Southwest Kids Cancer Foundation is committed to actively preserving and advancing Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks camps and programs.

Southwest Kids Cancer Foundation aims to provide innovative, holistic programming that supports and enriches the life of every child and family affected by pediatric cancer.

Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks is dedicated to providing exciting and fun, medically staffed, year-round programs for families who have been affected by childhood cancer.

ARIZONA CAMP SUNRISE AND SIDEKICKS

530 E. McDowell Rd. #107-295, Phoenix, AZ 85004  (480) 382-8564
swkidscancerfoundation.org | azcampsunrise.org
Southwest Kids Cancer Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization created to preserve and advance Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks programs for pediatric cancer patients, survivors, and their siblings. When the American Cancer Society eliminated funding for pediatric cancer quality-of-life programs, including Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks, a group of dedicated volunteers founded the Southwest Kids Cancer Foundation to guarantee that these programs would continue serving this group of deserving kids. We are solely committed to ensuring that the life-changing programs of Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks remain available to children and families at no cost.

Arizona Camp Sunrise was one of the first camps in the world specifically designed to serve children with cancer. In 1983, 23 cancer patients and a staff of eight journeyed to the White Mountains of northern Arizona for the inaugural camp and it became an annual event. In 1985, Arizona Camp Sunrise moved to the mountains northeast of Payson, AZ. Within five years of the move, we recognized the important role of our Camp in serving the entire family. In 1988, the Sidekicks program were developed specifically for the siblings of children with cancer, as well as a Family Day Camp to serve children under the age of 8. Today, the programs of Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks are improving the quality-of-life to more than 200 children each year affected by pediatric cancer.

I feel like I am a normal kid here at camp and that I can do whatever I set my mind to.

Shelby camper

I feel better that others are here to help me understand there is a future after cancer.

Devon camper

When I see the way camp changes these kids for the better, I understand just how crucial it is for the families to be able to send them here.

Meghan counselor & former camper

It’s a safe place for kids to feel normal and get away from all the hurt and doctors.

Amy counselor & former camper

Many things, but the biggest thing is how many people care about all of us.

Lacy camper

For more than 30 years, Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks has consistently been recognized as a leader and innovator in pediatric oncology quality-of-life programming. By providing events throughout the year, having fun isn’t limited to summer months. Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks helps to make sure children with cancer don’t have to wait long for their next great experience.

Arizona Camp Sunrise is founded with 23 campers.

1983

Arizona Camp Sunrise launches Sidekicks programs for siblings.

1988

Receives accreditation from American Camping Assoc. and joins Children’s Oncology Camping Assoc., Intl.

Who we impacted in 2019

29 days of programs

Children served

221 families helped

Cost to those families

$0

Our Journey

American Cancer Society eliminates all funding for pediatric cancer quality-of-life programs, including Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks.

2012

Southwest Kids Cancer Foundation, Inc. is founded to ensure Arizona Camp Sunrise and Sidekicks programs continue.

2019

Today, SWKCF helps more than 200 children celebrate life, every year.

Ways we’re different

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IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

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