

PARENTS'
INFORMATION
HANDBOOK



CAMP DAVID

TEXAS BURN SURVIVOR SOCIETY

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Note to Parents – This is a shortened version of the handbook for Website posting. It contains only essential information. Please email us at sdodson@sbclglobal.net to receive the full version.

WELCOME TO CAMP DAVID

Parents and Guardians:

This booklet has been assembled in order to provide you with basic information about the Texas Burn Survivor Society Camp David's program and schedule. Please take time to become familiar with the information and to review it with your camper. It is important that you feel comfortable about your child's camping experience at Camp David.

Campers:

Welcome to the Texas Burn Survivor Society's Camp David. Whether this is your first time at camp or you have been to Camp David for many summers, we are eager to have you join us, and we hope you are excited about coming to camp as well.

Camp David is all about having fun and learning more about yourself and others. To be sure this happens for everyone, remember - we want you to help us by coming to camp with a positive attitude. Plan on helping others and participating as a team member. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Sue Dodson
Executive Director, Texas Burn Survivor Society

The Texas Burn Survivor Society

The mission of the Texas Burn Survivor Society (TBSS) is to provide care, comfort and essential services to the critically burned and their families, not merely during hospitalization, but post-discharge as well. The Society accomplishes this through an array of programs specifically designed to meet the needs of the seriously burned and their families.

After many years of working with pediatric burn survivors and their families, co-founders David and Jane Jayne wanted to provide an opportunity for these young

survivors to have a week of carefree fun. In 2007, for the first time, Camp David was held at the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville, Texas. This is a camp that is dedicated to assuring that children of all levels of physical ability have the opportunity to enjoy outdoor camping and recreational activities. We hope to partner with Texas Lions Camp for many years to come.

Who Attends Camp David?

Camp David is available for pediatric burn survivors from ages 7 through 16. If space permits, a limited number of siblings and children of burn survivors are also welcome.

General Camper Information

What to Bring

ALL CLOTHING SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE CAMPER'S NAME

- ♥ Socks
- ♥ Underwear
- ♥ Pajamas
- ♥ Cap/hat
- ♥ Flashlight
- ♥ Comb & brush
- ♥ Shampoo
- ♥ Soap & a soap dish
- ♥ Toothbrush & toothpaste
- ♥ Towels and washcloths (2 each, if possible)
- ♥ Shorts or clothing suitable for outdoor play
- ♥ One nice outfit for the dance
- ♥ Shirts, tops, t-shirts
- ♥ Light sweater or jacket
- ♥ Pants or blue jeans
- ♥ Close-toed shoes, tennis shoes
- ♥ Swimsuit
- ♥ Beach towel or extra towel for swimming
- ♥ Protective sunscreen
- ♥ Prescription medicines ☼
- ♥ Bag for dirty laundry
- ♥ Your own pillow, if you want
- ♥ A positive attitude

Neither Texas Burn Survivor Society nor Texas Lions Camp is responsible for lost clothing or other belongings. Please clearly label all belongings.

☼ Carry all medicines separately and give them to the medical staff during check-in. **Please DO NOT pack medicines in luggage.**

The Texas Lions Camp provides blankets and bed linens; however, feel free to bring your sleeping bag also, if you want. There are no facilities for washing clothes, so please pack enough clothes to last for the entire length of the camp – 7 days.

*What **NOT** to Bring*

Campers should **NOT** bring **money, cell phones, expensive jewelry, personal sports equipment**, or other unnecessary or valuable items. *Neither the Texas Burn Survivor Society nor the Texas Lions Camp will be responsible for the safe keeping of these types of personal items; please do not send them with your camper.*

Alcohol, drugs, illegal substances, and weapons are strictly prohibited at camp and if found will result in immediate expulsion from camp.

Transportation

The Texas Burn Survivor Society will make arrangements for all campers to be transported to and from camp. Please refer to the transportation insert included in your application packet for details regarding transportation.

Cancellations

We have a limited number of spaces for campers. If your child becomes unable to attend camp after being accepted, please notify us immediately.

Telephones

Because calls cannot be transferred directly to the bunkhouses, campers do not have free access to a telephone while at camp. However, parents may call the Lions Camp at **830-896-8500**, in case of an emergency. Likewise, if any problems that require your attention should arise at camp, a camp staff person or Texas Burn Survivor Society representative will contact you.

Medications

Qualified medical personnel will be on site 24 hours a day, each day of camp.

Prescription medications must be in the original prescription bottle on which a pharmacy has listed the following information:

- **The name of the child**
 - **The name of the medicine and the dosage**
- If there is a change in the dosage, a note from the physician that clearly states the change must accompany the container.**

All medications will be collected by the medical staff during check-in. Please **DO NOT** pack medication in luggage. Please be sure to send enough medication to last your child through the entire camp – 7 days.

Appliances

Please notify us in advance of camp of any special equipment, such as nebulizers, etc., that your child will need to use during camp.

Promoting a Healthy Camp Community

The safety and welfare of each camper is extremely important to us. You can help us by talking to your child and stressing the importance of keeping a positive and cooperative attitude and respecting the rights of all the campers to have a safe, fun time.

We never expect to have any problems with our campers, since they are there to have a good time. However, if a behavior problem does arise with a camper, please be aware that the following steps will be taken:

- a. A call will be placed to the parent/guardian describing the problem and asking for help in developing a solution to the problem.
- b. If the problem does not resolve, a second call will be placed to the parent/guardian to explore any other possible solutions.
- c. If the problem still does not resolve, the parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up the camper or make arrangements, at their own cost, to have the camper returned home.
- d. If any camper poses a danger to himself/herself or any other camper, the parent/guardian will be called immediately to pick up their camper or make arrangements, at their own cost, to have the camper return home.

We need all parents and guardians to be an active partner in promoting a safe, happy, healthy camp atmosphere. Thank you for helping us achieve these goals.

Helping with Homesickness

Help your child to have the best time ever at Camp David by talking about camp in a positive manner and having fun together preparing for camp.

During Camp: Send a card or letter focusing on how much fun you are sure the camper is having. You might send a card on the day of check-in or a couple of days before camp begins, since it usually takes 2-3 days for the mail to arrive at camp.

When sending your child mail, please address it as follows:

Child's Name
Texas Burn Survivor Society – Camp David
c/o Texas Lions Camp
P. O. Box 290247
Kerrville, Texas 78029-0247

Texas Burn Survivor Society will post a daily summary and pictures on our **Facebook** page: www.facebook.com/TexasBurnSurvivorSociety. You do not have to have a personal Facebook account to view our Facebook page. Just go to our website – www.texasburnsurvivors.org – and click on the Facebook icon on the home page. Please know that our goal is to make your camper's experience a happy, memorable one.