

TIME TO GET GOING!

- To ease the morning departure choose a comfy travel outfit the night before.
- Put outstanding paperwork in an envelope labeled with your child's name. Pack the envelope with their medications in a separate bag to give to the Bus Chaperone.
- Place all of their gear by the door and be ready to go.
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast the morning of camp. Snacks will be provided on the camp bus. If your child gets motion sickness have a doctor prescribe anti-nausea medication.
- Be sure to check-in with the Bus Chaperone and make sure that they have everything before you leave. We'll engage the children in activity right away to make the transition easier.
- If driving to camp, remember your directions and build extra time into the schedule for unexpected stops.
- Finally, head home knowing that your child is going to have an awesome camp experience and be well taken care of!!

STAY CONNECTED!

Receiving a letter from home while at camp is a wonderful thing. Snail mail takes about 4 days so your might want to start your letter writing even before your child boards the bus.

The camp address is:

Tyler Hill Camp
c/o Camp Happy Times
1017 Cochecton Turnpike
Tyler Hill, PA 18469

Camp Office: 570.224.4131
The Valerie Fund Office: 973.761.0422



TheValerieFund.org/camp



Camper Guide

This is your guide to
the one-week miracle
known as Camp Happy Times.
We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information please contact us at:

Camp Happy Times
The Valerie Fund
2101 Millburn Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040

www.TheValerieFund.org

Phone: 973.761.0422

Fax: 973.761.6792

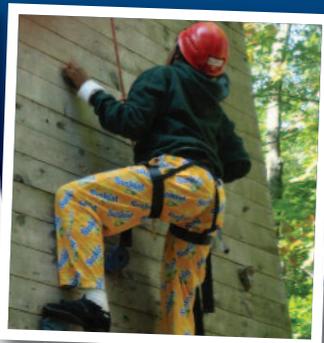
Email: CampHappyTimes@TheValerieFund.org



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TheValerieFund.org

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WELCOME

Since 1983, The Valerie Fund has offered Camp Happy Times to cancer patients and survivors ages 5-21. Camp Happy Times is nestled in Wayne County, Pennsylvania on the two hundred acre Tyler Hill Camp, which is fully accredited by the American Camping Association.

Camp Happy Times promotes friendship, independence, and a spirit of cooperation. We provide a recreationally therapeutic environment which engages participants while building self esteem, confidence, trust and friendship. CHT is a proud member of the International Children's Oncology Camping Association.

This annual, one week free camp experience is a great opportunity for your child to:

- Develop wonderful friendships
- Gain confidence to try new experiences
- Grow emotionally, intellectually and physically
- Return home with great stories, fun times and tremendous enthusiasm

A typical day at CHT is divided into structured activities by age group. Campers are encouraged to take on the challenges of each activity, learn new skills and develop their confidence in this safe, nurturing, rustic setting. Our counselor to camper ratio is 1:2 to ensure that a caring qualified counselor is always nearby.

This guide will help you prepare your child for this wonderful adventure, so let's get started!

Happy Camping!



TheValerieFund.org/camp

WHAT TO EXPECT

For campers...

Feeling a little nervous before setting off to camp is to be expected. No matter how you might be feeling, it is important to remember that you are not alone. Almost every rookie camper has had the same thoughts. The best thing about Camp Happy Times is that you will already have a lot in common with your fellow campers. You will see that everyone has had to deal with similar issues and no one is surprised by a bald head, prosthetic devices, or other cancer-related issues.

Once you arrive at camp, you will be welcomed and brought to your air-conditioned cabins. Next you meet your cabin-mates, pick a comfy bed, unpack and settle in before the first activity. By breakfast the next day you will know all your cabin-mates by name.

For parents...

Anxious feelings are normal for you too. Let your child know how you are feeling, that you love them, that you'll miss them but that you know that they will have fun.

Everything at camp has been adapted or developed to meet the specific needs of our campers. The infirmary oncologists, nurses, social workers and child-life specialists are very experienced at making your child feel comfortable and at ease. They have a working knowledge of each child's history and are fully prepared to meet his or her medical needs. The senior staff is trained to deal with children with cancer, and many of the counselors have had cancer themselves. The on-site medical team is available 24 hours/day to administer care to the campers. If you have any questions please call the camp liaison at your treatment center or our camp director at The Valerie Fund office.

IMPORTANT INFO!

All forms must be fully completed – this includes the application, health forms, medical insurance information, including a photocopy of the insurance card, and other paperwork necessary to care for your child. Their health is our first priority. The information must be thorough, accurate and legible! If emergency care is required, this is the information that the doctor and nurse will reference. You will be the first to be contacted.

The Camp Happy Times application has two parts. Part One parents fill out. Part Two, which is the medical segment, must be completed by your child's doctor. Please schedule an appointment with your doctor at least a month before camp. Points to remember:

- "Emergency Contacts" list at least two people, other than yourself, that can be contacted in the event of an emergency. Use area codes and the person's full name.
- Make sure all sections are completed, signed, dated and mailed to The Valerie Fund office promptly.

GET READY...

- Pack at least one appropriate, practical outfit for each day at camp, add extra socks and underwear. The "Packing List" sent to you upon receipt of your application is a good guideline.
- Include a favorite item, like a family picture or stuffed animal.
- Identify everything with your child's name using fabric pens or labels to mark each item. Tag your child's name and phone number on the outside of each piece of luggage.
- Pack medications separately. They must be given to the Bus Chaperone upon arrival at the bus departure locations. If driving to camp, the medicine will be collected upon arrival.

- Send a sufficient amount of medications for the week. If must be in the original pharmacy container, clearly marked with your child's name, pharmacy phone number, name of medication, dose and times that it needs to be given. Also make a list of this information and include a photocopy of your child's medical insurance card.
- Prohibited items will be taken away and returned at the end of camp. They include but are not limited to: cell phones, iPods, headphones, valuable jewelry, pagers, electronic games and money.

GET SET...

- Cabin assignments are given upon arrival at camp. We make every effort to put campers with their friends; however, large groups may need to be separated due to space restrictions. Your child will be placed with children of similar age.
- Phone calls are not permitted while at camp to minimize homesickness. Our counselors are trained to deal with these issues. Please alert CHT staff before camp of any special needs your child may have. To inquire about how your child is doing, call the camp office. If you have questions regarding the phone policy, call The Valerie Fund office.
- Remind your child that if they have concerns about their bunkmates, other campers or a counselor, there will always be someone they can go to.
- Camp Rules. Always: respect other camper's privacy, cooperate with everyone, be a good sport, use good manners, keep your belongings in order, care for camp property and most importantly, have fun!