



**CAMP HAPPY DAYS**  
**2024 Camp & Programming Proposal for Funding**  
**January 31, 2023**

**Names of Presenters and Supporters at Presentation**

Camp Happy Days Board member – Douglas Jennings

Cindy Hay Johnson – Executive Director

Camp Happy Days Family – Chloe & mother, Chelsea

SC House Representative – Fawn Peladino (Manning)

Former SC House Representative – Bobby Ridgeway (Manning)

Camp Happy Days Staff– Casey Nitsch & Catie Stallworth

**Presentation Packet includes:**

Proposal for Camp & New Programming 2024

Financials: Organizational, Program, Camp

Mission, History & Impact

Children Served by County & Demographic Data

**Letters of Support:**

MUSC Children’s Hospital

Prisma Health Children’s Hospitals - Midlands

Prisma Health Children’s Hospital- Upstate

**Camp Happy Days Board of Directors**

**Camp Happy Days Programs Flyer and Information**

**Proposal for Funding for Camp Happy Days Summer Camp, additional Teen & Family Weekends, and new On-Site Programming 2024**

Camp Happy Days' mission is to offer support and encouragement to children diagnosed with cancer and their families by providing cost-free year-round programs, special events and access to crisis resources. Our goal is to improve the physical, emotional, and psychological health of the entire family facing pediatric cancer.

We are asking for \$250,000 for fiscal year 2023-2024 to support Camp Happy Days' programs, including our 2024 Summer Camp for 200 children with cancer and their siblings and teen and family weekend camp. Each year, an estimated 250-300 children will be diagnosed with cancer in South Carolina. While 78% of children diagnosed with cancer will survive, even survivors face numerous challenges and a future filled with fear and uncertainty. According to the American Child Cancer Organization, two-thirds of children diagnosed with cancer will experience late effects that may impair their memory and learning, growth and development, and social and psychological adjustment. These children are also at a higher risk for secondary cancers and many other health issues. One out of every four children diagnosed with cancer will have severe or life-threatening late effects. They may also suffer from high levels of anxiety, body changes such as weight gain, amputation, scarring, or disfigurement, and low self-esteem.

The requested funds will allow us to continue to reach out across South Carolina in a strategic and well-orchestrated manner to serve all children diagnosed with cancer in our state so they will be aware of the cost-free programs and resources Camp Happy Days offers. Many of these children live in more rural areas that are not near the three primary children's hospitals in the state and thus are unaware of the many services and programs available to them. Over the last five years, the number of families Camp Happy Days has served has increased over 10% each year. Last year, we welcomed over 70 new families and this year, we expect to serve an additional 100 new families.

The funds requested will support our camps budget, increase our number of families served and provide new programming opportunities throughout the year. Our camp is budgeted at \$505,565 and covers the expenses for children to attend our week-long residential summer camp as well as our virtual camp programming. Each summer, our camp is held at Camp Bob Cooper in Summerton, SC, providing families throughout the state a central location regardless of if they are attending from the upstate or the lowcountry. Our weekend camps budgets are over \$115,000 to provide four different weekend camp programs. In the past, we have provided a family weekend in the spring and a teen weekend before Camp. By increasing our weekend camp budgets, we can provide an additional fall teen weekend and family weekend, allowing more families the opportunity to participate. The camps will be held throughout the state and transportation will be provided as needed to ensure families have the accessibility needed.

Typically, families are provided either a bus transportation option or a gas card if needed. For many families, this is the difference on whether their child(ren) and/or family are able to participate in programs. We make it a priority to limit the barriers for families to attend programming that can provide crucial support and resources.

Our goal is to continue to reach and meet the needs of families battling pediatric cancer throughout South Carolina, especially in the rural areas. We seek to restore a sense of normalcy to their lives and provide opportunities for these families to connect with others who are facing similar challenges. Our objectives are to help these children and their families find a renewed sense of hope, form new supportive relationships, experience respite and relief from stress, create lasting memories, and find encouragement and inspiration as they continue their fight against pediatric cancer. Our summer camp program is a key part of achieving these goals.

The financial, medical, and psychological effects of a cancer diagnosis can impact all aspects of a family's life, including everything from their ability to buy groceries, participate in physical activities, and spend time outdoors. These limitations consequently can negatively impact a child's overall health and well-being. Due to limitations on physical activity, many become sedentary and are at risk for weight gain and weight-related issues later in life. In addition, normal social, emotional, and psychological development may be affected by the trauma of diagnosis and treatment, disruptions to school and regular social routines, and exposure to significantly increased stress on the child and the family.

Camp Happy Days' camp program seeks to address all these areas of needs for our families. Through team-building activities, counseling, and cabin chats at camp these children will meet others with similar experiences and difficulties. The bonds formed through group participation give each child a feeling of inclusion. All-camp events, like our camp prom and talent show, create an environment that fosters positive social and emotional interactions. With social and emotional needs met and skills learned from camp, children are happier and better equipped to handle life challenges and stresses. In our most recent survey, parents were asked to rate the variables related to their children's overall health on a weighted scale and against relevant criteria. The results of the survey found 100% of parents believed their child is more confident participating in physical activity after a Camp Happy Days experience. Ninety-nine percent of parents and/or caregivers agreed that they have a support system within Camp Happy Days and with other Camp Happy Days families. Parents/guardians also agreed at 100% that their family feels more hopeful and has overall benefitted in their quality of life from attending Camp Happy Days programs. We consider these survey results evidence of how vital camp, as they keystone of our year-round programming, is to these children and their families.

Each year, Camp Happy Days tracks five measures that we want our campers to exhibit following camp participation. We survey the campers through self, parent, and counselor surveys. We track the measures of independence, friendship, confidence, hope, and teamwork.

Over the last five years, we continue to see increases in all five measures after camp participation. Last year, we were able to provide our traditional in-person camp for the first time in two years as well as virtual camp. Moving forward, we will continue to provide a virtual camp program in June. Our virtual camp provided an opportunity to connect with campers and serve children from the safety of their homes and hospital rooms. Overall, our camp program had positive feedback on its ability to allow campers to connect with their friends and be engaged. For new families, virtual camp allowed them to meet new kids with similar experiences while also preparing parents for sending their children to camp for the following year.

*"This was my kids first time at "regular" camp (we went to family camp for the first experience last year). Our Reese, who always delivers the midnight phone call to pick her up from friends' houses during sleepovers, made it the ENTIRE camp week. I would have bet the deed to our house I would have had to pick her up early this week. We are so appreciative of the extra love, care, and encouragement given to her to help her feel brave and confident... not to mention have the time of her life."* Emily, Parent of Camper

All of our programs are cost-free for the families we serve, so these funds would allow us to continue to offer camp cost-free to every child who attends. This year, we will again be offering our traditional week-long camp as well as virtual camp. Staff and volunteers are working hard to create a safe and fun in-person camp experience for 200 campers this summer. The cost of sending one child to camp is approximately \$2,355. We have increased our number of teen and family weekends and have budgeted an additional \$22,500 to cover the expected costs. We are working year-round to raise the funds necessary to accommodate each of them.

In January 2022, we moved into a new office space in Charleston. In this 4,500 square foot building, we have started to offer activities such as play and art therapy, yoga, cooking classes, team building exercises, overnight lock-ins, drop-in sessions with staff, pre-teen and teen clubs, movie nights and so much more. We have helped families have access to these programs and services by increasing our transportation options to our new office as well as other program locations. Our goal is to utilize this space in new ways that help families cope with the developmental impact on children and their families caused by a childhood illness as well as keep them connect year-round to receive support. Our programs staff is currently working on creating and implementing new programs for the space. This new space will allow us to provide therapeutic activities such as sibling and teen support groups and a bereavement group for our families. These three groups are all programs we do not currently offer but are in critical need. This is important because our families all experience a great deal of stress and emotions that require a safe outlet where they feel comfortable working through whatever they are facing. Most of the activities will be based on the current needs of the families and will shift as needed.

Camp Happy Days strives to provide high-quality, meaningful experiences for the children and families who participate in our programs and events. In an effort to measure the effectiveness and evaluate outcomes for this program all counselors, parents, and children will receive a post-

camp survey designed to measure perceived changes in a child's attitude and behavior within 45 days after camp. The information gathered will be used to measure progress and identify areas where improvement in the quality of the experience and operational efficiency can be achieved. Camp Happy Days is proud to share this information about our impact and effectiveness as it is received.

**Attending Camp Happy Days Programming:**

Increased Physical Activity: 100% agreed slightly or strongly  
Connected families to support: 99% agreed slightly or strongly  
Created sense of hope: 99% agreed slightly or strongly

\*We have just sent out our newest Annual Programs Survey following FY2021-2022 and look forward to sharing these results in the future.

*Camp Happy Days provides that shining light of support to keep them fighting. These are children who have to miss so much of normal childhood, and the week of camp provides them a chance to simply be a child again. The simple joys of things like fishing, camp games, and fun pranks on counselors in the dining hall are enough to keep them fighting for the battle they have to face. They also have a chance to be around a whole community "like them" where other children understand the fears and worries that they face. For many children, going back to school and their friends is very scary after feeling so different during cancer treatment. Camp builds their confidence and allows them to rejoin their communities and thrive." Michelle Hudspeth, MD., MUSC Children's Hospital/Hollings Cancer Center*

Thank you for considering our request for \$250,000 in FY 2023-2024 funding to support our camp and year-round programs. We appreciate your partnership in bringing joy and strength to South Carolina children and families facing pediatric cancer. If you have any questions about this proposal or would like additional information, please contact:

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Executive Director, Camp Happy Days  
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Camp Happy Days  
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Charleston, SC 29407

## **2023 New Programming**

### **Overnight and Weekend Programming**

- CIT Program (Counselor in Training)
- 2 Teen Weekends – Hosting one in the fall, one in the spring
- Pre-teen Lock-In and other day events
- 2 Family Weekends– Hosting one in the fall, one in the spring

### **On-Site Health and Wellness Programs**

- Host programs in our new 4,500 square foot building. These sessions will allow us to provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere for healing and therapeutic benefits.
- Offering therapeutic programs and activities including play and art therapy, Yoga for children, overnight lock-ins, pre-teen and teen programs, family movie nights, family day events hosted throughout the year, and so much more.
- Offer programs and events that will allow us to better serve specific populations such as siblings, teens, and parents.
- Sibling & Teen Support Groups - utilizing self-expression and emotional release activities such as journaling, painting, music therapy and wellness classes. We will also incorporate opportunities for fun through games, movie nights, cooking classes yoga, and other activities these specific groups can do together.

### **Bereavement Programs**

- Offer specific programming designed to support bereaved parents & siblings that lose a child to cancer. This population is at high risk of experience extreme guilt, depression, anger, resentment, and isolation.
- For bereaved siblings, we will offer therapeutic activities which include arts, crafts, games, and journaling. The goal of these activities will be communicating or working through the death of their brother or sister.
- For bereaved parents, it will allow for bonding and support as well as one-on-one care if needed.
- Host programming for the entire family unit so they can learn ways to cope through the grief process as a family.
- We will collaborate with similar organizations that provide grief programs such as Bridges of South Carolina and Camp Hands of Hope.

### **Parent and Sibling Specific Programs**

- Host parent day and night events, sibling day programming and overnight events.
- Our future goal is to host a siblings-only weekend and parent's weekend.
- A cancer diagnosis greatly impacts the child with cancer themselves but also the entire family unit. Mothers, fathers, and siblings all experience a wide variety of stressors that can cause long term psychological issues such as anxiety, depression, feelings of isolation, etc. Therefore, we will provide new programming (virtually and on-site) focused on siblings and parents. It is important that we provide our parents and siblings with a safe environment to come together and work through their experiences together and feel like they are not alone.



FY2023 Budget	PROGRAMS	DEVELOPMENT	ADMINISTRATION	TOTAL
	FYE 09/30/23 Budget	FYE 09/30/23 Budget	FYE 09/30/23 Budget	FYE 09/30/23 Budget
<b>Revenues</b>				
Individual Contributions	25,150	264,000		289,150
Corporate Contributions	35,900	133,000		168,900
Event Registration and Admission		39,000		39,000
Event Fees & Sponsorships		91,000		91,000
Promotional Merch/Auction		197,000		197,000
Foundation Grants	82,550	170,000		252,550
Corporate Grants	173,278	55,000		228,278
Governmental Grants	165,000			165,000
Third party Fundraisers		82,500		82,500
In-Kind Gifts Received	253,930	99,000		352,930
Miscellaneous Income				
Interest & Dividends			10,000	10,000
Net Change in Market Value			10,000	10,000
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>735,808</b>	<b>1,130,500</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>1,886,308</b>
<b>Fundraising Costs</b>				
Bank Fees		12,225		12,225
Insurance				
Entertainment		24,000		24,000
Facility Rental		13,840		13,840
Vehicle Rental and Expense				
Equipment Rental		18,000		18,000
Event Supplies		23,478		23,478
Event Food and Beverage		19,827		19,827
Information Technology		2,200		2,200
Licenses, Memberships & Dues		150		150
Postage		2,670		2,670
Printing		27,365		27,365
Public Relations / Marketing		4,026		4,026
Professional Fees		72,150		72,150
Promotional Mdse		42,744		42,744
Auction expense				
Mileage/Gas		2,473		2,473
Miscellaneous		2,349		2,349
Volunteer Appreciation		1,784		1,784
		<b>269,281</b>		<b>269,281</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Bank Charges	840	4,600	700	6,140
Workers Compensation Insurance	5,970	2,663	367	9,000
General/Liability/Property	15,575	2,040	480	18,095
Employee Benefits	21,427	9,557	1,316	32,300
Officers and Directors Insurance	3,239	697	164	4,100
Conferences & Meetings	4,827	592	81	5,500
Event Entertainment	36,200			36,200
Event Entertainment GIK	11,300			11,300
Facility Rental	130,763			130,763
Facility Rental GIK	15,000			15,000
Vehicle Rental	10,800			10,800
Vehicle Rental GIK	900			900
Equipment Rental	12,275			12,275
Equipment Rental GIK	9,700			9,700
Maintenance & Grounds	4,108	884	208	5,200
Equipment Service/Contracts	7,146	1,258	296	8,700
Information Technology	30,045	5,100	1,200	36,345
Office supplies	3,980	1,775	244	5,999
Event supplies	64,820			64,820
Event supplies GIK	31,500			31,500
Supplies Food/Beverage	44,710			44,710
Supplies Food/Beverage GIK	55,200			55,200
Family Assistance	50,300			50,300
Licenses, Memberships & Dues	1,327	592	81	2,000
Occupancy/Rent/Storage	57,013	12,269	2,887	72,168
Utilities	2,370	510	120	3,000
Payroll - Salaries	356,360	158,950	21,879	537,189
FICA/Medicare Payroll Taxes	27,262	12,160	1,674	41,095
Employee Benefits Administration				
Postage/Mailings	3,970	510	120	4,600
Printing/Publications and Signage	47,180	1,020	240	48,440
Rebrand				
Public Relations / Marketing	6,580	1,775	244	8,599
Professional Fees	15,659	9,330	40,911	65,900
Professional Fees GIK	89,730			89,730
AmeriCorps VISTA	1,750	1,750		3,500
Staff Training & Education	2,158	740	102	3,000
Telephone	5,307	2,367	326	8,000
Travel & Transportation	7,350			7,350
Mileage/Gas	9,380	1,775	244	11,399
Other Travel Expenses				
Moving Expenses				
Depreciation Expense	23,700	5,100	1,200	30,000
Amortization Expense				
Volunteer Appreciation	3,934	504	162	4,600
Volunteer Appreciation GIK				
Volunteer Recruitment	3,500			3,500
Background Checks	1,500			1,500
Hospitality	2,654	1,184	163	4,001
Miscellaneous	2,240	888	122	3,250
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>1,241,549</b>	<b>240,590</b>	<b>75,531</b>	<b>1,557,670</b>
Percent of Total Other Expenses	79.71%	15.45%	4.85%	100.00%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,241,549</b>	<b>509,871</b>	<b>75,531</b>	<b>1,826,951</b>
Net Surplus (Deficit)				59,357
Restricted program funds carried fwd from prior years				9,700
<b>Net Surplus of operating funds</b>				<b>69,057</b>
<b>Add back non-cash expenditures</b>				
Depreciation				30,000
Amortization				
<b>Subtract non-cash revenue (other than in-kind)</b>				
Dividends (reinvested)				(10,000)
Change in market value (unrealized)				(10,000)
<b>Subtract investment in capital improvements</b>				<b>(50,000)</b>
Reallocation of capital campaign				
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash</b>				<b>29,057</b>





## Camp Happy Days - Camp Budget FY2023

### Revenues

Individual Contributions	\$	23,650
Corporate Contributions		34,400
Foundation Grants		54,550
Corporate Grants		38,710
Government Grants		143,000
In-kind donations		154,400
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>448,710</b>

### Expenses

Background Checks	\$	1,500
Bank Charges		800
Entertainment		34,000
Facility Rental		91,800
Equipment Rental		16,700
Equipment Service/Contracts		1,100
Information Technology		6,095
Event Supplies		41,200
Event Food and Beverage		69,000
Medical Liability Insurance		6,095
Payroll		65,789
Postage		291
Printing and Signage		2,540
Public Relations / Marketing		2,600
Professional Fees		83,000
Staff Training/Education		500
Travel & Transportation		9,200
Vehicle Rental		10,500
Volunteer Appreciation/Recruitment		6,000
	<b>\$</b>	<b>448,710</b>

### Net Cash Revenues

\$ -



## MISSION & HISTORY

*Camp Happy Days' mission is to offer support and encouragement to children diagnosed with cancer and their families by providing cost free year-round programs, special events and access to crisis resources. Our goal is to improve the physical, emotional and psychological health of the entire family facing pediatric cancer.*

- Year Founded: 1982
- 2022-2023 Budget: \$1,826,951
- 2024 Camp Budget: \$505,565
- Weekend Camps Budget (Includes two additional weekend camps): \$115,000
- Number Served: 1,734 children battling cancer, siblings and parents/guardians served in FY2021-2022
- 79% of all funds raised go directly to children and families with 21% going towards administrative and fundraising expenses
- Camp Happy Days serves more children with cancer and their families than any other nonprofit in South Carolina, and is the only organization that offers these services to children with cancer and their families across the entire state.

## NEED

Imagine hearing that your child or a family member's child has cancer. You can imagine the emotions that you would feel, but do you really know what it means to a parent to hear their child has cancer? For 250-300 families in South Carolina this year, they will hear this devastating news. The average age of a child diagnosed with cancer is only six years old, and even though most will survive, all will deal with the physical, mental and emotional long-term effects brought on by a cancer diagnosis. Camp Happy Days understands what these children and families go through because we have been at their side providing emotional and psychological support for the last 41 years. These children and their families are a part of a much bigger family of staff, volunteers, and the community who come together for one another and fight against pediatric cancer and its consequences. We are asking for \$250,000 in funding for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This funding will support Camp Happy Days' programs, including our 2024 Summer and Virtual Camps. We expect over 200 children with cancer and their siblings to attend in-person camp and 100 campers to participate in virtual camp. The funding will also support programs for families, teens, and young children held across the state throughout the year.

## **CAMP 2022**

110 children participated in Camp  
Over 110 volunteers participated for 7,040 volunteer hours

## **VIRTUAL CAMP 2022**

100 Briefcases Delivered to Campers at Home and in Hospital  
20 volunteers participated for 640 volunteer hours

## **IMPACT**

Attending Camp 2022:

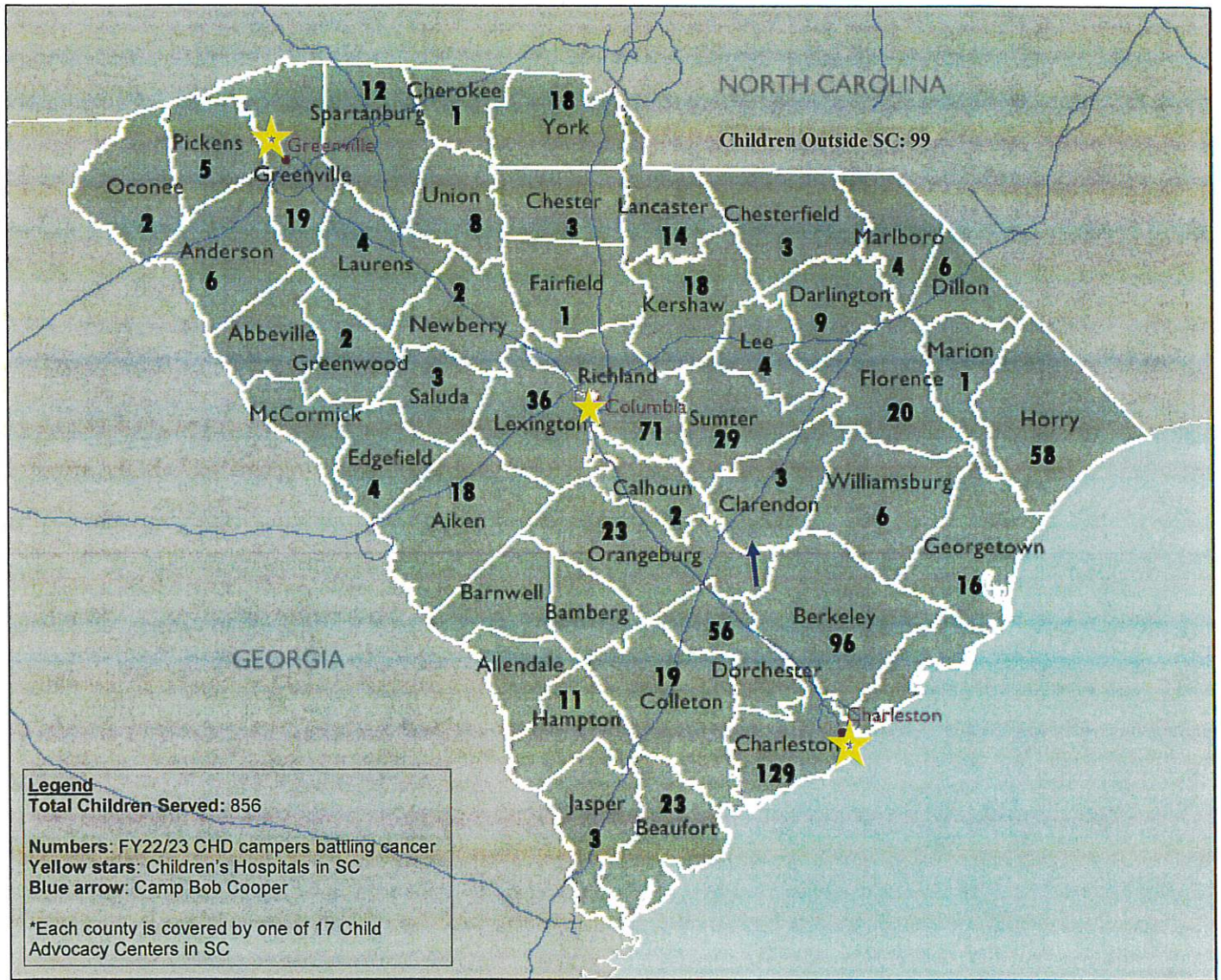
Campers agreed to the following measures:

- Friendship - I made new friends at Camp: 96%
- Independence - I was able to make my own decisions at Camp: 74%
- Confidence - I tried something new at Camp: 74%
- Hope - I feel more positive and/or hopeful about my future: 70%
- Teamwork - I worked well with my team: 88%

## **PROGRAMS GOALS**

- Provide over 80 programs and events during the fiscal year.
- Serve over 1,800 (duplicated) children and adults, welcome 100 new families and increase participation of returning families.
- Host two teen weekends and new pre-teen lock-in and day events.
- Increase from one to two family weekends throughout the year.
- Provide new bereavement programming for siblings and caregivers and partner.
- Start sibling and parent programming including a parent council and support group.
- Offer consistent on-site health and wellness programming.
- Improve and increase transportation opportunities to programs.





CHD Children By County

Updated 1/1/2021

2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number	County	Number
Abbeville	1	Abbeville	17	Abbeville	15	Abbeville	0	Abbeville	0	Abbeville	0	Abbeville	0	Abbeville	1	Abbeville	0
Allen	9	Allen	2	Allen	2	Allen	20	Allen	20	Allen	20	Allen	21	Allen	16	Allen	18
Anderson	5	Anderson	2	Anderson	3	Anderson	0	Anderson	0	Anderson	0	Anderson	0	Anderson	0	Anderson	10
Barnwell	45	Barnwell	1	Barnwell	1	Barnwell	0	Barnwell	3	Barnwell	0	Barnwell	0	Barnwell	6	Barnwell	0
Berkeley	28	Beaufort	15	Beaufort	23	Beaufort	0	Beaufort	0	Beaufort	0	Beaufort	0	Beaufort	0	Beaufort	0
Calhoun	2	Berkeley	62	Berkeley	68	Berkeley	1	Berkeley	22	Berkeley	28	Berkeley	25	Berkeley	26	Berkeley	23
Charleston	77	Calhoun	1	Calhoun	9	Calhoun	3	Calhoun	22	Calhoun	64	Calhoun	98	Calhoun	92	Calhoun	96
Chesterfield	2	Charleston	80	Charleston	78	Charleston	6	Charleston	6	Charleston	6	Charleston	6	Charleston	5	Charleston	2
Clarendon	1	Charokee	0	Charokee	1	Charleston	91	Charleston	104	Charleston	120	Charleston	128	Charleston	121	Charleston	129
Colleton	18	Chesterfield	2	Chesterfield	3	Charokee	1	Charokee	1	Charokee	1	Charokee	1	Charokee	1	Charokee	1
Darlington	9	Clarendon	5	Clarendon	8	Chaster	0	Chaster	0	Chaster	0	Chaster	0	Chaster	0	Chaster	0
Dillon	13	Colleton	20	Colleton	19	Chesterfield	3	Chesterfield	4	Chesterfield	5	Chesterfield	6	Chesterfield	4	Chesterfield	3
Dorchester	73	Darlington	23	Darlington	23	Clarendon	10	Clarendon	9	Clarendon	9	Clarendon	9	Clarendon	7	Clarendon	3
Fairfield	1	Dillon	13	Dillon	14	Colleton	20	Colleton	23	Colleton	22	Colleton	22	Colleton	18	Colleton	19
Florence	22	Dorchester	35	Dorchester	65	Darlington	28	Darlington	28	Darlington	31	Darlington	31	Darlington	11	Darlington	9
Georgetown	5	Edgefield	0	Edgefield	5	Dillon	13	Dillon	14	Dillon	19	Dillon	15	Dillon	8	Dillon	6
Greenville	18	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	4	Dorchester	63	Dorchester	68	Dorchester	66	Dorchester	65	Dorchester	55	Dorchester	56
Hampton	7	Florence	28	Florence	25	Edgefield	5	Edgefield	5	Edgefield	5	Edgefield	5	Edgefield	5	Edgefield	4
Horry	61	Georgetown	23	Georgetown	21	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	4	Fairfield	1
Jasper	2	Greenville	25	Greenville	23	Florence	19	Florence	17	Florence	26	Florence	24	Florence	23	Florence	20
Kershaw	8	Hampton	13	Hampton	17	Georgetown	22	Georgetown	28	Georgetown	27	Georgetown	28	Georgetown	23	Georgetown	16
Lancaster	2	Horry	53	Horry	44	Greenville	37	Greenville	40	Greenville	38	Greenville	40	Greenville	26	Greenville	19
Laurens	2	Jasper	5	Jasper	5	Greenwood	0	Greenwood	0	Greenwood	1	Greenwood	1	Greenwood	6	Greenwood	2
Lee	9	Kershaw	10	Kershaw	15	Hampton	16	Hampton	18	Hampton	17	Hampton	16	Hampton	17	Hampton	11
Lexington	23	Lancaster	3	Lancaster	2	Horry	56	Horry	60	Horry	67	Horry	64	Horry	53	Horry	58
Madison	1	Laurens	2	Laurens	3	Jasper	5	Jasper	5	Jasper	5	Jasper	5	Jasper	2	Jasper	3
Marlboro	4	Lee	10	Lee	11	Kershaw	14	Kershaw	13	Kershaw	14	Kershaw	13	Kershaw	18	Kershaw	3
Orangeburg	18	Lexington	53	Lexington	47	Lancaster	2	Lancaster	1	Lancaster	0	Lancaster	0	Lancaster	4	Lancaster	14
Richland	30	Marion	6	Marion	4	Laurens	5	Laurens	4	Laurens	4	Laurens	4	Laurens	8	Laurens	4
Saluda	3	Newberry	2	Newberry	3	Lee	9	Lee	9	Lee	8	Lee	8	Lee	3	Lee	4
Spartanburg	6	Oconee	2	Oconee	2	Lexington	38	Lexington	36	Lexington	51	Lexington	50	Lexington	33	Lexington	36
Sumter	20	Orangeburg	18	Orangeburg	13	Marion	4	Marion	3	Marion	2	Marion	2	Marion	2	Marion	1
Williamsburg	2	Pickens	0	Pickens	6	Marlboro	1	Marlboro	1	Marlboro	0	Marlboro	0	Marlboro	0	Marlboro	4
York	5	Richland	53	Richland	53	McCormick	0	McCormick	0	McCormick	0	McCormick	0	McCormick	0	McCormick	0
Other	41	Saluda	2	Saluda	6	Newberry	3	Newberry	3	Newberry	3	Newberry	3	Newberry	7	Newberry	2
Total	583	Spartanburg	6	Spartanburg	2	Oconee	2	Oconee	2	Oconee	2	Oconee	2	Oconee	4	Oconee	2
		Sumter	27	Sumter	25	Orangeburg	14	Orangeburg	14	Orangeburg	15	Orangeburg	20	Orangeburg	18	Orangeburg	23
		Williamsburg	2	Williamsburg	2	Pickens	6	Pickens	6	Pickens	6	Pickens	5	Pickens	9	Pickens	5
		York	7	York	7	Richland	48	Richland	48	Richland	53	Richland	58	Richland	66	Richland	71
		Other	23	Other	30	Saluda	6	Saluda	8	Saluda	5	Saluda	5	Saluda	3	Saluda	3
		Total	675	Total	711	Spartanburg	2	Spartanburg	4	Spartanburg	4	Spartanburg	4	Spartanburg	12	Spartanburg	12
						Sumter	25	Sumter	25	Sumter	24	Sumter	27	Sumter	29	Sumter	29
						Union	0	Union	0	Union	2	Union	2	Union	8	Union	8
						Williamsburg	2	Williamsburg	1	Williamsburg	2	Williamsburg	2	Williamsburg	4	Williamsburg	5
						York	8	York	8	York	11	York	10	York	18	York	18
						Other	43	Other	41	Other	40	Other	37	Other	99	Other	99
						Total	778	Total	802	Total	848	Total	856	Total	872	Total	856



## Camp Happy Days Demographics

Ethnicity	Percent
African American	37%
Asian/PI	2%
Caucasian	48%
Hispanic	7%
Other	6%

Income Level	Percent
Low Income*	61%
Not considered Low Income	39%
Total	100%

\*Based on Poverty Threshold

\*Over 1 in 5 families make less than \$10,000 in yearly income.



January 18, 2023

Dear To Whom It May Concern:

**Pediatric  
Hematology/Oncology**  
135 Rutledge Avenue  
MSC 561  
Charleston, SC 29425

Tel (843) 792-2957  
Fax (843) 792-8912

**Michelle Hudspeth, M.D.  
Shayla Bergmann, M.D.  
Anca Dumitriu, M.D.  
Sherron Jackson, M.D.  
Jennifer Jaroscak, M.D.  
Sandeep Kuril, MD  
Jacqueline Kraveka, D.O**

I am writing on behalf of my unwavering support and appreciation for the Camp Happy Days organization. As a native South Carolinian, Wofford graduate, and MUSC graduate, it has been my life's mission to ensure that the children of South Carolina have access to the best treatment options possible. As the Division Chief for Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and the Director of Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplantation here at MUSC, I am privileged to work with children and families from all over our state. We are thrilled to be able to serve the children of our state as a top-ranked pediatric cancer center, recently ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the country for outcomes by US News and World Report.

I can tell you that looking into parents' eyes and telling them that their child has cancer is a soul-wrenching task. The emotions and hurt in that moment are beyond words. A childhood cancer diagnosis is life-changing for the entire family. While treating and guiding children and families through intense therapy, it is critical that they have positive support to help them keep fighting and sustain their battle. Their childhood innocence has been quickly stripped away, and they are thrown into a world of difficult treatments.

Camp Happy Days provides that shining light of support to keep them fighting. These are children who have to miss so much of normal childhood, and the week of camp provides them a chance to simply be a child again. The simple joys of things like fishing, camp games, and fun pranks on counselors in the dining hall are enough to keep them fighting for the battle they have to face. They also have a chance to be around a whole community "like them" where other children understand the fears and worries that they face. For many children, going back to school and their friends is very scary after feeling so different during cancer treatment. Camp builds their confidence and allows them to rejoin their communities and thrive.

Cancer indeed takes a toll on the whole family. Siblings are often left with conflicted emotions- scared that their brother or sister will die, sad because of their own loss of routine and uncertainty, as they are often back and forth between family, friends, and neighbors as the parents try to work and attend to the medical needs emergencies for the child with cancer, and then guilt that they are feeling sad. Their childhoods are also forever changed. Camp also gives these children a safe place to be with other siblings who are going through the same problems and receive support.

The look of sheer happiness in the faces of these children at camp is indescribable. Now, the parents shed tears of joy, instead of sadness to see their



child have a chance to be normal again. Camp Happy Days is a critical partner to help us take care of these special children and their families.

With Gratitude,

Michelle Hudspeth, MD

Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Director, Pediatric Blood & Marrow Transplantation

Division Chief, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

Medical University of South Carolina Children's Hospital/Hollings  
Cancer Center

A NCI Designated Cancer Center

135 Rutledge Avenue MSC 561

Charleston, SC 29425

FAX: 843-792-8912

PHONE: 843-792-0381

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**Jennifer Jaroscak, M.D.**  
**Jacqueline Kravcka, D.O.**  
**Sandeep Kuril, M.D.**



1/18/2023

**Pediatric**

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**Jennifer Jaroscak, M.D.**  
**Sandeep Kuril, M.D.**  
**Jacqueline M. Kraveka, D.O.**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to request your continued support for a cause very near and dear to my heart. Camp Happy Days is a life-changing organization that serves children with a diagnosis of cancer and their families. Not only do they support the patient, they offer their services and support to the entire family unit and continue to provide care long past diagnosis.

Camp Happy Days is at its heart a camp for children with complex medical issues. Children with cancer and their siblings attend a week of fun filled events – cost free – every year until the age out. Each year, we open up a mini-clinic and hand out meds, wrap ankles, treat bug bites, administer types of chemotherapy, suture lacerations – the list is endless! I am amazed by what we are able to accomplish without having to remove the kids from the fun! All of our supplies are donated from members of the community or provided for by monetary donations – and without those donations we would not be able to provide the care that we do. Nurses and physicians from the community volunteer their time to come and be with the children at camp and care for them. It is a great honor and a humbling privilege for parents to give up their sometimes medically fragile children to us for a week – all so they can have an amazing week of fun – and hopefully forget for a little while that they are sick or different from other children. At camp, we see these children full of life and being their true selves. It renews our commitment to our profession and gives us the “positive vibes” we need to tackle the really hard days.

As kids age, many become counselors themselves and use their prior experiences as campers to help a new generation of campers. Camp is a life-changing, eye opening experience to say the least. I cannot imagine my life without Camp Happy Days, and I know the campers and families would agree.

Camp is a gift for everyone, but as a medical provider, I speak for the whole team when I say it is a true gift for us. We take care of these children in the hospital, when they are sick or getting treatments, and in clinic when we are hoping for good scan results after another round of chemo – we don't get to see them having fun and playing like kids should – until we come to Camp!

The entire family is served by the camp. Patients get to come and be amongst their peers who understand what it's like to be sick with a complex diagnosis. They are treated like "normal" children. Siblings who come to camp are surrounded by other kids who know exactly how it feels to have their family's life turned upside down by this diagnosis. Watching these children form lifelong relationships with their "camp family" is magical. The parents get a week of respite– no doctor's appointments, no medicines to give out, no having to go to work and worry if they will have to leave because their child is sick in the hospital. Parents tell me they look forward to this week just like the kids do – sometimes I think even more so. They work around the clock to care for their children and keep them healthy and safe, often at the expense of their own health, self-care and relationships – Camp gives them the renewed energy and inspiration to take on another year of caring and advocating for their kids. These parents hand us their greatest gifts – their children – and say, "we trust you with our babies...now go have fun."

During the COVID 19 pandemic, Camp Happy Days found different ways to still bring camp to our patients in the hospital, in clinic and at home. They participated in different virtual activities and connected with each other everyday for a week. Everyone was very excited.

Camp Happy Days also help with our survivorship clinic. When patients are more than 5 years off therapy, they transfer to survivorship clinic and they are seen until they are 30 years old. Camp Happy Days is bringing snacks to each survivorship clinic which is twice a month. These help patients and parents a lot during busy survivorship clinic days. Recently they have up their game and are also bringing activity bags to help during these busy days. These activity bags are geared towards the patient to help with the anxiety of being in clinic and making it go smoother. It is great help for us and the patients.

They are constantly expanding and adding additional ways to help these families and that requires significant funding for sure. Without the generous donations and funding made to Camp Happy Days each year, these programs would not be able to be offered. They are a wonderful organization that truly strives to be available, in whatever capacity, for these children and their families.

I appreciate your time consideration of this wonderful organization.

Sincerely,



Anca Dumitriu, MD  
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics  
Director of FACT Survivorship Clinic  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology





Inspire health. Serve with compassion. Be the difference.

January 23, 2023

SC Ways and Means Subcommittee for Health and Human Services:

As the Social Worker at Prisma Health Children's Hospital-Midlands, Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders in Columbia, SC, a large portion of my job is dedicated to locating resources for our patients and their families. I have known the wonderful people of Camp Happy Days for eight years now. Since meeting them, Camp Happy Days has become a familiar, friendly, and reliable form of support not just for our families, but also for me as a professional.

One of the most difficult parts of helping a family whose child was just diagnosed with cancer is helping them navigate their new and unexpected financial situation. We meet families from all different backgrounds, and we have learned that they will all be affected financially at some point. It is a difficult adjustment, and as a social worker I rely heavily on outside organizations to help these families through the hardest times of their lives. Recently, Camp Happy Days has been pivotal in helping our bereaved families by providing much needed assistance for the high costs of their child's funeral. I continue to count on this assistance for my families who are grieving. It provides moments of relief in a devastating time.

Although there are many organizations throughout the country that help families with children with cancer pay their bills, I cannot describe just how valuable it is to have a local organization to help our families. Their proximity allows them to develop special bonds with the families they serve. They work diligently to follow up with our families in a timely manner. We are so lucky to have a reliable resource right here in the state of South Carolina.

Aside from financial assistance and summer camp, Camp Happy Days has added value to the programming we are able to offer our patients. Every year on Valentine's Day we can count on Camp Happy Days to bring joy via a special delivery program to our patients and families who are stuck in the hospital. We are also able to supplement our own Holiday Adoption program with their Holiday Giving program, which allows us to maximize the number of patients we help throughout the state. Camp Happy Days remains adaptable in all they do, offering flexibility to help reach families with varying accessibility to programming. As a result, many oncology camps around the country continue to look to them as experts in Virtual Programming.

At Prisma Health-Midlands, we operate our own summer camp through CAMP KEMO Programs. Our campers enjoy our programs and camps so much, that they are always asking what other camps they can attend. Luckily for us, we can tell them about Camp Happy Days and all that they offer. Our relationship with them allows us to offer our kids double the experiences of friendship, freedom, and a sense of normalcy. We are grateful that they share our belief in camp and year-round programming as an essential part of the healing process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caitlin Sullivan".

---

Caitlin Sullivan, LMSW  
Prisma Health Children's Hospital-Midlands, Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders  
CAMP KEMO Programs  
[caitlin.sullivan2@prismahealth.org](mailto:caitlin.sullivan2@prismahealth.org), 803-434-3522



January 20, 2023

To the members of the South Carolina Ways and Means Committee:

We are writing this letter on behalf of Camp Happy Days in recognition of the ways in which they generously provide support to the patients and families with whom we work. We are both Certified Child Life Specialists for the patients of the BI-LO Charities Children's Cancer Center in Greenville, SC. Our role in the care of these patients is to promote positive coping with hospitalization, medical experiences, and overall diagnosis in a way that is developmentally informed. With this goal in mind, Camp Happy Days makes a huge contribution in providing support to these families in the hospital, as well as outside of the medical environment. Although programming has continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Camp Happy Days has been busy identifying new and creative ways to continue to reach patients and families.

In the world of childhood cancer, nearly every facet of family life is impacted. One of the unique and most impactful qualities about Camp Happy Days is the recognition of this need and the wide range of programs designed to support our patients, and additionally their parents and siblings. This type of holistic support is truly valuable and meaningful to the families served. Each year, Camp Happy Days staff delivers Valentine's Day stuffed animals for our inpatient families during the month of February. This spring, Camp Happy Days helped to make a prom night extra special for one of our teenage patients battling cancer for the second time. This summer, Camp Happy Days was able to return to their in-person camp programming while also maintaining the virtual camp opportunity that allowed our patients in the hospital to still have the memorable and fun experience of attending camp. For Christmas, Camp Happy Days helped fulfill Christmas wish lists for some of our families. In addition to these programs, Camp Happy Days also offers financial support to families who are in need while their child is undergoing treatment.

The consistent and creative support of Camp Happy Days truly makes a difference for our patients as well as children and families across the state. We are incredibly grateful to consider Camp Happy Days a community partner and we look forward to future collaboration.

With appreciation,  
Lindsey Metz, MA, CCLS  
BI-LO Charities Children's Cancer Center  
Prisma Health Children's Hospital- Upstate

Emily Williams, MS, CCLS  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Unit  
Prisma Health Children's Hospital- Upstate

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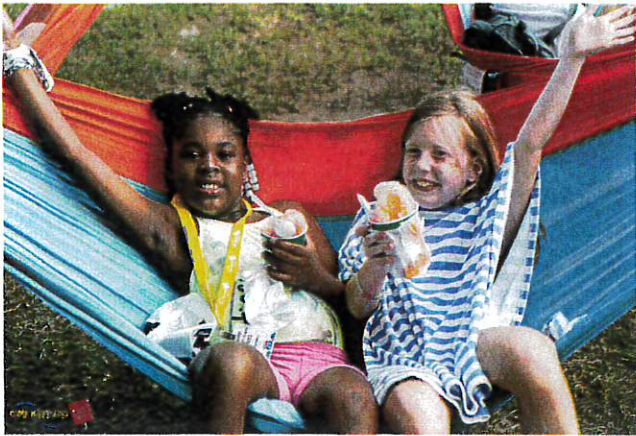
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## CHD Programs Calendar Spring / Summer 2023





## Camp Happy Days Programs Calendar

### January 11th - Virtual Hang Out

- Time- 6:30pm, via Zoom
- Ages 10-18

### January 18th - Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time - 7:00pm via Zoom
- Doodlebugs Ages 0-9





### January 21st - High Tea


- Time- 1:00pm-3:30pm
- All CHD Families welcome
- Location- Camp Happy Days Office


### January 27th- Fit Kids Friday with Dragonfly Yoga


- Time- 6:00-8:00pm
- Ages 4-12 - Parent drop off
- Camp Happy Days Office


## January 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
01	02	03	04	05	06	07
08	09	10	11 	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 	19	20	21 
22	23	24	25	26	27 	28
29	30					

 Virtual Hangout

 Doodlebug Bedtime Story

 High Tea

 Fit Kids Friday

### February 15th - Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time- 7:00pm via Zoom
- Doodlebugs - Ages 0-9

### February 19th - Family Game Night

- Time- 5:00pm - 8:00pm
- Open to all CHD families
- Location - Camp Happy Days Office

## February 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14 	15 	16	17	18
19 	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

 Doodlebug Bedtime Story

 Family Dinner & Game Night



# March 2023

## March 11th-12th Pre-teen Lock In

- Overnight event - drop off Saturday 4pm, Pick up Sunday 9am
- Ages 10 - 12 years old
- Location- Camp Happy Days Office

## March 15th - Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time- 7:00pm on Zoom
- Doodlebugs- Ages 0-9

## March 31st-April 2nd- Family Weekend

- Kanuga Inn and Lodge
- First come, First Serve Basis
- Contact Programs staff for more info

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11 
12 	13	14	15 	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	30	31 		

 Pre-Teen Lock In 
  Doodlebug Bedtime Story 
  Family Weekend

# April 2023

## April 12th - Virtual Hang Out

- Time-6:30pm on Zoom
- Ages 10-18

## April 14th - Doodlebugs Lunch Bunch Dragonfly Kids Yoga












- Time- 12:00-2:00pm
- Ages: 4-8, Parent drop off
- Location- Camp Happy Days Office

## April 19th- Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time-7:00pm, on Zoom
- Ages 0-9

## April 22nd- Family Day at The Goatery

- Time - 11:00am - 4:00pm

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						01 
02 	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12 	13	14 	15
16	17	18	19 	20	21	22 
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	 Doodlebug Bedtime Story  Virtual Hang Out  Family Weekend  Yoga Lunch Bunch  Family Day @ The Goatery					

## May 2023

### May 7th - Doodlebug Day

- Time- 1:00pm-4:00pm
- All Doodlebugs & Families welcome
- Location - TBD

### May 17th - Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time-7:00pm, on Zoom
- Ages 0-9 years old

### May 19-21st- Spring Teen Weekend

- Camp Happy Days Teens
- Ages 13-18 years old
- Location & Time - TBD

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Doodlebug Bedtime Story



Teen Weekend



Doodlebug Day

## June 2023

### June 12th-15th - Virtual Camp - "To Virtual Camp & Beyond"

- 4 full days of Camp at home!
- Ages 0-18 years
- Camp enrollment will begin March 1st, 2023

### June 16th- Family Movie Night

- Time - 5:00pm - 8:00pm
- All CHD Families welcome
- Location- Camp Happy Days Office

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Virtual Camp



Family Movie Night













# July 2023

## July 2nd-8th Camp Happy Days - Overnight Summer Camp

- Ages 4-16 years old
- Camp enrollment will begin March 1st, 2023

## July 19th - Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Story

- Time-7:00pm, on Zoom
- Ages 0-9 years old





S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
						
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	 Camp!		 Doodlebug Bedtime Story			

# Camp Happy Days Programs, Descriptions, & Qualifications


## Family Programs & Resources

 <p><b>Family Financial Assistance</b></p>	<p>To ease the financial strain that pediatric cancer puts on families, Camp Happy Days provides financial assistance to qualifying families to assist with bills, grocery cards, fuel cards, and other related needs.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child with cancer (ages 0-18) diagnosed or relapsed within last 5 years</li> <li>• Families who have lost a child due to cancer (Renaissance family) qualify 2 years after child passes away</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Family Weekends</b></p>	<p>A weekend designed for Camp Happy Days families where they have the opportunity to connect, learn, share, and experience the magic of camp together.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child with cancer (ages 0-18) diagnosed or relapsed within last 5 years</li> <li>• Families who have lost a child due to cancer (Renaissance family) qualify 2 years after child passes away</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Family Nights</b></p>	<p>Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers host quarterly activities for CHD families to participate in together. Some activities include game nights, movie nights, and family dinners.</p>	<p>Open to all CHD families and volunteers</p>
 <p><b>Holiday Giving</b></p>	<p>Volunteers, donors, and friends of Camp Happy Days sponsor a family of a child diagnosed with cancer, to help fulfill their children's Christmas wishes.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child with cancer (0-18) diagnosed or relapsed within last 5 years</li> <li>• Families who have lost a child due to cancer (Renaissance family) qualify 2 years after child passes away</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Holiday Festival</b></p>	<p>A signature holiday program for Camp Happy Days families to gather and celebrate the upcoming holiday.</p>	<p>Open to all CHD families and volunteers</p>




## Hospital Programs

 <p><b>CHD Hospital Take-over Day</b></p>	<p>CHD staff and volunteers bring the CHD experience to the hospital. Once a month, we spend the day at MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital on the 10th floor (Oncology/Hematology) doing crafts and activities.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We welcome all patients - that are admitted or are being seen in the outpatient clinic.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>F.A.C.T Clinic</b></p>	<p>CHD provides healthy snacks &amp; activity bags 24 times a year for patients and families who attend F.A.C.T clinic. Follow-up After Cancer Treatment (F.A.C.T Clinic) is a comprehensive clinic designed for long-term pediatric cancer survivors at MUSC Children's Health Summey Medical Pavilion.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All patients and families scheduled via MUSC for clinic visit</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Brain Tumor Clinic</b></p>	<p>CHD staff and volunteers bring arts &amp; crafts activities and healthy snacks to patients and families during their clinic visit. Brain Tumor Clinic occurs monthly at MUSC Children's Health Summey Medical Pavilion for children who have recently finished treatment</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All patients and families scheduled via MUSC for clinic visit</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Dream Dates</b></p>	<p>A customized day or night event created to make dreams come true for children struggling with treatment or are celebrating the end of treatment. The activities are geared toward the child's interests</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 0-18</li> <li>• Child diagnosed or relapsed within 5 years &amp; those who have finished or starting treatment</li> </ul>




## Age Specific Programs

 <p><b>Camp Happy Days Overnight Camp</b></p>	<p>Weeklong overnight event at Camp Bob Cooper for children diagnosed with cancer and their siblings, ages 4-16. This powerful, life changing experience helps children build self-esteem, courage, confidence, and trust in an incredibly active, high-energy environment</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 4-16 years</li> <li>• Child diagnosed with cancer or relapsed within 5 years</li> <li>• Siblings must attend 1st year with the child with cancer, then can continue to attend until 16 years old</li> </ul>
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 <p><b>Doodlebug Programs</b></p>	<p>Doodlebug programs are held throughout the year and allow for our doodlebug families to engage in fun activities with Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 0-9 years</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Pre-teen Programs</b></p>	<p>Our pre-teen programs are held throughout the year and provide children and their siblings the opportunity to reconnect, participate in fun therapeutic activities, and bond with other pre-teens who are going through a similar experience.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children ages 10-13 years</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Extreme Teen Weekends</b></p>	<p>This program allows teens to interact with one another, share experiences, and engage in a variety of fun activities. Hosted twice a year, fall &amp; spring</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 13 - 18 years</li> </ul>

## Virtual Programs

 <p><b>Doodlebug Bedtime Stories</b></p>	<p>Doodlebug Bedtime Stories take place once a month. Each month is geared toward a different theme including a fun children's book and activity. Our goal is to connect, learn, and laugh together.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 0-9 years old</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Virtual Hang Out</b></p>	<p>We will engage in a variety of activities such as cooking, playing games, or just a time to connect and catch up together.</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ages 10-18 years old</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Virtual Camp</b></p>	<p>An opportunity to experience camp, virtually! Each camper receives a themed box full of activities needed for the entire week. These boxes are filled to the brim with opportunities to bring the benefits of Camp to their home and engage and connect with their camp family!</p>	<p>Qualifications -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All enrolled children with CHD ages 0-18</li> <li>• All oncology patients admitted in hospital can receive a box</li> </ul>



## **Programs Descriptions**

### **Family Programs & Resources**

#### **Family Financial Assistance**

To ease the financial strain that pediatric cancer puts on families, Camp Happy Days provides financial assistance to qualifying families to assist with bills, groceries, gas and other everyday needs.

#### **Family Weekend**

A weekend designed for Camp Happy Days families where they have the opportunity to connect, learn, share, and experience the magic of camp together.

#### **Family Nights**

Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers host quarterly activities for CHD families to participate in together. Activities include game nights, movie nights, and family dinners.

#### **Holiday Festival**

A signature holiday program for Camp Happy Days families to gather and celebrate the upcoming holidays.

#### **Holiday Giving**

Volunteers, donors, and friends of Camp Happy Days sponsor a family or a child diagnosed with cancer, to help fulfill their children's holiday wishes.

### **Hospital Programs**

#### **In-Hospital Programming & Hospital Check-Ins**

Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers bring the CHD experience to the hospital. Once a month, we spend the day at MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital doing crafts and activities with the patients on the pediatric oncology unit. During a hospital stay, families can request a special visit from Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers. Families can choose to receive a nice meal, make their favorite craft, play games, or have story time.

#### **Dream Dates**

A customized day or night event created to make dreams come true for children struggling with treatment or celebrating the end of treatment. Activities are geared toward the child's interests, and they can choose a special or meaningful experience for Camp Happy Days to bring to life

## **Outpatient Clinic Visits**

### **FACT Clinic**

Camp Happy Days provides healthy snacks and activity bags 24 times a year for patients and families who attend. Follow-up After Cancer Treatment (F.A.C.T Clinic), a comprehensive clinic for long-term pediatric cancer survivors at MUSC Children's Health Summey Medical Pavilion.

### **Brain Tumor Clinic**

Camp Happy Days brings arts and crafts activities and healthy snacks to patients and families during their clinic visit. Brain Tumor Clinic occurs monthly at MUSC Children's Health Summey Medical Pavilion for children who have recently finished treatment for a brain tumor

## **Age-Specific Programs**

### **Annual Summer Camp**

This weeklong, flagship event in Summerton, SC is for children diagnosed with cancer and their siblings, ages 4-16. This powerful, life changing experience helps children build self-esteem, courage, confidence, and trust in an incredibly active, high-energy environment designed just for them.

### **Doodlebug Programs**

Programs designed for children and their siblings ages 0-9. Doodlebug programs are held throughout the year and allow families to engage in fun activities with other families, Camp Happy Days staff, and volunteers.

### **Pre-teen Programs**

Programs designed for children and their siblings ages 10-13. Our pre-teen programs are held throughout the year and provide children and their siblings the opportunity to reconnect, participate in fun therapeutic activities, and bond with other pre-teens who are going through a similar experience.

### **Teen Weekends**

Teen weekends are designed for teenagers and their siblings ages 13-18. This program allows teens to interact with one another, share experiences, and engage in a variety of fun activities. Teen weekends are hosted twice a year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

## **Virtual Programs**

Since 2020, we have developed a variety of virtual programming that is available to all Camp Happy Days children and their siblings. Virtual programming has provided a safe space for all CHD families to interact with each other, even from afar.

### **Virtual Camp**

Virtual Camp takes place in June each summer. Each camper receives a special themed box that includes all items needed for the entire week of camp! These boxes are filled to the brim with opportunities to bring the benefits of Camp to their home and engage and connect with their camp family. Virtual Camp has not only allowed us to serve children at their homes but also to start serving children in the hospital or currently quarantined due to their treatment plan.

### **Virtual Doodlebug Bedtime Stories**

Doodlebug Bedtime Stories take place once a month for children and their siblings ages 0-9. Each month is geared toward a different theme including a fun children's book and activity. Our goal is to connect, learn, and laugh together.

### **Virtual Hangout**

Camp Happy Days staff and volunteers host quarterly virtual hangouts for all children and siblings ages 10-18. We will engage in a variety of activities such as cooking, playing games, or just a time to connect and catch up together.



# PROGRAMS AT



SUMMER CAMP



VIRTUAL CAMP



HOSPITAL PROGRAMMING



TEEN WEEKENDS



FAMILY WEEKEND



FAMILY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING



HOLIDAY GIVING



HOLIDAY FESTIVAL



FAMILY NIGHTS



DOODLEBUG PROGRAMS



PRE-TEEN PROGRAMS

## OUR MISSION

Camp Happy Days' mission is to offer support and encouragement to children diagnosed with cancer and their families by providing cost-free year-round programs, special events and access to crisis resources. Our goal is to improve the physical, emotional and psychological health of the entire family facing pediatric cancer.

Scan here for more info:



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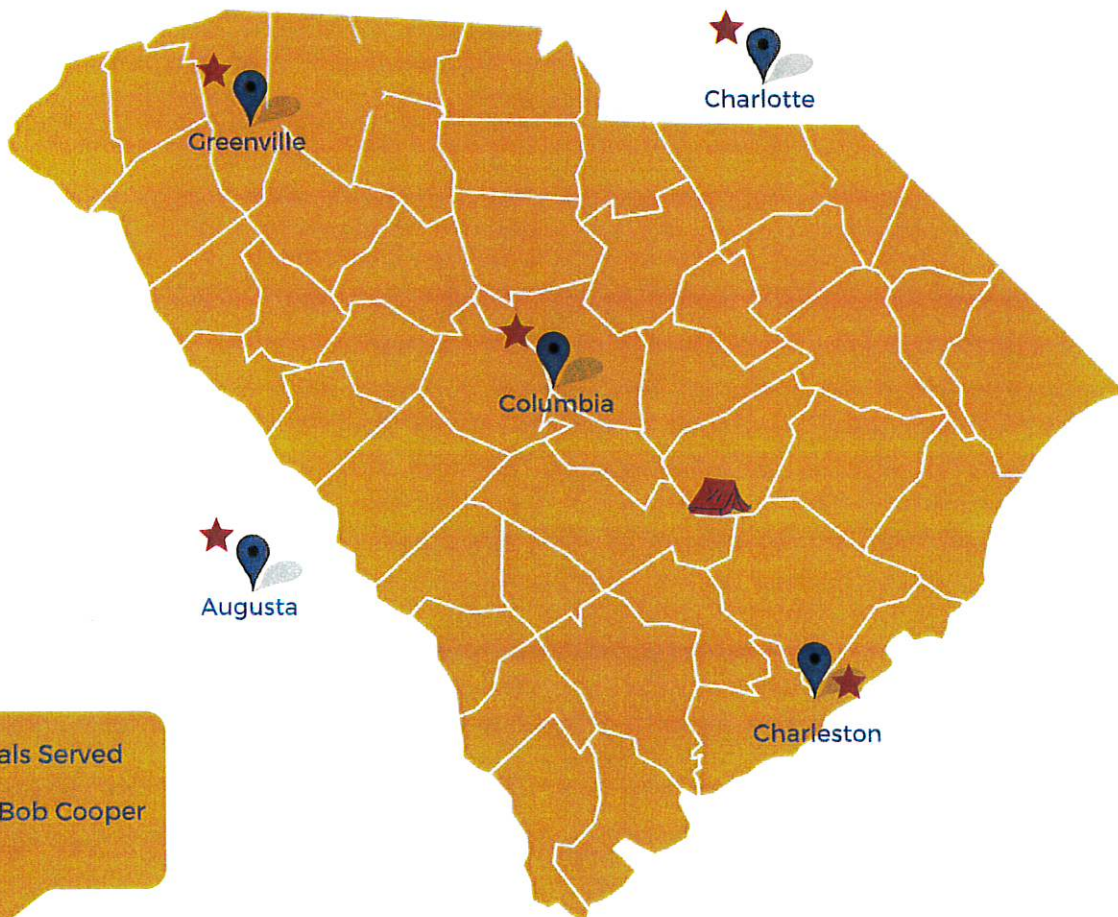


"These are children who have to miss so much of normal childhood, and the week of camp provides them a chance to simply be a child again. The simple joys of things like fishing, camp games, and fun pranks on counselors in the dining hall are enough to keep them fighting for the battle they have to face."

**-Dr. Michelle Hudspeth, Division Chief for Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, MUSC**



**What cancer takes away, Camp Happy Days helps give back - The chance to just be a kid again. Our kids learn to overcome adversity & emerge stronger and more self-assured - and have fun doing it.**





## CHD Renaissance\* Camper: Chloe

Chloe's brother was five years old when he was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma in 2016. While in the hospital for treatment, his mom learned about Camp Happy Days and they started attending programs such as Doodlebug day, family events and Camp. Following Trenton's diagnosis, Camp Happy Days has provided a support system and helped create friendships that have supported Chelsea and Chloe through good and bad times. In 2018, Trenton passed away at the age of 8 from his cancer. It has been a very difficult time for the family as they dealt with the loss of their cherished son and brother. Chelsea shared the importance of having other families and people that understand what they are going through and can provide comfort and support during that time. She is now providing that same support and comfort to other parents. "I would first of all encourage them to connect with us (Camp Happy Days). Find another family to help you get through it. I still stay connected to these families. If I am having a day or if they are having a day, I can share it with them without being judged. It's hard because people that don't go through this, don't understand. There is no judgement or "just get over it or will be fine"

Chloe is now 11 years old and has attended her 4th year at Camp. She continues to have special memories of her time at camp with her brother. One of her favorite memories was one night at camp where she was having a hard time being away from home. "I didn't want to sleep in my own cabin, and they took me to his dorm. They walked me over and I got to lay with him and he was so sweet about it."

These are memories that Chloe will always have with her brother.

Camp continues to be a special place for Chloe and Chelsea. Chloe is able to go have fun and remember special memories with her big brother Trenton while Mom shared her favorite part of Camp "is how you don't let anyone forget about our angels and the ones who have passed. There are special activities like the memory train and the pin. Chloe felt right at home."

Trenton will always be a very special part of Camp Happy Days.



\*CHD Renaissance Campers are campers that lost a sibling to cancer.