



Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Dear MDA Volunteers, Campers, and Families:

Many of you are processing the recent announcement about the MDA summer camp. We understand that it is a lot to absorb.

We are both touched and honored that MDA has considered Camp Barnabas to serve those they hold so close to their hearts.

While we are thrilled to work with MDA to offer a summer alternative for your loved ones, we understand that you have questions about how we can best serve you.

Over the last week we've been in touch with your Missouri and Kansas Care Specialists/Camp Directors to find out what matters most to you moving forward this summer. Included in this packet is a list of Frequently Asked Questions and Answers. We encourage you to read these thoroughly and contact us with any questions or suggestions for how we can serve you better.

Outside of your Care/Specialists at MDA, we also wanted to introduce two individuals who will be taking great care of you as you prepare for summer:



Kelli Hinderliter
Camper Registrar
417-708-5298
kelli@campbarnabas.org



Jamie Munroe
Missions Director
417-737-7082
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MDA is an incredible organization and we are so thankful to come alongside them to serve you.

We look forward to seeing you this summer.

Thank you,

Jason Brawner, CEO
Barnabas Foundation, Inc. - Camp Barnabas - Barnabas Prep

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Frequently Asked Questions



1. Question: How will Barnabas be trained to care for my child's specific medical needs?

Answer: Camp Barnabas is accustomed to accommodating a wide range of medical needs. In order to do so, we have a fully staffed on-site medical team available 24/7 during your camper's stay. Our medical team includes 1-2 doctors on campus, 6-10 nurses at any given time, and a team of nursing students ready to serve. Each cabin is assigned a dedicated nurse to provide additional medical oversight during the week.

While Camp Barnabas has served individuals with muscular dystrophy before, we value the training MDA provides to its volunteers and will be working closely with MDA staff to replicate it for our summer teams to ensure we are completely covering your loved one's needs.

Outside of this, one of the most valuable things you can do as a parent is to spend time completing the detailed medical questionnaire included in your child's registration packet. Every camper is different, and parents play a huge role in sharing essential information about their child.

You will have the opportunity to meet the medical staff who will be present during the week upon camper arrival. During the week, if a medical question comes up that requires clarification, or is an urgent care need, our medical team will contact you immediately.

Campers are never left alone and are to be within an arm's length of their missionary at all times. In any situation where a camper is not with the entire cabin, a third person will be present to accompany the missionary and camper.

2. Question: How will I know how my child is doing?

Answer: Parents seeking a daily update on their camper while at camp may call the Teas Trail office to request a check in. Parents will get a call back with the report and any fun updates to share. Additionally we upload and provide access to a minimum of 400 pictures daily for our parents to see the joy being had at camp.

3. Question: What activities can my child participate in at Camp Barnabas?

Answer: One of our core initiatives at Barnabas is to ensure sure all of our activities are designed so that anyone, regardless of ability, is able to participate. Here are just a few highlights of some the fun we have at camp:

Zero Entry Pool: We are equipped with water wheelchairs to help give campers the full pool experience. Additionally, our pool includes an extra-wide slide to accommodate campers who might need additional support riding down. We want all campers to have the option to experience this fun summer activity, so we work strategically and safely to utilize staff, volunteers and med-team to assist those in doing so.

High Ropes Course: Our high ropes course was once the largest accessible ropes course in America! It includes a rock wall up and a zip line down. In order to access it, campers who utilize a wheelchair are transferred out of their wheelchair into a special designed seat with harnesses, ropes and comfort padding. Safety is paramount for Barnabas, which is why helmets are still required, even with the secure safety seat. Staff then utilize a pulley system to bring individuals into the air and through the ropes course. Campers can choose two routes, one ending in a zipline and the other ending in a giant swing. Campers can opt out at any point in the course and be brought back down. At minimum, two Barnabas Extreme Team members are in the air with the camper, pulling them through the ropes course. These individuals have over 40 hours of training. In addition to typical ropes training, they have 30 hours of accessible high ropes training.

Archery: Campers with a range of abilities can participate in this classic recreational activity. For those with less upper mobility, we have a modified option that includes a button to shoot/release arrows.



Frequently Asked Questions



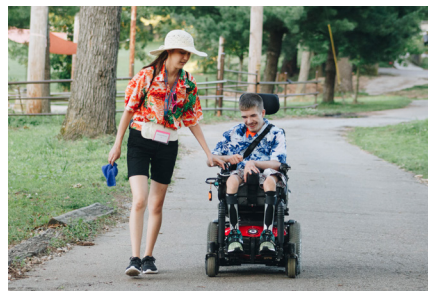
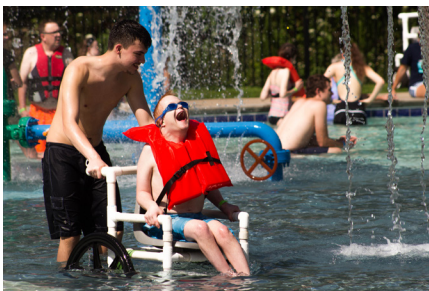
Rifles: This is also a classic summer camp sport that we've made accessible. Just like archery, for those with less upper mobility, we have an option to press a button to shoot. We also partner with an organization that brings in technology that allows campers the ability to "blink & shoot." We look forward to having this option during our MDA weeks as well.

Paintball: We have a wheelchair friendly course with targets for campers to aim and "paint" their targets as they shoot through the course.

Putt-Putt Golf: Thanks to a generous donor this past fall, we'll be adding a fully accessible putt-putt course in 2018 to our Teas Trail location.

Excursion (Outdoor Camping): For those who choose to participate, we offer campers the opportunity to experience overnight camping in an adapted capacity. We do this via a large tent and cot set up. Wheelchairs are charged via generator overnight. If this is not medically safe, we do offer modified stretches of "camp time" where campers can enjoy the experiences of cooking outside and enjoying the camaraderie around a campfire before returning back to the modern amenities of camp.

Pet Set: Our Teas Trail location has lots of fun at our mini-petting zoo featuring our miniature horses. Campers are encouraged to visit, groom, pet and spend time with these sweet animals during their stay.



MISC Activities: Outside of these, Camp Barnabas also offers arts and crafts, music and dance, gardening, karaoke, accessible field games, spirit activities and more.

Nightly Celebrations: Each day ends in a themed celebration that includes dress up parties, dancing, carnival activities, pool parties and other group games to foster camaraderie and inclusion.

At Camp Barnabas, our philosophy is "challenge by choice." We never force a camper to participate in an activity; rather our goal is always to meet the camper where they are and encourage them to redefine possibility.

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4. Question: I've volunteered/been paired with a camper for several years. Can I still be paired up with my camper at Barnabas?

Answer: Absolutely. We LOVE that MDA volunteers and campers have longstanding relationships with each other and are passionate about maintaining these relationships at camp. If a camper and a missionary wish to be paired up with one another while at Barnabas, we absolutely applaud and encourage this! There is space for both the camper and missionary to indicate who they'd like to be paired with on their registration form. Campers and missionaries can also reach out to Jamie Munroe, Missions Director, to indicate this specific preference.

*We do need BOTH the camper and the missionary to indicate they would like to be paired up with each other in order to secure a pairing.

5. Question: I've been paired with a camper for years at MDA, but I'm over the missionary age limit indicated on the Barnabas website. What options are available for me at Barnabas?

Answer: We know many MDA volunteers have long standing relationships with MDA campers and their families, and we want to do our best to honor these. If you are over the age of 29 and know your camper is attending during one of the two MDA weeks at Barnabas, we would love to have you serve as a missionary alongside them.

If you are a passionate MDA volunteer who doesn't have a specific camper pairing in mind, but would still like to serve at Barnabas this summer, please consider serving as a Cabin Parent! Cabin Parents get the opportunity to oversee and serve an entire cabin of camper and missionary pairs for the week. This role requires 100% dedication and varies depending on each cabin's needs (Your job may consist of providing relief to the cabin counselors or summer staff, doing laundry, or assisting with camper needs such as bathing, changing, dressing, or feeding).

6. Question: What does the missionary fee cover?

Answer: We do have a small fee (\$250) for missionaries to participate. This fee helps offset the cost of camp in two ways. First, it covers room, board, food, insurance, programming, shirts, etc. Second, it helps mitigate the true cost to bring an individual to camp. You are also helping more campers experience the true joy of camp.

Even so, we never want finances to be a reason you cannot come to camp. If you would like more information about missionary scholarship assistance, please email jamie@campbarnabas.org.

7. Question: What religious activities will I be required to participate in at Camp Barnabas?

Answer: Camp Barnabas is a Christian ministry. However, we welcome individuals from all religious backgrounds to serve and be served. It is not a requirement to attend worship or participate in faith-based activities during the week. We believe we have to earn the right to talk about faith, and we respect each campers' wishes.

8. Question: What percentage of campers with MDA will be attending?

Answer: MDA has secured spots for 120 campers over two weeks. This will equate to almost 66% of campers during our Pathfinders Week (July 1-July 6) and more than 40% during our Bridge Builders week (July 15-July 20).

