

THEORY OF CHANGE

**Improved Quality of Life for
 More Children with Serious Illness.**



Children with serious illnesses have voice and choice



Family & Community Connections

- ✓ Strengthen family connections
- ✓ Increase peer-to-peer connections
- ✓ Reduce stigma
- ✓ Foster equity & inclusion



Accessible Environments

- ✓ Customize community settings
- ✓ Decrease or remove information and communication barriers
- ✓ Ensure available and accessible transportation



Education & Development Opportunities

- ✓ Increase availability of out-of-school time opportunities that are equitable, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate
- ✓ Expand personal, social, and health-related development opportunities
- ✓ Advocate for integration of children with serious illnesses into mainstream education programs



Universal Commitment to Improving the Lives of Children with Serious Illnesses

- ✓ Utilize strength-based mindsets
- ✓ Advance pro-child governmental and NGO policies
- ✓ Increase public awareness of the needs of children with serious illnesses
- ✓ Create child-focused support systems



Affordable, Quality Healthcare

- ✓ Utilize the whole child model
- ✓ Increase access to equitable high-quality medical care including mental health services
- ✓ Decrease variability of standards of care and best practice for children with serious illnesses



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We give children with serious illnesses *voice* and *choice* by centering on youth and family needs in our camps and programs:



Children with serious illnesses have voice and choice

Camp and program experiences center youth and family needs and preferences and opportunities for challenge by choice



Family & Community Connection

- Build camper, family, and volunteer recruitment pathways to expand reach
- Create safe spaces by fostering inclusion and belonging
- Provide networking opportunities through events and programming, like Family Camps
- Foster relationships with caring adults
- Establish ongoing engagement with families outside formal camp experiences



Opportunities for Growth & Development

- Provide camp free of charge
- Create kid-focused environments where medical diagnoses don't define experiences
- Plan programs to foster social and emotional learning
- Build facilities and programs that align physical activities with ability & growth



Universal Commitment to Improving the Lives of Children with Serious Illnesses

- Model a strength-based approach
- Embody the tenets of positive youth development
- Conduct research & evaluation of program impact
- Initiate communications efforts that advance the perspectives and experiences of children with serious illnesses and their families
- Partner and collaborate with youth development shareholders and coalitions that work with children and families with serious illnesses
- Increase depth of community of supporters
- Provide excellence in training for staff and volunteers working with children with serious illnesses



Affordable, Quality Healthcare

- Embrace the whole child approach
- Provide education and training for medical providers, educators, caregivers, and others
- Underscore and promote healthy behaviors
- Integrate health care into the whole child camp experience
- Focus on health and safety and access to camp medical providers
- Provide around the clock, high-quality medical care at camp, including ancillary services, free of charge
- Collaborate with children's medical home
- Implement a mental health framework to support the needs of campers, family, staff, and volunteers
- Grow awareness of new medical treatments and best practices
- Facilitate knowledge sharing amongst medical teams, campers, and families



Accessible Environments

- Strive for universal design
- Design camps and programs for physical and learning accessibility
- Create programs based on shared learnings
- Provide intentional, culturally-responsive experiences
- Provide camper-tailored experiences
- Employ digital and other accessibility strategies
- Serve children and families who communicate in more than 45 different languages

