

Get Ready for a Summer of Fun!

Winter weather is upon us now but it won't be long before the mittens, scarves and hats are replaced by sunglasses, swimming suits and flip flops! Preparations are already underway for another summer of fun at several camps which are funded and/or staffed by St. Louis Children's Hospital and Washington University. If you know a child who may be a candidate for one of these camps or want to relive your camp counselor days by volunteering, please call the Foundation office at 314.286.0988 for additional information.

Camp Crescent

Camp Crescent provides a medically-safe summer camp for children with sickle cell disease. For 6 days and 5 nights campers are surrounded by people just like them—other campers and counselors who share the daily challenges and triumphs of managing their disease. Camp Crescent gives children the opportunity to meet adult counselors with sickle cell and learn their strategies for coping with the challenges. Daily educational sessions provide an enjoyable way for kids to improve their knowledge about sickle cell disease and empower them to make informed decisions about their health. Camp activities are focused on improving self esteem and taking pride in abilities, skills, and accomplishments.

Camp Hope

Camp Hope is a summer camp for AIDS and HIV infected children and provides families with a respite from the struggles of treating the diseases. The camp is equipped to handle the special needs of children with serious health issues, but it also allows the opportunity for children to experience typical camp activities. While the children play, rides horses and swim, parents can unload her frustrations to people who understand and learn some additional coping strategies.

Camp Independence

Camp Independence is a camp program from the Carol and Paul Hatfield Cerebral Palsy Sports and Rehabilitation Center at St. Louis Children's Hospital. The sports program is designed to promote the integration of young people with cerebral palsy and related disabilities into sports activities. Campers receive specialized sports training to increase their fitness level and self-esteem in a fun atmosphere.

Joint Adventures Camp (Martha Kurtz Hillman Joint Adventures Camp)

This camp provides children with arthritis and other rheumatic (joint) diseases the opportunity to experience a summer camp complete with crafts, games, swimming, archery, horse back riding and lots of new friendships. Campers learn how to better manage their disease and increase their self-esteem in a medically-supervised environment.

Camp Rhythm

Camp Rhythm provides a unique, medically-safe 5-day and 4-night camp experience for children between the ages of 5-18 who suffer from heart conditions. Campers enjoy swimming, arts and crafts, nature hikes, music, ropes course, square dancing, campfires, and education on heart conditions. Plus, it creates an environment where it is normal to be sick, be tired, have scars and take medications.

Stepping Stones Camp

This camp is for children who have lost a family member to illness or accident. Stepping Stones Camp is offered to children from ages 6-12 who are grieving the loss of a sibling, parent, or grandparent. Stepping Stones offers fun activities such as swimming, nature activities, crafts, and special activities designed to provide peer support while dealing with feelings of loss. Campers have a chance to make new friends with children who have had similar experiences and group sessions focus on bereavement issues and the grieving process.