

Camp Simcha letter

Camp Simcha is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Jewish children in the UK with cancer and other life threatening illnesses. We do this by providing practical and emotional support to parents and powerful positive experiences that transform the lives of the child concerned and their siblings, often the forgotten sufferers. We will offer support to any family and will help with a wide range of genetic and congenital diseases, syndromes and conditions, from young babies up to 18 year olds.

Our family liaison officers work directly with parents, ensuring we understand the needs of the family with tailor made packages of support to suit specific needs and provide the best possible services to make a positive difference.

We provide young adult volunteers trained as "fun therapists", to visit the children regularly at home or in hospital, who bring a ray of sunshine into their lives on a regular basis. Volunteers will often take the children out on specially arranged outings, or make a wonderful Camp Simcha party for the child.

Families are invited to a retreat for 3 days in the summer where they are able to meet and gain support from others who can really empathise and the children have the time of their lives. For these parents who have a child with a rare condition, the opportunity to meet other Jewish parents who really do understand can bring great strength and hope.

The children are also offered the opportunity to travel to the world famous Camp Simcha in the Catskill Mountains USA. There, in a fully medically equipped environment, they have a holiday of a lifetime and get to feel like regular kids again and return from camp bolder and stronger for the experience.

We work first and foremost to restore the light of childhood to children whose innocence ended when life threatening illness's strike. You can assist by volunteering to become a Camp Simcha "Community Ambassador" whose primary task is to ensure that families are made aware of the incredible services Camp Simcha has to offer.

To find out more please visit <u>www.campsimcha.org.uk</u> or call 020 8202 9297. Ask to speak to Neville in strictest confidence.

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