves me speechless on a regular basis!



My final words to you - straight from the mouth of my sweet Miss E:

"Do not let anyone or anything, especially cancer, dim your shimmer!"

The pink and sparkly "cancer kickers" are on and she is not afraid to use them!

We have a long uncertain road ahead, but what is certain, is that there is a sparkle of hope that we will see a rainbow at the end of this storm, and we will never, ever be alone in our fight to get there!



AMANDA HOPE RAINBOW ANGEL'S

Amanda Hope Rainbow Angel's is a non-profit 501(c)3 tax-deductible, tax-exempt, support and educational organization, founded in 2012, in celebration of Amanda Hope's life. During her three-year battle with Leukemia and nine-month battle with a brain tumor, Amanda dreamed that one day she would design a fun clothing line for kids in the same situation that would provide comfort and dignity during treatment. Although her life ended all too soon, her dream lives on through Comfycozy's for Chemo.



Comfycozy's for Chemo is an adaptive clothing line for children diagnosed with cancer and other life-threatening diseases. The apparel line has zippers, buttons, holes, and pockets to accommodate for children's port-a-caths and broviacs and allow for easy access during chemotherapy treatments and blood transfusions.

OUR MISSION

To bring dignity and comfort into the harsh world of childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

OUR VISION

- Provide a Comfycozy to every child diagnosed with cancer and other blood-related disorders.
- Support healthcare professionals in providing person-centered care to children and their families with empathy and understanding.
- Help families have a voice and a choice above the harsh protocols often present in the healthcare system.

APPLY TODAY

Any childhood cancer warrior that has a port-a-cath or broviac in their chest can be comfortable and keep their dignity throughout their journey with one of our shirts. Please apply on our website to get your warrior's first shirt sponsored: www.comfycozys.com/application/

SUPPORT TODAY

If you would like to support Amanda's dream, any donation will help us get one step closer to reaching our goal of providing a Comfycozy's for Chemo shirt to every patient fighting this awful disease: www.comfycozys.com/donate/

FOLLOW OUR JOURNEY

Facebook: [Comfycozy's for Chemo](https://www.facebook.com/Comfycozy's-for-Chemo)

Instagram: [@comfycozy4chemo](https://www.instagram.com/comfycozy4chemo)

Twitter: [@comfycozy4chemo](https://twitter.com/comfycozy4chemo)



HOSPITAL ACTIVITIES

1 Email Your Relatives

Kids will love to email their relatives even if they don't know how to type. Let them type any key on the keyboard to make "words" and "sentences" then ask them what they said to translate underneath.

2 Homemade I-spy Bottles

This is a fun activity to make at home and bring to the hospital or clinic for a "distraction activity." Gather together a variety of small objects, a completely dry water bottle with the label removed, rice, a funnel, glue, yarn and paper.

- Step 1: Have your kids help you collect small items for your bottle around the house. They can be anything: Legos, coins, hair stuff, Barbie accessories – just make sure nothing that can go bad is in there! Write your items down as you collect them so you have a master I-Spy list.
- Step 2: Layer your rice and your items, taking care to spread them evenly throughout the bottle. Make sure you begin and end the bottle with a layer of rice. Be sure to keep a bit of room at the top so the items and rice can move around within the bottle and the I-Spy arrangement can vary each time you tilt the bottle.
- Step 3: Glue the cap onto the bottle (this is important!) and attach the list of items to the neck of the bottle with a string. Bonus tip: the list will last much longer if you laminate it!



3 Scratch Drawings

You can find this paper at the store or have a fun home activity and make it yourself. All you need is white paper, multi-colored crayons, dark crayons or dark paint, and a toothpick, paperclip, or coin for scratching. Have your kids color patches of color on the paper with the crayons. Make sure they color dark and heavy. Try not to leave many white spots. Paint option: Paint over the colored paper with dark paint. Any dark color will work as long as you paint thick enough so you can't really see through it. Make sure the paint is fully dry before moving on to the next step. You can bring the paper to the hospital so your child has a fun activity that they created! Let your kids have fun scratching through the paint or black crayon revealing colors underneath!



4 Heads Up!

A game that is becoming a modern classic for families. This app, created in partnership with Ellen Degeneres, is such a fun game for families who are playing the waiting game. From naming celebrities, to singing, to silly accents -- guess the word on the card that's on your head from your friends' clues before the timer runs out! Play from one of the many exciting categories or you can create your very own category. A bonus of this game is that while the player trying to guess the card on their head is holding up their smart phone a hilarious video of the other players is captured. You can watch right away to see how silly everyone looks or save it for later, when playing the game isn't an option!



5 Mess Free Finger Painting

Using gallon sized freezer bags, squeeze a generous amount of paint into the bottom area of the bags. You can use as many or as few colors as you like, but the activity works well as a color mixing lesson if you go with primary colors. Carefully, seal the bag while trying to get out as much of the air as you can. Tape the bag down on a flat surface with painter's tape and voila! Mess free finger painting!





Directing My Cancer Story

By: Hannah Doty, founder of VIP Hospital Productions

Even though I didn't feel very well, I was determined to go to an audition for a community theatre musical production. I had choreographed a fun dance in my bedroom to the "That Darn Cat" soundtrack and was ready to go show off

my moves. The audition went really well and I later found out I was cast in the show...but I also found out I was diagnosed with cancer.

Over the next year, I spent a lot of time at the hospital. It could be a scary and unpredictable place, but through the encouragement of my parents I took it upon myself to make being in the hospital my own personal play—where I was the director.

I liked creative activities and would often ask medical team members to look at my drawings, sign my scrapbook, take pictures with me, and other "celebrity" behaviors. When I initiated these fun interactions, I found that meeting new doctors was less scary. I wasn't as worried about what they needed from me because I was concentrating on what I needed from them!

So much is out of your control when you are sick, but I tried to take "creative control" of my situation. Things I hated about being in the hospital became material for my "Hospital Joke Book." Things like waiting forever for the elevator, the smelly cleaning supplies used to mop the room, or nurses referring to taking my blood pressure as giving me "a hug." One joke I was very proud of: Why couldn't anyone understand Ivy? The answer? Because all she said was "Beep! Beep! Beep!" (I.V.: Get it?)

After I finished my treatment, I eventually got to be in my first real play. I was a munchkin in The Wizard of Oz, and ten years later went on to study theatre in college.

One of the tools I often use as a performer is "warming up" in rehearsal or class with other actors in order to build trust and connection. I wanted to create a way to bring this phenomenon to a medical setting and transform the hospital experience for other kids, the way I transformed it for myself. In 2014, I founded V.I.P. Hospital Productions and developed Star Treatment activity books to act as a helpful "warm up" between kids and the medical staff they encountered at the hospital. The books are specifically designed to empower kids and teens to ask questions, express themselves, and just have fun even when, and especially when, they are in the hospital.

I have gotten to play some pretty fun roles during my career including a dancing trash bag in a touring show about recycling (doesn't my costume make me look beautiful?) and a knight in a full-suit of armor for a Wendy's commercial. But no matter how many roles I play, the most important role to me is being able to use my own experiences to enhance the lives of hospitalized kids and teens and to make their experience in the hospital as positive as possible.

To learn more please visit www.viphospitalproductions.org



Hannah as a trash bag



Hannah as a knight

PUZZLES AND GAMES

Spring Flower Word Search

Try to find all of the hidden spring flower related words in the puzzle below. Remember, words can be diagonal, vertical, horizontal, frontward or backwards.

Bluebells

Buttercup

Crocus

Daffodil

Freesia

Hyacinth

Iris

Lady's Slipper

R

E

P

P

I

L

S

S

Y

D

A

L

L

A

I

H

T

N

I

C

A

Y

H

B

S

S

A

F

R

E

E

S

I

A

Q

F

U

P

P

P

B

L

U

E

B

E

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L

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T

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C

R

A

N

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S

O

P

P

O

P

P

Y

Y

P

Lilac

Lily

Narcissus

Orchid

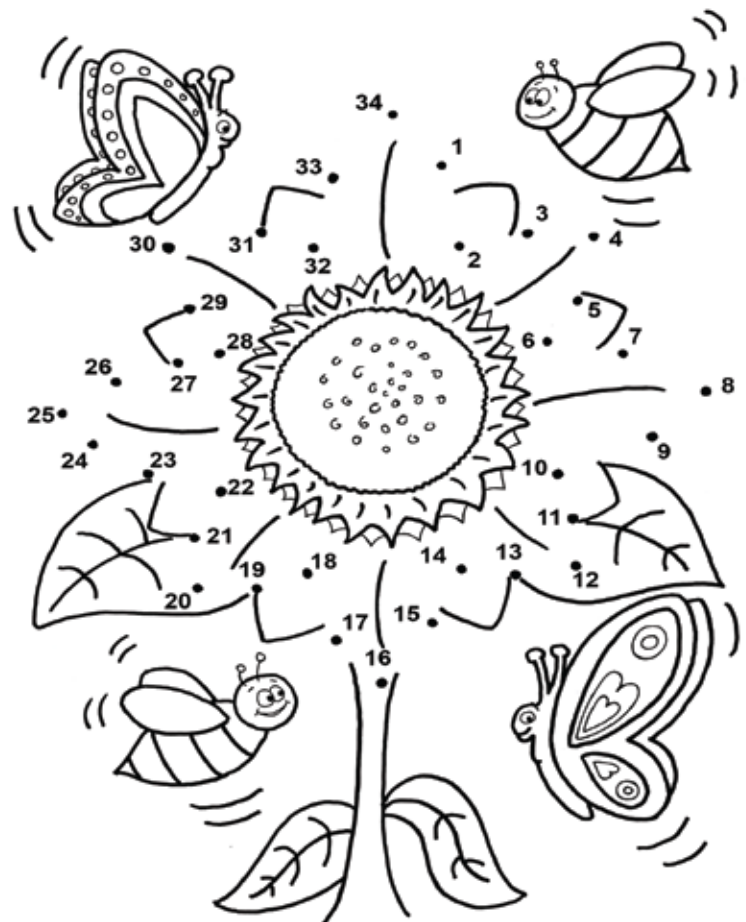
Poppy

Snowdrops

Tulips

Violets

CONNECT THE DOTS & COLOR ME!

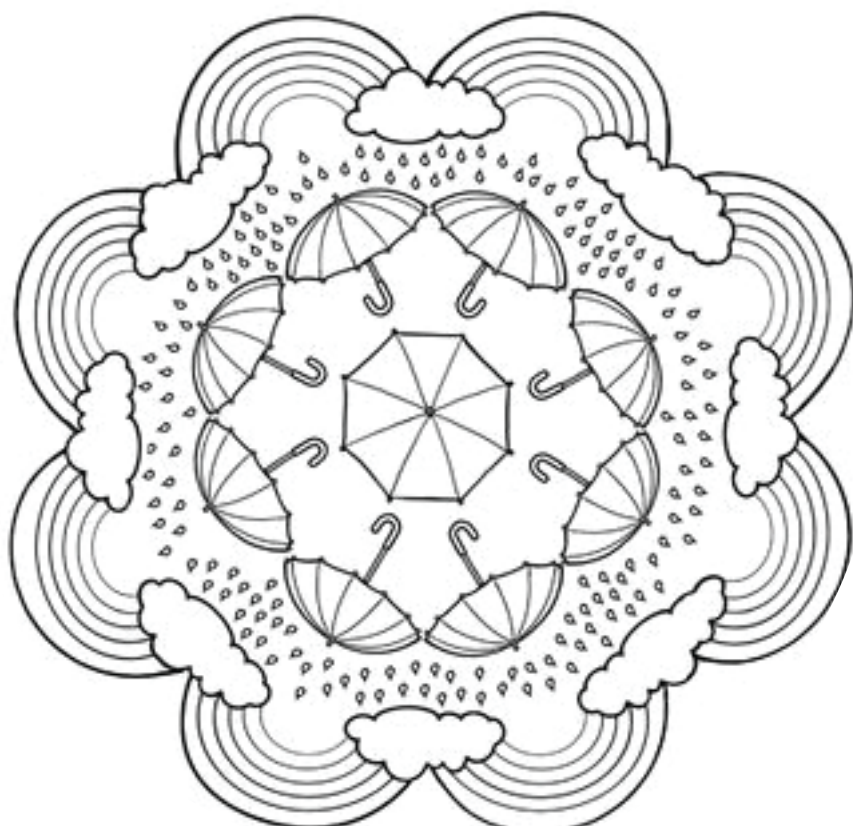


See how many words you can make out of: SPRING FLOWERS



BRAIN TEASERS

COLOR ME



Spring Time Word Scrambles

April showers bring...

YEWSAFORML _____

Early morning sounds coming from the trees

DRPGRIBSNICIH _____

Someone that is great at growing plants and flowers has a

TNGEBRUEHM _____

What all the flowers are doing

BMGONOIL _____

A great activity to do on a windy day

LKGOYIETAF _____

What bees do to flowers

TILPLNOEA _____

What you do on Arbor Day

EPALATNETR _____

A seasonal school dance or event

INNFGILSPRG _____

Two insects often seen flying near and crawling on flowers

TFSLEUBEITR _____

UBALYDSG _____

Keep Your
Brain
Sharp!



Brought to you by



www.craniumcrunches.com

ANSWERS: POLINATE, MANY FLOWERS, BIRDS CHIRPING, GREEN THUMB, BLOOMING, GO FLY A KITE, BUTTERFLIES, LADY BUGS

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9.

SUDOKU

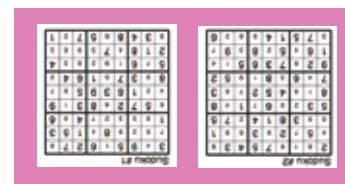
1

	4		1			8
7	6	2	9		4	
	8	5	3	2	7	9
6			4		1	
4	2				8	7
	9		5			2
	7	1	9	2	8	3
		4		3	9	6
9			6		2	

2

	8	1	6				9
4		7		9		6	8
6	9					2	
		2	9		7		4
	1	9				7	6
	4		3		1	9	
		8					1
		4		2		3	
3					9	8	2

ANSWERS



MIND BENDERS

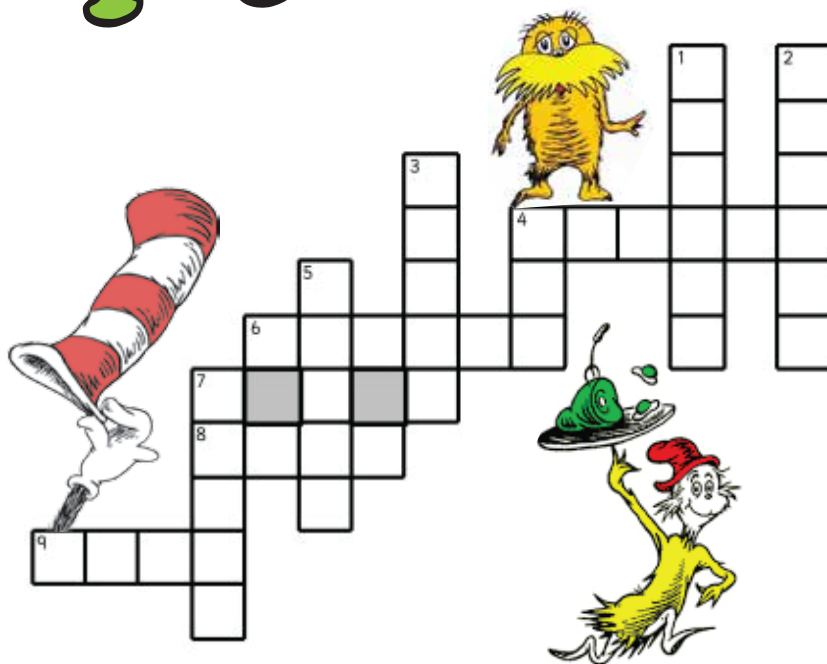
Dr. Seuss Crossword Puzzle

Across

4. _____ Hears a Who
6. There's a Wocket in my _ _ _ _ _
8. I Can _ _ _ _ With My Eyes Shut!
9. One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, _ _ _ _ Fish

Down

1. Yurtle the _ _ _ _ _
2. How The _ _ _ _ _ Stole Christmas
3. Fox in _ _ _ _ _
4. The Cat in the _ _ _
5. The _ _ _ _ _
7. _ _ _ _ _ Eggs and Ham

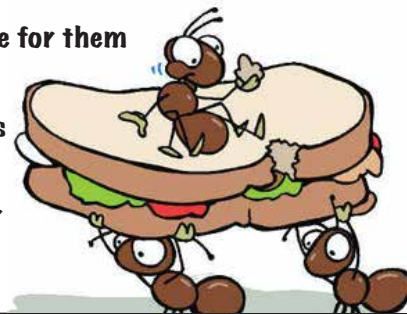


HELP THE ANTS FIND THEIR QUEEN



Kids Fun Facts About Ants

- Like all insects, ants have six legs.
- The legs of the ant are very strong so they can run very quickly. If a man could run as fast for his size as an ant can, he could run as fast as a racehorse.
- The average life expectancy of an ant is about 40-60 days. The queen ant lives up to ten or twenty years.
- The ant has two eyes, each eye is made of many smaller eyes.
- The job of the queen is to lay eggs which the worker ants look after.
- At night the worker ants move the eggs and larvae deep into the nest to protect them from the cold.
- There are thirty-five thousand kinds of ants in the world. There are sixty species of ants in North America.
- Ants have two stomachs one for them and one to feed others.
- Some ants sleep seven hours a day.
- Ants can lift 20 times their own body weight.



JOKES RIDDLES



TWISTIN' THE TONGUE

Read the tongue twisters below and practice saying them.
How fast can you say it?

The big bug bit the little beetle,
but the little beetle bit the big
bug back.



A tricky frisky snake with
sixty super scaly stripes.



HaHa! LOL!
Bahahahahaha

What do lawyers
wear to court?

Lawuits

What gets wetter
the more it dries?

A towel

What did the pencil
say to the other pencil?

You're looking smart!

What did the
bacon say to the
tomato?

Lettuce get together!

KNOCK-KNOCK JOKES



Knock, knock
Who's there?
Tank.
Tank who?
You're welcome!

Knock, knock
Who's there?
Annie.
Annie who?
Annie body home?

Knock, knock
Who's there?
Spell.
Spell who?
W-H-O

Cancer Camps Across the Country

CAMP CARE FREE NORTH CAROLINA

Interview with Brooke Wilson, Board of Directors, Webmaster, Volunteer

Camp Care Free is a camp located in Stokesdale, North Carolina. It is a free one-week camp that caters to children with cancer ages 7-17 who have received treatment within the past three years. The camp provides classes, themed activities and adventures, recreation, and camp fires. There is a full staff of medical care givers on site at all times. The camp will run for cancer patients from July 3rd-9th.

What are the dates for camp and what is this year's theme?

June 19 - 25: SIBLINGS - well children with a chronically ill sibling
June 26 - July 2: NEURO - epilepsy & neurological disorders
July 3 - July 9: CANCER - leukemia & other cancers, JRA
July 10 - 16: SPINA BIFIDA - spinal cord disorders & injuries
July 17 - 23: KIDS - well children with a chronically ill parent
July 24 - 30: HEMOPHILIA - blood disorders, von Willbrand's & Turner's

What is your favorite part of camp?

Watching the kids interact with others who face the same challenges... and just be kids.

How many years have you had camp?

26!

What are the campers' favorite activities?

Swimming, horseback riding, arts & crafts, ropes course and zipline

What are the dates for camp and what is this year's theme (if applicable)?

We run the camp from late June until the end of July. We do not have themes but each week is dedicated to a different, difficult situation.

What makes your camp unique?

The audiences we serve and the focus on fun!

Anything else you'd like to share?

Camp Carefree is the best place on earth!

www.campcarefree.org



THE HOLE IN THE WALL GANG CONNECTICUT

This camp is located in Ashford, CT. Five sessions of this free, weeklong camp are offered to children aged seven to fifteen and their siblings. They will participate in traditional camp activities while having medical staff there at all times. Camp sessions are June 17th-June 23rd, June 26th-July 2nd, July 15th-July 21st, July 24th-July 30th, and August 12th- August 18th.

www.holeinthewallgang.org/programs/summer-camp

CAMP MAK-A-DREAM

MONTANA



Interview with Beth Jones, Camp Director

Camp Mak-A-Dream is a medically supervised, cost free camp. It is intended for children, teens, and young adults with cancer. Children aged six through fourteen in various stages of cancer therapy or those who have completed treatment. The dates of the camp are July 31st –August 5th in Missoula. Applications are posted!

What is your favorite part of camp?

My favorite part of camp is the dance that we hold towards end of the week. By the time this event comes around everyone is warmed up and ready to jump in, cut loose and have a great night. The shyness has washed away and everyone embraces the evening. It is always a special night!

How many years have you had camp?

Our first camp session was held in 1995 and we celebrated our 20th Anniversary in 2015. Our mission is to provide a medically supervised, cost free, Montana experience in an intimate community setting for children, young adults and families affected by cancer. Below is some information about our history.

- In 1991, Founders Harry & Sylvia Granader of Detroit, MI donated 87 acres of their working ranch in Gold Creek, MT to start Camp Mak-A-Dream in order to provide a “Montana experience” for children diagnosed with cancer.
- Camp Mak-A-Dream opened in 1995 offering 1 camp session to 46 campers - and since that time has served over 6,000 participants from 49 states and 8 foreign countries and currently offers 11 camps and retreats per year.
- Camp Mak-A-Dream has strong partnerships with hospitals across the country including St. Jude Children’s Hospital (Tennessee), Seattle Children’s Hospital, Cook Children’s Medical Center (Texas), Hershey Medical Center (Pennsylvania) and DeVos Children’s Hospital (Michigan), just to name a few.
- In 2005 the Health Center building was added. It includes semi-private treatment rooms, an isolation room and sleeping quarters for our volunteer medical staff.
- In 2016, we will complete our Wellness Center, which provides space for activities, workshops, educational classes, a teaching kitchen and sleeping quarters for professional presenters.
- Camp Mak-A-Dream is one of only a few oncology camps that serves a national population.

What are the campers' favorite activities?

This is a difficult question as we offer so many fun activities throughout the week. We have access to a pool, zip line, a climbing wall, an art studio, archery, mini-golf, horses and more. One of the highlights for the teens and young adults is the high ropes course and for the younger kids I might have to say the theme night...every year we choose a different theme and build different activities around it. People come with costumes and our staff is always creative when it comes to inventing new games!

What are the dates for camp and what is this year's theme?

This year’s theme is “Setting Sail” which will take a different form each week...we might have a ship heading on a Caribbean or Disney cruise one week and head out on a pirate ship for another.

What makes your camp unique?

There are several things that make Camp Mak-A-Dream unique.

It is Medically Supervised which allows people that could not ordinarily come to camp to experience it for themselves. Each session has a volunteer medical staff, overseen by a physician.

Location is a huge part of our camp’s unique experience. Our founders wanted to share the beauty of western Montana with people affected by cancer. There will never be another camp like Camp Mak-A-Dream anywhere else. We are located in a state filled with natural beauty, that many have not visited. Owning our facility allows us to expand programming as we see a need and offer sessions by age and diagnosis.

Our camp is both cost free and intimate. The cost of attending camp is free for everyone and travel scholarships are available for first-time attendees. We also limit the number of people attending each session so that we can keep each camper’s experience really special.

We strive to serve a national population. Many medically supervised camps are directly affiliated with a hospital but we have relationships with medical centers around the country that send campers to all of our camp sessions. To date we have served over 6,000 campers from 49 states & 6 foreign countries.

Favorite camp memory?

Once again, it is difficult to choose. Camp has allowed me to cross paths with so many incredible people. Each week, each day, and each person is unique and beautiful. One of our camp traditions is to hike up the butte at the back of camp. It is a steep hike with a 1,000-foot elevation gain (you stand at 5,000 feet above sea level at the top of the butte) and I always try and be a part of this weekly event because it allows me to get to know people as we walk, talk, and take breaks along the way. The butte hike is seen as a metaphor for many. They think, “If I can do this, I can do anything!”



www.campdream.org

CAMP QUALITY

THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES

Interview with Patty Harris, Camp Director

Camp Quality serves children with cancer and their families by providing year-round free trips! There are 15 camps established in twelve states and some offer experiences to siblings of cancer patients. Camp locations are in Arkansas, Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas, Kentuckiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Central Missouri, Greater Kansas City, Northwest Missouri, Missouri Ozarks, Ohio, New Jersey, and Texas.

What kind of programs do you offer for patients, siblings and/or families?

All 15 of our locations offer a week long residential experience to kids with cancer, some locations are able to extend that experience to siblings. Many locations also do additional activities, such as Family Camp, Teen Camps, Day camps, and trips to the zoo or circus. There is always no cost to the family for any activities.

What is your favorite part of camp?

The great people that I get to meet and interact with, the volunteers we have are some of the most special people I've met. The other would be the camp talent show we end the week with, all of the campers get to display their particular talent.

How many years have you had camp?

We have been in existence since 1985, with 15 locations in 11 states.

What are the campers' favorite activities?

It varies from camp to camp, but if I had to name one it would be swimming. One of the nice things about swimming at camp is that the kids aren't embarrassed. A lot of them have stopped swimming because of a port or port scar. Many of the camps have a prom, before which hair dressers come in and do hair, the girls paint their nails, and then we have a special dance or prom event. One of the goals is to give the kids an opportunity to do things that they may not otherwise have been able to do. Things like zip lining or horseback riding.

What are the dates for camp and what is this year's theme?

Each camp selects a new theme every year. Some popular themes are around the world in 7 days, the Olympics, or a patriotic Military theme. For the last one, kids get divided into Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force to compete in games and obstacles. Our camp in Ohio is celebrating their 20-year anniversary and to celebrate they are having a Circus. They have hired a group of circus performers to come in and teach the kids circus activities. They will learn how to use stilts, spin plates, juggling and at the conclusion of camp the kids will perform a circus.

What makes your camp unique?

When we started the organization, the name came from an oncology doctor. He said to our founder that we may not be able to do anything about the quantity of (pediatric oncology) kids' lives but we can do something about the quality of their lives. We aim to provide families with a break, one during which parents can know that the kids are well taken care of. There is medical staff on the grounds around the clock to make sure of that. We have a one-to-one companion to camper relationship. We have a volunteer adult that spends the week as a companion for the child. We conduct background checks on each companion and seek out references as well as making sure they are properly trained. Many of those relationships between camper and companion recur and even extend to a relationship with the camper's family. This dynamic is one of the key things that makes our camp special. Our hope is that the relationship extends beyond just a week of camp and the companion becomes an additional resource.

Favorite camp memory?

My favorite camp memories come from meeting volunteers who used to be campers and hearing their stories, those are truly some of my most meaningful memories. We have been around long enough that some of our campers who have survived have come back as adults because it had such an impact on their lives and they want to pay that impact forward. It is touching to learn the kind of impact that our camp had on their lives. I love to see how they turned out and that want to continue their participation and provide the experience they received for someone else. One of my favorite pictures is a camper and his volunteer who lost the same lower limb to the same kind of cancer. Without saying anything this child can see that despite this hurdle he has married, grown up, had children and has a job. The notion that life goes on after loss is a powerful statement that says to our camper that this disease doesn't have to define them.

What is your position at camp?

I am the CEO of Camp Quality. We have 15 camp locations and all of their 15 camp directors report to me. I oversee everybody and ensure that everyone is being trained appropriately and that each camp is using best practices to keep campers safe and happy.

Anything else you'd like to share?

We want this to be a week of fun for kids but also a week where kids really focus on life skills because we know that most of our kids will survive. It is both a fun opportunity to try new things and develop skills that will take them into a successful adulthood.

www.campquality.org

CAMP BOGGY CREEK

FLORIDA

Camp Boggy Creek is just a short drive away from Orlando and is located in Eustis, Florida. Ages seven to sixteen are welcome to attend this FREE weeklong camp. Up to 150 children arrive for a week of fun, adventure, and independence. Camp dates are June 17th-22nd, and July 24th- 29th. Applications are up!

www.boggycreek.org

cancerfearsme.org

DOUBLE H RANCH

NEW YORK

Interview with Tara Bogucki, Admissions Director

Double H Ranch is located in Lake Luzerne, NY. From June until the end of August, the Double H Ranch offers children, ages six to sixteen the chance to experience the Adirondacks. There are eight sessions, each lasting six days. There are approximately 126 campers with a camper to staff ratio of 2:1. There is a fully equipped medical staff on premises at all times. Applications are up!

What kind of programs do you offer for patients, siblings and/or families?

We offer year round programs, free of charge, for children with a chronic or life threatening illness and their families. Our summer camp program is a residential 6-day program for the medically qualifying child (ages 6-16). We also offer two sessions for siblings (ages 6-16) to attend summer camp.

We have a Winter Adaptive Sports Program onsite - providing downhill skiing or snowboarding lessons to all family members during winter Family Sleepover Weekends. We also have a Hematology/Oncology Family Weekend in the Spring.

What is your favorite part of camp?

The Talent Show on the last night of each camp session- it is amazing to see how confident and talented our campers are!

How many years have you had camp?

Our summer camp program started in 1993 and our Winter Adaptive Sports Program began in 1998.

What are the campers favorite activities?

Some of the favorite activities are swimming, fishing and boating, horseback riding, arts & crafts, the high and low ropes course and the trip to the Six Flags Amusement Park.

What are the dates for camp and what is this year's theme?

We offer seven sessions of summer camp, five winter Family Weekends and one Spring Family Weekend. All our dates are available on our website www.doublehbranch.org

What makes your camp unique?

Our summer camp program offers a 2:1 camper to staff ratio. We also have 2 volunteer physicians and 10 volunteer nurses onsite for each week of camp to help care for the campers. We are part of the SeriousFun Children's Network- founded by Paul Newman. We take all the campers offsite to our local Six Flags Amusement Park and our oldest campers whitewater river rafting.

Favorite camp memory?

All of our activities at Double H are challenge by choice. It is always so amazing to me to see our campers that use wheelchairs doing the zip line out at the ropes course or coming down the mountain in the wintertime skiing. The freedom and speed they get to experience is always inspiring to see.

Anything else you'd like to share?

We have rolling admissions for all our programs- spots are given on a first come, first serve basis until they are full. Any questions, please call the Admissions Office at 518-696-5676.



www.doublehbranch.org

FLYING HORSE FARMS

OHIO

Located in Mount Gilead, Ohio, Flying Horse Farms is a free, weeklong camp for children aged eight through fifteen. There is expert care offered 24/7. There are two sessions offered, June 26th- July 1st, and July 18th-23rd. Applications are up!

www.flyinghorsefarms.org





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