PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING A FAMILY CAMP

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and

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WMFC @ HandinHand 2019
PSALM 139:14

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.
A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN CONNECT, RELAX, AND BE ENCOURAGED IS NEEDED, BUT ...

• It costs a lot of money for families and volunteers to attend
• Some churches will sponsor families to attend, but this is limited and on a rotating basis
• There are limited locations so families have to travel quite a distance
• They fill up quickly and often have waitlists
• Blesses families, but not everyone can get there
SOLUTION:
PLANNING YOUR WMFC

Who
What
Where
When
Why
How

WMFC @ Hand in Hand 2019
WHY DO A CAMP ....

• Everyone should be able to have this opportunity
• Emotionally support these families
• Provide a safe and fun place for the siblings and children to be children
• Build a network of families that get each other
• They are not alone
• They are understood
• Parents can connect with each other and other parents
TESTIMONY

- I could say the Amazing lodging...
- Or ...I could tell you that it was the food....
- Or... the 40 foot tall zip lining, the climbing wall and giant swing...
- Or... the breakout session on marriage...
- I can confidently say Kylie’s Buddies were our favorite part ...

- This experience will stay with us for a lifetime. We feel refreshed, renewed and reminded that God is for us. He has a purpose in every aspect of our life and we can do anything in His strength. (Philippians 4:13)
• This was a positive experience for the whole family...
• Siblings got to try new things...
• Parents got special attention too...
• Camp gave us time to meet other families without the need to explain our situation. They get it right away.
• We have continued these relationships and the families have become part of our regular support network...

• WMFC has been such a blessing to our family.
WHO IS THE CAMP FOR...

• Families with young children
• Adults only living in group homes or with families
• Mental, physical, intellectual, or medical needs
• Parents raising adult children with special needs

We chose to support young families – parents, siblings, and campers with all needs.

Young campers with special needs
WHERE WILL CAMP BE ....

- Summer camp location close to your area that will host your camp
- College/Boarding School
- Elementary School
- Church
- Hotel
- Location that is handicapped accessible
WHAT KIND OF CAMP ....

- Day camp vs. Overnight camp
- Fee vs. Free
- Programming vs. Free time
- Basics vs. Dreams
WHEN WILL CAMP BE ....

• Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring
• Church Schedule
• When the space is available
• When you can recruit volunteers
• When families can get away

❖ We chose summer, but this has changed dates
• Develop a team of leaders that share the passion

➢ Find others in the area to build community bridges and build your team!
HOW DO WE DO CAMP....

• Write your vision, policies, and procedures

  *Wonderfully Made Family Camp* was created to strengthen families having children with special needs. We believe that the best gift anyone can give a child with special needs is a healthy family.

• Plan a schedule to accomplish the goals for your camp

• Assign tasks for the team members

• Build teams to support and sustain – leadership plumpline

• Promote

• Fundraisers

• Training Volunteers and camp staff

• Go Time!
PRAY!

Let God’s hand orchestrate what will happen

- Modifiable!
  - Variety of kids’ lessons
  - You have contacts you can call on to be speakers
  - Supplies at church or VBS can be recycled

- Troubleshooting –
  - A natural way of life anytime you work with kids
  - Trouble/Problems will arise when you start a new event

- Greatest obstacle – Can be you!
WHO AM I?
“Eyes of the Lord are searching to and fro the earth, searching for someone upon whom He can show himself faithful”

— 2 Chronicles 16:9
Planning and Implementing a Family Camp

I’m here to help! If you are interested in putting on a family camp and want our printable examples go to:

https://wonderfullymadecamp.org/startup/