

Dear parent(s) or guardian,



As Camp Directors, we would like to invite your child to attend our Firefighters Kids Camp program! Now in our 15th year of operation, the Firefighters Kids Camp is a one-week program that is held annually to benefit young burn survivors who are age six (*and completed the 1st grade*) to age seventeen.

Our mission is to provide young burn survivors with a fun and safe camp environment that encourages healing, personal growth and character development within a natural setting. This year's program will be held **Sunday, August 3rd thru Saturday, August 9th** at Camp Concord in South Lake Tahoe, CA.

Our facilities are leased from the City of Concord, and provide a rustic, natural environment where the children can enjoy the nature and beauty of the Lake Tahoe region. Sleeping accommodations are provided using cabins supplied with cots and mattresses. A comfortable lodge supports a nutritious, cafeteria-style food service program.

The program is supported by a well-trained and enthusiastic volunteer staff that consists primarily of firefighters, burn care professionals and adult burn survivors, and includes a camp nurse and physical therapist for those children who need to continue their therapy. A minimum staff to camper ratio of 1:3 is provided to assure adequate supervision and that the needs and expectations of our campers are always met.

Each camper's participation is fully funded by the Firefighters Burn Institute and partnering organizations. **Additionally, one sibling who resides in the same residence may be permitted to accompany the burn-injured child for up to their first two years of camp. Sibling participation will be evaluated on an individual basis, and will be judged by the benefit provided to the healing process as it relates to both the burn survivor and the family unit. Sibling acceptance will be subject to space availability.**

The week's activities consist of both in-camp and out-of-camp events such as arts & crafts, swimming, cycling, hiking, fishing, boating on Lake Tahoe, rafting on the Truckee River, ice skating and swimming at Squaw Valley's High Camp, cruising Lake Tahoe on the MS Dixie, campfire skits and songs, a BIG dance, and much, much more! Attached, you will find an application to participate in our program. Please complete all questions to the best of your ability and return your completed application to the Firefighters Burn Institute no later than **June 30th, 2008**. Once received, applications will be reviewed and screened by our Camp Directors and medical staff. Upon acceptance, campers will be provided a list of basic items that they will need for the camp program (i.e. clothing, sleeping bag, toiletries, etc.). In the event that a child cannot secure the necessary items, we can provide assistance if notified in advance.

Transportation to and from camp will be provided from pre-designated departure points. Additional information on transportation arrangements will be provided once we identify the needs of the group based upon geographic locations.

Each camper will be required to have a pre-camp health examination performed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner within one (1) year prior to attending camp. Should you need assistance in securing an exam (*due to financial constraints or other reason*), please let us know.

Participation in the Firefighters Kids Camp program has proved to be a wonderful healing and growth experience for many of our campers! With that said, we must also note that the camp environment is not for everyone. As part of your application, you will find a Camper Behavior Agreement. It is our desire to communicate to you and your child the accepted behaviors that are expected at camp. We also believe it to be important that all parties understand the consequences and actions to be taken in the event that unacceptable behavior is demonstrated. Again, our goal is to have FUN and assure SAFETY... any person whose actions threaten to compromise these goals will be removed from camp.

It is our hope that the above information provides you with a general idea of the benefits and expectations associated with participation in our program. Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,

Oscar Barrera
Co-Camp Director

Koy Wilson
Co-Camp Director