

Camp Ronald McDonald For Good Times



Where Healing Happens



Meet Annie

Meet Annie Loy, camper graduate and recent intern in Camp's development office! You might already know Annie thanks to the many thank you calls and emails she sent on Camp's behalf during Walk for

Annie shared that the internship, "gave me insight to the behind the scenes of camp. It made me more appreciative of what Camp achieves. Overall, the internship taught me a lot about fundraising and what goes into making a fundraising event successful."

Aside from the technical things Annie learned, she said she most valued the family feel that was present not only up at Camp but down the mountain in the administrative office. She shared, "I'm often asked, 'How have you gone through what you have and still turned out so well-rounded and happy?' I reply with a smile, 'I was raised by a large, nurturing family - a family of 200 campers and counselors.'"

Thanks to Annie's stellar work as an intern, she has inspired a permanent camper graduate internship program that is being funded by The William Gumpert Foundation. We thank Annie for her service and for continuing to shine her light.

Kids. Annie exemplifies the best of Camp—her story is one of victory in the face of adversity, and demonstrates the broader impact Camp has on youth.

Living in and out of the foster care system for the early part of her life due to her mother's battle with drug addiction, Annie found herself living with her aunt and cousins when she was eleven. Her oldest cousin was battling Leukemia, which added another level of stress to young Annie's tumultuous life. In the midst of darkness, Annie was introduced to Camp, which, as she attests, became the light in her life.

Annie shared, "My cousin's cancer provided me with the opportunity to attend Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, where I finally met a family where I fit.

"It was the first time I had ever had a family meal where we all sat together. A gust of love hit me the moment I stepped foot onto the camp grounds. The nights at camp gave me gratitude for life and an appreciation for community. I could feel my own cup being filled. I was among a community that supported me as I supported it. We lit each other up. Love does that."

Annie was overjoyed to continue her Camp journey when she was offered an internship position this spring.



Annie (right) with former WOLP Director Joanna Vance and fellow camper

A program of
Ronald McDonald House Charities™
of Southern California



Dr. Judith Sato of City of Hope answers the question, "Why Camp?"

Sitting in Dr. Judith Sato's office you can see from the wall to wall photos of past patients that her commitment to child oncology runs deep. Talking to her about her involvement with Camp, it's even more apparent that her life's work has been transformative for so many young people who have battled with cancer.

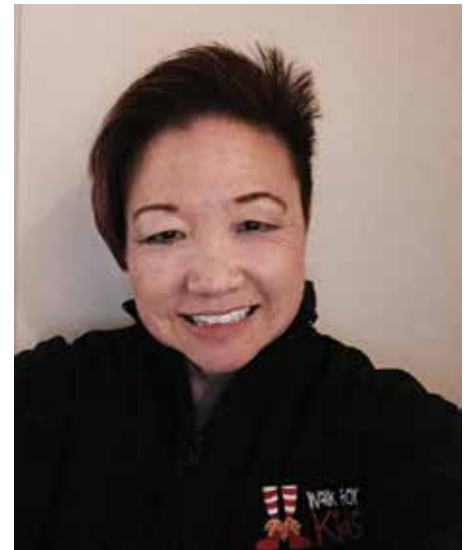
Dr. Sato started volunteering at Camp in 1983; just a year after Camp was founded. Having been a girl scout as a youth, she identified with the Camp experience and knew first hand just how important it is to the healing process. She also knew that having medical staff on site 24 hours was critical for all of the campers attending Camp, without her and the nurses on site Camp wouldn't even be possible.

Early on Dr. Sato would attend as many as four summer sessions a year to ensure Camp was medically staffed. Her husband Steve also joined Dr. Sato as a volunteer, having held all volunteer positions from cabin to activity counselor throughout the years. "It was a way for my husband to appreciate what I do and

to get to know the patients I treat on a deeper level. Though we wouldn't see each other during Camp because we were so busy working, volunteering at Camp brought us closer together."

When asked what Dr. Sato appreciates most about Camp she shares this, "Camp gives kids an opportunity to normalize their life. To be kids again. It also gives us doctors an opportunity to get to know the children outside of the doctor's visit we typically have with them in the hospital. I especially appreciate when I see a child changed by their Camp experience. When they realize how fortunate they are or when they find the courage to do things they never thought possible. It can be a life changing experience for the campers and the volunteers."

Dr. Sato not only works as a volunteer doctor every summer for the past 34 years, but she also serves on Camp's Board of Directors. She was also instrumental in overseeing the establishment of our state of the art medical facility at Camp. She traveled to Russia with a delegation of



staff and campers in 1992 to help establish similar Camps overseas. She is truly one of Camp's long standing angels that has provided the leadership and support to help Camp thrive and serve its mission. Seeing patients reciprocate their love for Dr. Sato by asking her to be an integral part of their lives even after treatment is also a testament to how admired and appreciate she is beyond the Camp community.

Camp is grateful for super star volunteers like Dr. Sato and we look forward to many more years of her involvement.



Save the Date!

Our annual fundraising dinner will be a wonderful evening of celebration! The Dinner is a culmination of this year's new and exciting theme, *Heroes for Healing*; a spirited six-week competition between dynamic individuals fundraising on behalf of the children and families served by Camp. The person who raises the most money will be announced at the Dinner and win our *2016 Hero for Healing* title! The outstanding achievements of all the candidates will be celebrated at the event.

Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 5 PM

Sheraton Universal Hotel
333 Universal Hollywood Dr., Universal City, CA 91608

Candidates for *Heroes for Healing* are extraordinary people, sharing a competitive spirit and compassion for others. They are relentless in their efforts to help children with cancer and their families experience the healing of Camp.

For information on nominating or becoming a candidate, ticket and sponsorship information, please contact Nicole Ring at nring@rmhcsc.org or (310) 268-8488 ext. 183.

It's all about outcomes *the impact of camp on youth*

Every summer thousands of our community's youth attend camp. Whether the focus is on sports, theater, technology, or specifically for children impacted by cancer—the benefits of camp on youth development are undeniable. According to the National Collaboration for Youth, the 5,000 children who participate in an American Camp Association camp experience demonstrate more confidence; increased self-esteem; more social skills that help in making new friends; more independence and leadership qualities; and become more adventurous and willing to try new things.

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is a recreational camp for children with cancer and their families that provides youth with a carefree and fun experience that allows them to reclaim their childhood. But more than that, Camp focuses on youth development outcomes so that the young people who attend our camp year after year graduate healthier, well-rounded, self-confident, and

happy young adults.



In many cases, cancer is only one of many obstacles our campers face. As you read in Annie's story, Camp serves youth that are in foster care, come from extreme poverty (80% of our campers live at or below poverty level), live in broken homes, and the like. Cancer does not discriminate based on circumstance or readiness to deal with such a devastating disease. Camp then becomes even more critical for youth who are battling cancer and other difficult circumstances.

Our volunteer counselors receive extensive training prior to each session so that they are equipped to ensure every interaction and activity our campers experience is done with intention. Each activity is aimed at creating the following outcomes— improved positive identity, independence and self-reliance; increased social competencies;

Gifts & GRANTS

Thank you to our recent funders:

AS&F Foundation
The Crean Foundation
The Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation
Goodwin Family Memorial Trust
The Green Foundation
Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation
The William Gumpert Foundation
KOA Care Camps
Dan Murphy Foundation
Northwestern Mutual
The Patron Saints Foundation
Grace Helen Spearman Charitable Foundation
Swift Memorial Health Care Foundation

FUND A CAMPER
HEAL. EMPOWER. INSPIRE.



Join our Summer Camp-aign!
Give the gift of Camp to a child impacted by cancer. Learn more and donate at www.classy.org/fundacamper

and the feeling of support from others. Parents consistently report that they are seeing these outcomes in their children after attending camp, and our campers feel so enriched by their experience that they attend for an average of 6 years. It is our goal to provide a healing and memorable experience for every camper who travels to camp, and that the skills they build will serve them throughout their life.



A program of
Ronald McDonald
House Charities™ of
Southern California

1250 Lyman Place, Los Angeles, CA 90029, 310-268-8488, www.rmhcsc.org/camp

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 559



Making a positive, long-lasting impact on children with cancer & their families since 1982

Ways You Can Help

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times® relies on the support of individuals like you to fulfill our mission. Here are some ways you can help us impact the lives of children with cancer and their families:

- Sign up online for **CLUB GOOD TIMES** and make a monthly, quarterly or annual reoccurring gift.
- Join our **CAMPFIRE CIRCLE** with an annual donation of \$1,000 or more.
- **HOST A FUNDRAISER!** Contact Nicole Ring for ideas/help at nring@rmhcsc.org or (310) 268-8488 Ext 183.
- Include Camp in your **LONG-RANGE PLANS** (i.e. will, life insurance, IRA, etc.). To learn more, contact Fatima Djelmane Rodriguez at fdjelmane@rmhcsc.org or (310) 473-4258.
- Become a **VOLUNTEER** (contact David at dgarry@rmhcsc.org for details).
- Follow us on **FACEBOOK** and **TWITTER!**

www.rmhcsc.org/camp

A legacy gift can help you reach your financial goals

While the future may seem uncertain, long-range planning can help you stay on track with your goals. If you are like many people, you are looking for a way to create funds and security for your future. At the same time, you may want to leave a legacy gift to the causes that mean the most to you. There are various charitable plans that can provide you with income and tax benefits.

For example, if you own under performing CDs or stocks, you can transfer these assets to us in exchange for a charitable gift annuity. A gift annuity provides you with a charitable deduction and fixed payments for you and your spouse's lifetime. And Camp can benefit from any funds that remain.

Another life income option is a charitable remainder trust. When you transfer cash or your assets to fund a charitable remainder trust, you can receive income for life or a number of years. If the assets in the trust grow, there is the potential for increased income over time. You also receive a charitable deduction which provides tax savings in the year you fund your trust. At the same time, you can impact Camp's mission in the future.

Camp has experts available to tell you more about these and other options. Contact Fatima Djelmane Rodriguez at (310) 473-4258 or fdjelmane@rmhcsc.org.



A program of
Ronald McDonald House Charities™
of Southern California

