



Volume 1, Number 1

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Camp Words

This may be the first time in their lives the children are truly accepted; tics, obsessions and other neurological symptoms included. Many of our children do not have the opportunity to participate in team sports or clubs. Camp becomes essential for building self-esteem. Camp truly changes lives. (Joshua Camp)

"I have attended Missouri Children's Burn Camp every summer since I was nine... I encourage new campers to participate in camp activities, talk to them during rest times, listen to their stories of home life and how they are feeling about their burns. I help them deal with their issues and show them they're normal."

As a burn survivor I can easily relate to the physical and emotional needs of the other campers. I tell them their burns are their badge of courage, strength, and fortitude." (Missouri Children's Burn Camp)

On the last day of camp there were two kids graduating. They were sobbing with their counselor and telling him he was their best friend.

There was a boy who attended Royal Family Camp all 6 years graduate this year. It has been amazing to see him grow through the years and become a young mentor to the other campers. He has the potential to be a great leader. (Mr. Tom—Royal Family Camp)

"My lil girl struggles and she had an amazing week. Thanks for helping her find her shine!"

"This was a wonderful experience for my kids. Thanks to everyone, especially those who donate to make it possible for young people to have such a life building experience."

"Thank you for this amazing gift. My son would never have been able to attend camp this year without your help. He learned so much and can't wait for school so he can show off all his new knowledge!" (Camp Wildwood parents)

Yes, I wish to help a child discover the wonders of camp!
Enclosed is my gift of: \$ _____ The cost of a camp scholarship ranges from \$350 to \$1,000 depending on medical costs.

Date: _____
Check/Visa/MC/Discover/AmEx _____ Exp.: ____/____
(m m y y)

Signature: _____ Security Code: ____/____

Name: _____ [] Please direct my gift to Camp: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ [] Please direct my gift to the Camps For Kids Matching Gifts Program.

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Dear Camps For Kids Friends,

Welcome to the Camps For Kids Quarterly Newsletter. I hope that everyone in "ABLE," our database, will enjoy, and maybe even be impressed by the big picture of our Network of camps. Since even camp-designated donors are on the list, there is a place on the return gift card for camp-designated donations. Remember, Camps For Kids will only match camp funds received from April through July.

It has been a very busy summer and fall! After two Camp-Outs, the office move, visiting 24 camps, and finally the Firefly Gala, it's time to switch to grant writing and to review end-of-year camp surveys and applications (every camp re-applies each year.) Also this year there are five new camps applying for inclusion into our network — a task for Board study and action. A lot has happened and still does, but it's the camp visits that mostly stand out.

"Are you Miss Becky?" The Joshua Camp Director was balancing ACA and C4K visits at the same time. He was a skinny little kid, and he tugged at her skirt. "Yes, I am." He put his little arms around her...and I'm sure he touched her heart.

Sincerely,

Ray Delia, Executive Director

Firefly Gala

MAKING DREAMS GLOW ONE KID AT A TIME

2012 Gala One of Most Successful!

Many thanks to all who made the Firefly Event one of the most successful in several years.

More than 30 Camp Directors and Volunteers from 10 camps were featured, as they and more than 160 other guests placed bids on 75 auction items, raising \$18,326 in one evening.

Sponsorships, RSVPs, and a most generous \$8,000 gift from the Don Harman Memorial Fund brought the grand total to more than \$46,000. It was truly a shared event.

Some Highlights of the Evening

- ◆ Four cowboys moseying in at 9 PM
- ◆ The evening's M.C., Fox 4's Joe Lauria
- ◆ Monica Harman's tribute to Don
- ◆ Little Hailey Johnson's interview
- ◆ We sold the R.C. Gorman Lithograph!
- ◆ The items donated by Camps MITIOG, Carousel, and Heartland Presbyterian Center
- ◆ Great Food by Catering by Shawn
- ◆ Extra thanks to the tireless efforts of Firefly Co-Chairs Dana Mehrer, Jeanne Janchar and Megan Egli; and for the extraordinary-auction-item-labelings by Stacey Deere.

Save-The-Date

2013 Firefly Gala

Friday, October 18, 2013

Camp Pictures



Camp Numbers

In 2012, the Camps For Kids Campaign assisted its network of 25 camps to provide more than 4,500 camperships for children and youth with special needs from the Kansas City area.

The Camps For Kids Network of camps raised more than \$190,000; the Camps For Kids Campaign then contributed \$161,500 in matching funds for a total of more than \$351,000 in aid.

The ratio of Camps For Kids Match to Camp Budgets ranges from 1% to 7% for 14 of our camps to 11% to 49% of the other 11. The higher ratios mostly impact the camps with the smaller budgets that need our help the most.

It's also important to realize that our 25 camps ran programs on 57 different sites this year. Camp Heartland Center brought day programs to 9 new sites during the past summer. Camp Encourage went from 1 week to 2 weeks of camp in 2012. Camp Fire Heartland also ran a weekly day camp at a different site than its overnight camp. In all, our Network helps support 15 residential camps and 11 weekly day camps.

Seasonal camp volunteers include necessary nurses, doctors, social workers and counselors from 18 to 80 years of age who range in number from 20 to 202 per camp. In 2012 there were more than 1,500 in all. This is outstanding and easily amounts to the greatest reason our camps can afford to be so generous with scholarships.



www.campsforkids.org