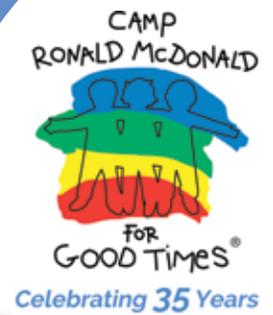


Camp Ronald McDonald For Good Times



Special Edition: 2016 Impact Report



Stronger Together



The Galluzzo family epitomize the power of a strong, hopeful, and loving family. Having experienced the highest highs and the lowest lows over

the last six years has only brought their family closer. On September 6th of 2010, 2 ½ year old Davis was rushed to the emergency department at Riverside Hospital after a series of fevers, lack of appetite and eventually collapsing in his mother's arms. After running blood tests doctors confirmed that their precious boy had Leukemia. "It's something you just don't expect," says mom Darcy. Stunned and bewildered, Darcy says she and her husband Jeff cried together when they heard the diagnosis, but quickly leaned on their faith and the strength of their family to begin the uphill journey.

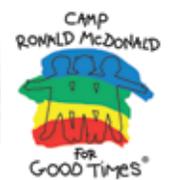
The Galluzzo family was there every step of the way for Davis' two years and seven months of chemotherapy. Brother and sister Carder and Adryenne are both home schooled, so they often found themselves doing lessons and homework at the clinic while their brother was undergoing treatment. It was during one of his treatments that the Galluzzo's met Emily "Goddess" Camp, a long time Camp volunteer, who shared with the Galluzzo's about the healing benefits of Camp. The Galluzzo's didn't know what to expect when they first visited Camp in April of 2011. Darcy shares, "Camp was truly amazing; just to be with other people who know what you're talking about and going through without having to go into a long explanation about medical terminology or diagnosis. We speak the same language. Camp gave my family, my kids especially, an opportunity to feel normal." Darcy goes on to share that her children's lives had been rattled by a serious health scare she had the year before and Davis' cancer diagnosis.

"Camp was what we needed to escape and show our kids that they aren't alone or different from other families," Darcy explains. From the families, to the amazing volunteers, the Galluzzo's were happy to add such a strong network of love and support to their extended family.

Davis is now eight years old and has been cancer free for six years. He and his family are now taking on the challenge of restoring Davis' ability to walk, which was lost as a result of chemotherapy. The Galluzzo's have faith that Davis will overcome this challenge with their support and the support of the Camp family who are also cheering him on. Just a few months ago Davis started taking steps with the assistance of a walker after three years of being wheelchair bound! The Galluzzo's look forward to attending Family Camp year after year and will be sending their kids to Summer Camp in the future so they can continue experiencing the healing benefits of Camp. Darcy leaves us with these final words about the Galluzzo's Camp experience, "Camp is truly a blessing for our family. We're already a strong family unit on our own, but it's so important to come together with other families and develop close relationships with others that we can lean on and they can in turn lean on us."



Davis with counselor "Gummy"



2016 Program Highlights & Outcomes



In 2016, Camp served 1,805 campers: 715 in Youth Camp sessions; 640 in Family Camp sessions, including Spanish language sessions (the only in the nation); and 450 in our mission partner sessions (Muscular Dystrophy Association, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and CHLA Teen Retreat).

Summer Camp Impact

Summer Camp was themed "Camp-lympics" in celebration of the 2016 Olympic Games. Throughout the week, campers participated in various events, which culminated in a final competition for gold, silver and bronze medals. One of the most memorable moments was when camper Chris, who was left blind from retinoblastoma, was a finalist in the javelin toss. In the event finals, his counselor "Bear" stood next to the rings that Chris had to throw the javelin through and snapped his fingers. With more than 200 onlookers sitting quietly in anticipation, Chris listened closely to the sound, took aim, and threw the javelin perfectly through the ring. After three tosses, he had earned enough points to win the silver medal! The audience went wild and there wasn't a dry eye in the house! For so many amazing kids, Camp is a place where the impossible becomes possible.

We had another awesome year at Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, many thanks to all of the love and energy our stakeholders (including you!) pour into the program. Camp is touted for providing a space where children with cancer and their siblings can reclaim the part of their childhood that cancer takes from them. It does that and more! This year we received our most positive survey feedback from parents and campers telling us firsthand how Camp has changed their lives. The highlights in this report are a glimpse into the success of 2016 and our impact.

Gifts & GRANTS

Thank you to our 2016 Foundation, Corporate & Community Partners

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We survey parents after each summer session to ensure Camp is producing the outcomes we intend. Feedback we received from parents about summer camp included:

- 100% of campers came home with more self-confidence;
- 95% of campers had increased ability to cope with challenges; and
- 97% of our campers had the opportunity to experience normal childhood activities while at Camp.

Winter Camp for Teen Patients & Siblings

Winter Camp is a four day/three night weekend at Camp for teens ages 15-18. The 2016 Camp was themed “Leadership and Life Skills” and included 113 teens. After receiving both formal evaluation and anecdotal feedback, it became clear that our campers are in need of basic life skill support that they are not learning in school. Campers learned things like financial basics (i.e. when is the right time to apply for a credit card or how to open a bank account), interview skills, email, phone and social media etiquette, how to apply for college, how to determine if a community college or four year university are a better fit, and the like. **Camper Abba had these final thoughts upon reflecting on her weekend at Camp:** “The life lessons, values, and support camp has given me is something that I, as well as other campers, will keep with me for the rest of my life, and I want to share it with as many people as possible.”



Family Camp: Keeping Families Close

Family Camp is a weekend getaway for families with younger patients (0-8). In addition to our traditional Family Camp sessions, we hosted our second annual Family Camp reunion for 123 campers. Family Camp proved impactful once again; here are some outcomes that parents reported to us:

- 99% of parents reported connecting and bonding with other families undergoing similar experiences;
- 100% reported that their family was able to rest and relax away from hospital visits or daily treatments; and
- 100% reported that Family Camp helped reduce stress and improve their ability to cope with their patient.



Even more poignant are the words of praise parents shared:

“I’ve never mentioned that family camp brought our marriage back and allowed our family to reunite. #ForeverGrateful!! #truestory”

“Camp was the first place we came in contact with other cancer families. We finally met people in real life that truly understood what we were going through. Camp families have become our best friends and our saving grace.”

The Power of Volunteers

Camp would not be possible without our dedicated, passionate volunteers. Just look at the impact of their service!

Volunteer Role	Total Volunteers	Hours Served	Value of Service
Program Counselors	522	42,182	\$1,137,649
Doctors & Nurses	38	2,188	\$134,820
All Other (Site, Event, Office, Outreach, etc.)	698	5,457	\$146,616
TOTALS:	1,258	49,827	\$1,419,085

Meet our 2017 Walk for Kids Ambassador Family

Parker Brockway is a happy and energetic 12-year-old who enjoys going to school, hanging out with her family and friends, advocating and fund raising for cancer research and keeping physically active—her favorite activities include playing basketball, karate and horseback riding. Except that she needs a hand at times when walking, you would never guess that this young lady has undergone 23 surgeries and multiple rounds of chemotherapy as a result of a brain tumor diagnosed when she was just 2½ years old.



In the winter of 2006, Parker and her parents, Kathy Kelley and Billy Brockway, were enjoying the holidays and anxiously awaiting the birth of their second child. Without warning, their world turned upside down. Parker suddenly got sick and started complaining of excruciating headaches. Kathy and Billy rushed her to Children's Hospital Los Angeles, where doctors told them that Parker had a slow-growing brain tumor known as a juvenile pilocytic astrocytoma.

Within two days, Parker underwent her first surgery and she was back to ballet class just three months later. But by spring 2007, Parker's tumor returned, and years of treatment and dozens of surgeries ensued. In May 2011, Parker had her final surgery and after 12 months of chemotherapy she has remained cancer free.

With so many surgeries, Parker was left with physical deficits including not being able to walk in 2011. With the help of her physical therapist and a lot of hard work, she returned to school in Fall 2012. To help her move about the campus, she was assigned an aid. With either her aid or one of her parents always with her for support, the idea of sending Parker to a sleep away camp alone never entered her parents' minds – not until one of her beloved nurses mentioned Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times. Nurse Barbara Britt, who has been a volunteer camp nurse for more than 30 years explained not only the

benefits of Parker being away and on her own to build independence and confidence, but the huge amount of fun and the amazing experience Parker would have at Camp.

So, in the summer of 2014, Kathy and Billy drove Parker to Idyllwild and left her at Camp for four long days. Camp's Director promised to call Kathy the next day to let her know how Parker was doing. "Well" wasn't the word to use, more like amazing! Parker's only request to her mom was, "please let me take the bus home and do NOT pick me up!" For never being away from her parents other than the occasional sleep over with a friend, they were thrilled and proud of their girl. Two years later, Parker's younger brother Billy was old enough to attend camp with her and soon her sister Lila will be on her way as well. Kathy says, "Having this camp where Parker and her siblings can be in a place where they are just like everyone else, outside doing what they love and surrounded by the most positive, energetic and inspiring counselors is a life changing experience and we are grateful to be involved in any way possible."

In 2009, Parker's family established The Parker and Friends Fund Benefiting Pediatric Brain Tumor Research at CHLA. Billy, a Lieutenant with the Los Angeles Police Department, has organized blood drives and other events to raise awareness for pediatric brain tumor research. For the last 6 years, the family has participated in the Nautica Malibu Triathlon raising money for cancer research at CHLA.

Thank you to Parker and the Brockway family for serving as our 2017 Ambassador Family.



WALK FOR Kids



Register and join Parker at www.walkforkids.org/camp

Thank you to our Sponsors



Need assistance setting up your Walk webpage or Team? We can help! Call Nicole at (310) 268-8488 ext. 183.



From the Board President

2016 was indeed another successful year during which Camp welcomed more than 1,800 campers into our community of healing, compassion and love. The concept of building a community of support and healing is not new to me, as I have been working in the healthcare industry for almost three decades. It is in direct alignment with the philosophy of family-centered care, the belief that optimal health outcomes are achieved when patients' family members play an active role in the care of the patient.



Jodie Lesh with Camper Vincent at our 2016 Heroes for Healing Event

Camp surrounds families with an atmosphere of mutual support that encourages sharing between others who are going through the same experience. It helps alleviate stress and anxiety while improving coping skills and resiliency. Most significantly, recent research has shown that critically-ill children and their siblings cope with medical trauma through play. We at Camp would also say we do the same for parents, who actually experience higher levels of pediatric traumatic stress than the patient or siblings.

When people ask me "why camp?," my response is simple – Camp is part of the cure for cancer. On behalf of the Board of Trustees for Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times®, I would like to thank the thousands of donors and volunteers that make our programs possible each year. As this report has demonstrated, your investment in Camp's programs has a significant positive impact on children battling cancer and their families. Thank you for making such a huge impact in 2016 – and we hope you will continue to partner with us in 2017!

- Jodie Lesh, Board President

Board Recognition

*Our Board of Trustees advocate and raise funds for Camp year round. We could not fulfill our mission without their dedication and expertise. Thank you to **David Molina** and **Jerry Puzey** for three years of service on our Board. Welcome to our newest trustees: **Kristin Calzada**, **Neils Cotter**, **Sanjna Dapharty** and **Charles Kim**. Thank you to all of our dedicated Board members for your continued support.*

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

Ways You Can Help

Through each session, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times® is touching the lives of children living with cancer, and their families. Please help us fulfill our mission today.

- Sign up online for **CLUB GOOD TIMES** and make a monthly, quarterly or annual recurring gift.
- Join our major donor **CAMPFIRE CIRCLE** with a donation of \$1,000 or more.
- **HOST A FUNDRAISER** for Camp! Contact Nicole Ring for ideas and support at nring@rmhcsc.org or (310) 268-8488 ext. 183.
- Include Camp in your **ESTATE PLANS** (i.e. bequest, will, life insurance, IRA, etc. Contact Fatima at fdjelmane@rmhcsc.org).
- Become a **VOLUNTEER** (contact David at dgarry@rmhcsc.org for details).
- Follow us on **FACEBOOK** and **TWITTER!**

www.rmhcsc.org/camp

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Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is celebrating 35 years! Thanks to donors like you and your long term investments in our mission, we continue to offer our programs cost-free. If you're considering ways to deepen your commitment to Camp, life insurance is one way to make a much larger gift to Camp than you might otherwise be able to afford. Although the cost to you (your premiums) can be relatively small, the amount Camp will receive down the road can be quite substantial. As long as you continue to pay the premiums on the, Camp is guaranteed to receive the proceeds - as either the sole beneficiary, or as one of several beneficiaries you may name. Since life insurance proceeds paid to a charity are not subject to income and estate taxes, probate costs, or other expenses, Camp can count on receiving 100 percent of your gift. To learn more, contact Fatima Djelmane Rodriguez, Development Director at fdjelmane@rmhcsc.org or 310-473-4258.

