A Message from our Medical Director and Executive Director

Out of an abundance of caution, Camp Sunshine has decided to offer both virtual and onsite programming this year that will incorporate strict monitoring for COVID-19. Our primary interest is ensuring programming that is safe and minimizes any unnecessary exposure to infection to the children and families Camp Sunshine serves.

This year, in-person Camp will look different and will be focused on the joy of participating as a family in activities on our beautiful lakeside campus. As this is a year for parents and children to celebrate the summer season together in a fun vacation-style model, Camp will run mixed diagnosis programs with fewer numbers of families. We have also decided to limit attendance to families of children who are not immunosuppressed.

We appreciate that this model will represent a significant difference for many of you. It is our hope that Camp Sunshine will be able to safely return to more traditional programming in 2023. We thank you for working with us to ensure the health and safety of all children and their families in the upcoming season.

Andrew Eichenfield, MD  
Medical Director

Michael Katz  
Executive Director
Introducing Family Camp! 2022 In-Person Programming

Family Camp is a new type of program designed to safely bring families back to Camp Sunshine this summer. During Family Camps, family members will participate in all activities together as a family while maintaining physical distance from other participants at all times. Each family will be assigned a volunteer guide who will help in navigating the program and bring extra “Sunshine” to the experience.

Family Camps are a temporary departure from traditional group programming at Camp Sunshine and are not illness-specific. Our hope is to resume traditional programming for summer 2023. Instead of interacting with other families and volunteers, Family Camps offer the opportunity to be at Camp in a new way, enjoying activities together as a family. We hope that families who are not yet eligible to return to Camp in person, or who prefer not to participate in the new program, will participate in Camp Sunshine at Home.

Applications for In–Person camps will be available on our website starting April 25, 2022. Bereavement programming information will follow this fall.

Eligibility

- All participants who are able to be vaccinated will be required to be optimally protected with the initial series and any available boosters prior to Camp. You can learn about available COVID-19 vaccines here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html
- In order to maximize flexibility and mitigate travel-related exposure prior to Camp, the program is limited to residents of the following Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Families must drive themselves to Camp and be prepared for unexpected and/or last-minute changes to plans related to illness.
- No individual can attend who is moderately or severely immunocompromised due to an underlying condition or its treatment. Moderate and severe immunocompromising conditions and treatments include but are not limited to:
  - Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies (other than children with standard-risk acute lymphoblastic leukemia in remission on maintenance therapy)
  - Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
  - Receipt of CAR-T-cell therapy within 2 years
  - Hematopoietic cell transplant (HCT) within 2 years of transplantation, or taking immunosuppression therapy
  - Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
  - Advanced or untreated HIV infection
  - Active treatment with
    - high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., ≥1 mg/kg prednisone or equivalent per day when administered for ≥2 weeks)
    - transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs (mycophenolate, azathioprine, tacrolimus, cyclosporine, sirolimus)
    - other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory (rituximab, or other B-cell depleting, or T-cell depleting therapies)

2022 Family Camp Dates

Applications for Summer In-Person Family Camps are OPEN!

https://www.campsunshine.org/programs/applications

Families with complete and approved applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until capacity is reached.

Registration for Summer Camp Sunshine at Home is OPEN!

Find the link on the applications webpage, linked above!
What to Expect This Summer: COVID-19 Precautions

Before Camp

- **PCR Testing:** Each participant age 3 and older will be required to obtain a PCR test on the Friday prior to the start of session. Visit this site to search for and schedule testing in your area:
- **Notify Us:** If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had exposure to someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, please call Camp to cancel.
- **Vaccinations:** Ensure that you and your family members are optimally protected prior to Camp, with the complete primary series and any boosters available to each individual. You can learn about available COVID-19 vaccines here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html
- **Minimize your Exposure Risk:** In addition to frequent hand washing and mask wearing, we ask that you and your family limit your risk of exposure to COVID-19 during the 14 days leading up to your Camp session. This includes avoiding mass gatherings and non-essential public transportation.

On Arrival

- **Arrival Screening:** Staff will review a symptom, exposure, and travel screening with each participant upon arrival.
- **Rapid Testing:** A rapid antigen test for COVID-19 will be administered upon arrival for each participant.

During Camp

- **Daily Screenings:** Each participant will complete a symptom screen daily at Camp.
- **Lodging:** As before, your family will stay in a private family suite. Each family suite includes a bathroom, mini-fridge, microwave, and can comfortably sleep six.
- **Masks:** Indoor masking will be required for participants ages 2 and older.
- **Physical Distancing:** Families will participate in all activities together as a family, keeping physical distance from other participants. You will have a designated table (indoors and outdoors) for mealtimes and other activities.
- **Volunteers:** Each family will be assigned a volunteer guide to assist with activities. Volunteers will also follow COVID precautions, including required vaccinations, masking, and physical distancing. Parents and guardians will be responsible for caring for their children at all times.
- **Medical Care:** A medical professional will be available on-site at all times. Parents/guardians are responsible for administering any medication or other routine care to their children.

Before Leaving Camp

- **Rapid Testing:** A rapid antigen test for COVID-19 will be administered upon departure for each participant. Participants will be notified if a positive test is obtained from any participant from their session.

Questions? Contact Anne Howley, Family Coordinator: ahowley@campsunshine.org