

Texas Lions Camp

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www.lionscamp.com

LIONS PROVIDE SUMMER CAMP AT NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES AND DIABETES

When the school year draws to a close, parents begin searching for summertime activities for their children. The range of choices may seem limited for parents whose children have disabilities. However, thanks to the Lions Clubs of Texas, many children with physical disabilities can look forward to a summer experience that all children enjoy and dream about—going to summer camp. The Texas Lions Camp offers special camping programs that serve children who have physical disabilities and diabetes.

Each summer, one-week camping sessions are offered by the Texas Lions Camp for children ages 7 through 16 who have physical disabilities. Prospective campers must have an I.Q. of 70 or above, and they should have some self-help skills in the areas of dressing, eating, toileting, and bathing. The camp offers a wide variety of activities for the enjoyment of campers, including arts and crafts, field sports, riding horses, swimming, and camping out overnight.

In addition, a day camp will be offered for qualified children ages 6 through 15. Parents may drop off their child each morning and

pick up the child each afternoon. The day camp will provide most of the activities during the one-week sessions except that the children will not stay overnight at the camp. Parents must arrange their own accommodations at one of the local motels, resorts or recreational vehicle campgrounds in the Kerrville area.

The Texas Lions Camp also offers a specially designed summer camping session for diabetic children ages 8 through 15 who are insulin-dependent. In addition to the recreational activities that make camp life fun, a medical team joins the camp staff to help campers learn to control their diabetes. Individualized attention in health care encourages control of diabetes while children learn to eat properly, monitor their blood sugar, and give their own insulin injections. ***“Diabetic children face a challenge to take proper care of themselves and take an active role in controlling their disease. Our goal is to assist them with these needs,”*** says Stephen Mabry, Executive Director. Parents are also provided with instructions to help them continue to assist and encourage their children after camp is over.

Since its first camping session in 1953, the Texas Lions Camp has provided over 50,000 children with physical disabilities or diabetes opportunities to learn and enjoy the outdoors. Texas Lions Camp is a non-profit organization under §501(C)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and funded by the Lions Clubs of Texas and other caring individuals. All children attend camp at no cost to them or their families. The Texas Lions Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) and licensed by the Texas Department of Health.

Physical disabilities that qualify a child for Texas Lions Camp include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Amputee
- Asthma
- Atonic Diplegia
- Blind/Vision Impaired
- Burns
- Cancer/Tumor
- Cerebral Palsy
- Charcot-Marie-Tooth
- Deaf/Hearing Impaired
- Epilepsy
- Heart
- Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Legg-Perthes
- Lupus
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Mute
- Partial Paralysis
- Phocomelia
- Polio
- Rickets
- Scoliosis
- Sickle Cell
- Stroke

Children ineligible to attend are those with severe developmental delay, contagious or infectious diseases, bedfast, a disability which might cause the child to be harmed by the activity of the camp, or a disability which does not allow the child to participate in the camp's therapeutic recreation program.

Examples include, but not limited to:

- Attention Deficit Disorder
- Attention Deficit/Hyperactive Disorder
- Autism
- Hemophilia
- Mental Retardation
- Osteogenesis Imperfecta (brittle bone)
- Down's Syndrome
- Emotionally Disturbed
- Any Contagious or Infections Disease

If in question as to qualifying disability, please call the camp to clarify and discuss further.

TEXAS LIONS CAMP YEAR 2008 SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

Handicap Sessions: Children ages 7 through 16 with physical disabilities—Lions will assist parents with transportation to and from the camp as needed:

- Session 1..... June 1 — June 7
- Session 2..... June 8 — June 14
- Session 3..... June 15 — June 21
- Session 4..... June 22 — June 28
- Session 5..... June 29 — July 5

Day Camp: Children ages 6 through 15 with physical disabilities—parents bring the child to the camp each morning and pick up the child each afternoon:

Day Camp..... July 16, 17, 18

Diabetic Sessions: Children ages 8 through 15 with Type 1 diabetes:

- Session 1..... July 20 — July 26
- Session 2..... July 27 — August 2

Parents, rather than Lions, are asked to bring and pick up diabetic campers, so that camp personnel will have complete medical information regarding the child and the parents will have the benefit of orientation and instruction offered to them in connection with the diabetic camping program. If parents need assistance with transportation, they should contact the Lion sponsoring the child or one of those listed here.

Further information: Camper applications may be obtained by calling any Lions Club, any Lions Club member, Lions Clubs International District 2-S2 or the Texas Lions Camp. Assistance is available locally from any of the following:

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District 2-S2 Contacts

- District Telephone 713-796-2960
- Dist. Gov. Art Drouin..... 936-890-8840
- Vice Dist. Gov. Barron Cagle.... 281-924-1747
- Camp Director Glen Starr..... 936-756-9870
- Camp Director Chuck Martin.... 281-550-2798
- PDG George Conner..... 713-664-4073

Camper information and application forms are also available from the Texas Lions Camp web site at www.lionscamp.com. However, a Lions Club member must sponsor each camper and sign the application form.



Texas Lions Camp



Camping for Children with Physical Disabilities

Camping for Children with Type 1 Diabetes

Summer 2008

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