

Thank you to the following individuals for their advice and counsel in preparing this brochure:

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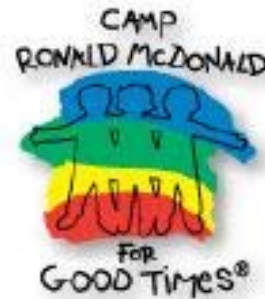
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Would like more information about our patient, sibling and family programs? Let us send you additional information.

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times

"Cost-free camp experiences for children with cancer and their families"

1954 Cotner Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025

Toll Free: (800) 625-7295

www.campronaldmcdonald.org



Accredited by the
American Camp
Association



Proud member of
Children's Oncology Camping
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HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR CHILD WITH CANCER IS READY FOR CAMP?

Feeling like a "normal" child, breathing fresh clean pine-filled air, making a "craft" on the porch of a mountain cabin, laughing with new friends, positive adult role models whose priority is to show kids a good time... Nothing can match a good camp experience for a child.

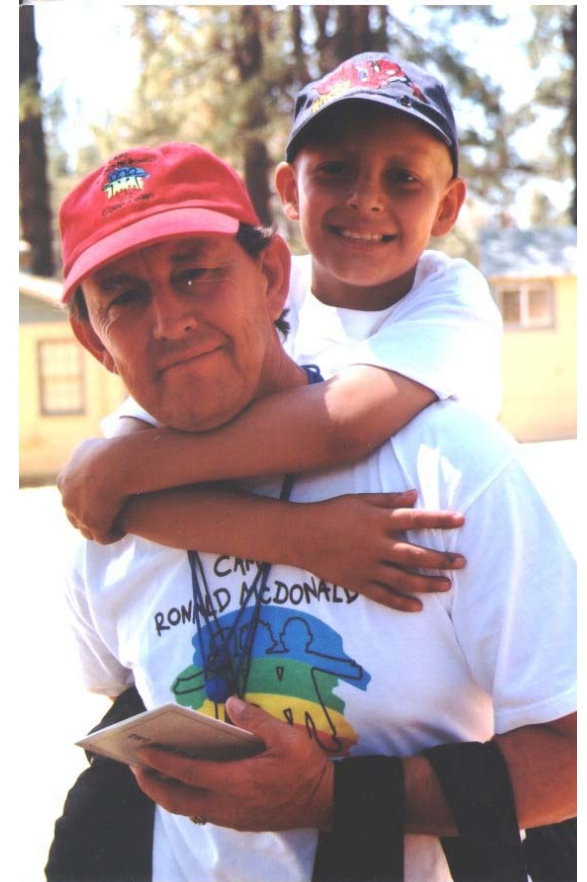
Yet, many parents of a child with cancer ask themselves...

- Why should I send my child to camp?
- What about my child's health and treatment?
- How do I know if my child is ready?
- What age is best?

As a parent, only you know what is in the best interest of your child.

Review our How do you know if you ready for Camp guide with you family.

The information will help answer your questions and guide you in making the best choice for a memorable camp experience.



WHY CAMP IS IMPORTANT?

Pediatric oncology physician, nurses and social workers agree that providing your child with "normal" childhood experiences that are in a medically and emotionally supported environment will help not only the child with cancer cope with their diagnosis, treatments and recovery, but structured and supportive experiences like camp can support the needs of the your child's siblings and aid in reducing stress on the family.

THE GOALS OF CAMP

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is committed to creating a long-lasting positive impact on children with cancer and their families. We do this by providing medically supervised, cost-free camps run by only the best staff. Campers find new friends, a chance to experience independence in a supportive and safe environment with fun-filled programs.

YOUR CHILD & CAMP MEDICAL CARE

A medical staff team of practicing pediatric oncology doctors and nurses supervise camper health 24 hours a day and administers medical care and daily medications. The "Med Shed" health care center provides areas and equipment to support each camper while at camp including an Examination Room, Resting Areas, Medication Dispensary and Catheter Care Cabin.

HOW TO KNOW IF YOU AND YOUR CHILD ARE READY FOR A CAMP EXPERIENCE?

- ❑ **Consider your child's interest.**
Has your child voiced an interest in camp? A Parent's support of a child's successful independent camp experience can lead to a memorable camp experience that is important to the normal development of a child.
- ❑ **Consider you child's age.**
Family camps are best suited for younger children younger. Youth camps best serve children 9 years and older as they develop appropriate independent experiences under the supervision of trusted adult role-models.
- ❑ **Has your child had previous experience away from home?**
Has he /she spent a weekend away from home with friends or a relative? What are those separations like for both of you? Successful sleepovers with friends and relatives can be great preparation to a positive youth camp session.
- ❑ **Consider where your child is in his/her cancer treatment.**
Patients, families and siblings can find support and hope when surrounded by others going through a similar experience of successfully meeting the challenges of a cancer diagnosis, treatments or a sibling with cancer. Your child's doctor can tell you when the time is right.

- ❑ **Consider what type of camp session would be best**

FAMILY CAMPS provide a weekend of fun and support for the entire family of young cancer patients.

SHORT-TERM YOUTH SESSIONS are offered early in the year and are a great opportunity for beginning campers to try out an independent camp experience.

WEEK-LONG YOUTH CAMPS are offered in the summer. Sessions for patients accompanied by their brothers and sisters; sessions for just the patients and sessions for siblings alone are offered.

- ❑ **Be sure to send a clear message that camp is a good thing!**

Your children look to you for guidance. Your understanding the importance of safe and fun camp experience will go a long way to helping them feel "O.K" about attending camp.

LET US HELP!

Would you like to talk to another parent or camper about their Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times experience?

Would you or your child like more information?

Call us at (800) 625-7295
or visit us at
www.campronaldmcdonald.org