

MDA Summer Camp, ‘the best week of the year’



Christina Vela Davidson



MDA Summer Camp provides thousands of kids with muscular dystrophy and related diseases “the best week of the year.”

It creates a world of possibilities for children living with neuromuscular challenges, including the chance to discover new interests while gaining self-confidence, making lifelong friendships and experiencing the

independence of being away from home. Thanks to you, brothers and sisters, MDA can offer these safe, inclusive summer camp experiences at no cost to families.

A variety of activities and programs fills the day: arts and crafts, sports and games, traditional camp activities and more. Every activity is adapted to the abilities of youngsters with neuromuscular disease. Plus, campers are paired with camp counselors to help with daily living and personal care.

Numbers help tell the story: 99 percent of parents of children with muscular dystrophy and related diseases value MDA Summer Camp; 94 percent agree that it has increased their children’s confidence; and 91 percent believe that the camp has helped their children become more independent.

The camps—offered at no charge to families, thanks largely to our NALC branches—give kids with limited muscle strength and mobility a life-changing experience in an environment without barriers.



Maybe there is a volunteer opportunity waiting at a camp near you. Opportunities include preparing or serving meals; assisting with daily activities, including those in water; developing and assisting campers with crafts; and attending the VIP day.

If you have not volunteered yet, please consider it. This experience helps volunteers connect with the kids and the cause and will change you in a positive and humbling way.

You also can volunteer on the medical staff or as a counselor for the entire week if you meet the requirements set by MDA. Children over age 16 can volunteer with you to make it a family event.

Brothers and sisters, you can do it. As an MDA volunteer, you’ll serve affected families in home towns across the United States. You’ll make experiences like MDA Summer Camp, fundraising events, seminars and many more possible for those affected individuals who are counting on us.

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To find an MDA Summer Camp near you, give me a call or send me a letter. I will help you get in contact with your local MDA office for more information. Or you can go to mda.org/summer-camp/camper.

Corrections to the 2018 MDA Honor Roll

Below are corrections and updates to the 2018 MDA Honor Roll in the April *Postal Record*.

- The winner for Category 1 (2,000+): New Jersey Merged Br. 38: \$50,784.69
- The winner for Category 2 (1,500-1,999): Portland, OR Br. 82: \$26,271.86
- The winner for Category 6 (350-499): Yonkers, NY Br. 387: \$18,534
- San Bernardino, CA Br. 411: \$824.30
- Stamford, CT Br. 60: \$5,285
- Naples, FL Br. 4716: \$15,086
- Chicago Br. 11: \$26,971.09
- Lansing, MI Br. 122: \$6,944
- Jackson, MI Br. 232: \$389
- North Oakland Co., MI Br. 320: \$4,340
- Mt. Clemens, MI Br. 654: \$5,676
- Midland, MI Br. 2317: \$3,667
- New Jersey Merged Br. 38: \$50,784.69
- Pasadena, TX Br. 3867: \$414.75