

## MDA Summer Camp

**M**DA Summer Camp is oftentimes referred to as a child's "best week of the year!" It's an experience of a lifetime for them and for many NALC members.

It is a magical place of complete inclusion, empowerment, exploration and growth. The magic is in the experience of trying something new, developing friendships that last a lifetime, learning to self-advocate and harnessing potential.

Each summer, kids and young adults with neuromuscular disease attend these life-changing overnight camps around the United States—at no cost to their families, thanks to the brothers and sisters like you who raise thousands of dollars for camps. Campers are able to go swimming, zip-lining, horseback riding and dancing under a disco ball, all while gaining valuable life skills.

MDA Summer Camp creates a world of possibilities for children living with neuromuscular disease. Camp gives kids a chance to discover new interests while gaining self-confidence, making lifelong friendships and experiencing the independence of being away from home. Thanks to generous donors and partners, MDA provides a safe, inclusive summer camp experience.

Camp offers a variety of activities and programs such as arts and crafts, sports and games, traditional camp activities and more. Every activity is adapted to meet each individual's needs and abilities. Dedicated and trained camp counselors are available to help campers

with activities of daily living and personal care.

You can become a camp volunteer. If you're 17 or older and available for a multi-day residential camp, MDA would love for you to apply to join them as a volunteer counselor or medical staff member. Volunteer counselors are by campers' sides day and night so that they can do all the fun activities that summer camp offers. Medical team members supervise and maintain the health and well-being of the campers by administering medications, delivering first aid, and more.

This year the MDA/NALC Winners Incentive Trip has returned. The winners will be traveling to Camp Lake, WI, June 16-18. On June 17, they will be participating in the Sponsor Day at the Salvation Army Wonderland Camp. Pictures and more will be coming from this Winners Incentive Trip.

Summer Camp registration is now open to both campers and volunteers. And children can still attend virtually or in person. For more information, please visit [mda.org/summer-camp](https://mda.org/summer-camp) or contact MDA at 800-572-1717 or [camp@mdausa.org](mailto:camp@mdausa.org). You also can go to [mda.org/summercamp/camper](https://mda.org/summercamp/camper) to see where the camps are being held.

**Just a reminder: If you want any of your branch events to be shared, please send them to [mda@nalc.org](mailto:mda@nalc.org) or [social@nalc.org](mailto:social@nalc.org) to be posted on social media.**

Please send copies of all allocation forms and checks to the NALC Region 9 office so that we can properly give your branch the correct credit for this year, 2025.

## Staff Reports

### FECA reform hearing (continued)

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the appeals process, leading to delayed claim acceptance and postponed treatment. It is doubtful that this recommendation would lead to efficiency and cost reductions.

**Finally, the members of the committee from the majority party and the USPS inspector general spent much of the hearing asserting that fraud runs rampantly out of control within the FECA program. This is not true. The NALC at the national level recognizes that fraud within FECA programs exists and encourages efforts to root it out. But it does not exist at the exaggerated and inflated level claimed by these participants at the hearing. According to the**

testimony of Luiz Santos, acting inspector general at the DOL, levels of fraud within OWCP are similar both to other government health care programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Tricare, and to private insurance and other health benefits programs. This is consistent with our own experience. While no level of fraud should be acceptable, contrary to the picture painted by some at the hearing, it certainly is not spiraling out of control.

In recent months, we have seen overstatements of fraud, waste and abuse used as a pretext for gutting or demolishing humanitarian and remedial federal programs that assist thousands and even millions of people in need. This should not happen with the FECA.