

2024 Summer Camps Handout



2024 Summer In-Person Overnight Camp Options: Specializing in Foster & Kinship Youth

Royal Family Camp

The Royal Family Camp specializes in children with a history of kinship or foster care, or abuse or neglect. Royal Family Camp is an overnight camp for children ages 7-11. The camp is available to youth who are currently in the foster care system or who have been in foster care in the past. If you have a kid who may need more attention and care during a summer camp experience, this may be a good option for them! More information at <https://www.forthechildrenmilwaukee.org/about-1> or email milwrfkc@gmail.com.

Milwaukee Teen Reach Adventure camp

Teen Reach Adventure Camp offers overnight 3 day, single-sex camps designed for youth ages 12-15, who reside in foster care. The camp allows participants to experience the outdoors, while learning teamwork and participating in activities which improve trust, self-value, and teamwork. Activities include fishing, horseback riding, hiking, and many more! Find out more information at <https://www.teenreach.org/camp-list/milwaukee> or call (503) 625-1299.

Camp To Belong

Camp To Belong is a special place where youth in foster care regain a sense of permanency and connection by strengthening their sibling relationships. This program is a catalyst for building strong sibling relationships, one of the longest relationships in most of our lives. This camp creates a nurturing and loving place for all campers. Find out more information at <https://camptobelong.org/> or call (920) 904-5643.

Holiday Home Camp

Holiday Home Camp provides one-week long sessions that serve over 700 2nd through 8th grade children from economically disadvantaged communities. They provide traditional summer camp activities such as: archery, arts and crafts, dance, swimming, outdoor education, recreational sports, campfires, campouts, skits, nutrition, health care classes, dances and many, many more camp activities that encourage personal growth, positive change and of course, FUN! Scholarships are available and will be determined by the camp Registrar office. Find out more at <https://lakegenevafreshair.org/holiday-home-camp/> or call (262)-245-5161.

General Overnight Camps

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There are many kinds of overnight and day camps in the area. Camps for Kids is a special camp scholarship program for Milwaukee children. In addition, many area camps have their own scholarship programs. There are too many camps to list in one handout, so we are also providing links to several local camp directories.

Camps for Kids Scholarships

Camps for Kids provides a one-time scholarship to youth who qualify so that they may attend an overnight, residential camp in Wisconsin. All foster children qualify, and Kinship children generally qualify due to receiving either subsidized child care or participating in BadgerCare. If you aren't sure if your children qualify, just give us a call.

Students must be ages 8-15 and meet the following criteria:

1. Full-time residents of Milwaukee County or children in foster care through the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
2. First-time participant in the Camps for Kids program
3. Between the ages of 8-15 years of age at the time of the camp session in which they are enrolled.
4. Camper's family must qualify for one or more of the following program subsidies: Foodshare/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), Wisconsin Share Childcare Subsidies, or Foster Care.
5. All foster care children, Medicaid or W-2 recipients are eligible. Proof of enrollment/eligibility must be submitted to participating agency with the camp application.

Check the camp list for information on how to connect to the camp of your choice.

For more information visit <http://campsforkidsmke.org/> or email campsforkidsmilwaukee@gmail.com.

COA's Camp Helen Brachman

Camp Helen Brachman strives to provide youth with fun and structured opportunities for personal growth in a safe and natural environment while upholding our four core values: kindness, strength, respect, and responsibility. In addition, [COA's Camp Helen Brachman](#) offers scholarships for 300 youth to spend 13 days at their 206-acre summer camp in central Wisconsin including transportation, all meals, lodging, and a wide range of programming such as swimming, arts and crafts, and much more. For questions or to request forms and documents, please contact the registrar at 414-290-7905 or email chb@coa-yfc.org. <https://www.coa-yfc.org/camp'helenbrachman/>

Camp Alice Chester (Girls only)

Camp Alice Chester is an overnight camping experience for girls in grades 2nd-12th. Your girl will discover her summer self, as she reaches the top of the rock wall, explores nature trails, splashes in the

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lake, and sings around the campfire, all while learning leadership skills and gaining independence! Find out more at <https://www.gswise.org/en/camp--outdoors/overnight-camp/camp-alice-chester.html>

Camp Kindred

Camp Kindred is an intentional summer camp that builds enduring relationships across lines of difference. We bring together children who currently lack ample opportunity to connect. Through an intentional overnight camp experience, we learn to build confidence in who we are, and to celebrate the diversity of others. For more information visit <https://projectkindredmke.org/programs>

Camp Whitcomb/Mason

Since 1911, young people have come to Camp Whitcomb/Mason for outdoor adventures, camaraderie, and the chance to learn in a fun, safe environment. Participants experience a variety of outdoor activities such as canoeing, swimming, star-gazing, nature hikes and activities, arts & crafts, a nutrition challenge, high ropes course and more. Camp Whitcomb/Mason is owned and operated by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. Learn more here <https://www.bgcmilwaukee.org/overnight-camp/>

YMCA Camp Minikani

Between two natural lakes on 150 pristine acres, YMCA Camp Minikani is a place where campers canoe and swim; build fires and friendships; try archery and explore the arts. However, camp is much more than a series of activities or a plot of beautiful land. Minikani is a community that is dedicated to inspiring your child's best self. For more information visit <https://www.minikani.org/the-minikani-experience/>

List of Camp Directories:

<https://milwaukeerecreation.net/rec/Programs/Camps-For-Kids.htm>

<https://www.mkewithkids.com/directory-directory/categories/summer-camp-milwaukee/>

<https://milwaukeemom.com/summer/milwaukee-area-summer-camp-guide/>

<https://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/Programs/Summer-Academy.htm>

<https://bestspecialneedscamps.com/best-wisconsin-special-needs-camps.html#first-camp-listing>

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Milwaukee Public Schools: Summer Academy

Milwaukee Public Schools is pleased to offer summer learning that strengthens academic skills and offers exciting new experiences for children. For summer 2024, MPS will offer programs for grads K5-12.

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For more information on MPS camp offerings visit
<https://mps.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/en/Programs/Summer-Academy.htm>

For additional questions or information, contact Extended Learning Opportunities at (414)-475-8238 or elo@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

Neighborhood House of Milwaukee

Neighborhood House of Milwaukee offers a wide range of programs and services for youth (ages 6 to 12) and teens (ages 13-19). Including an 11-week summer camp that is filled with fun field trips, outside activities, dance, art, and music. Scholarships are available!

For more information about programming and enrollment contact Phan Sanford at psanford@nh-milw.org or (414)933-6161, ext. 139.

Twilight Centers

Twilight Centers are available to youth ages 10 to 18 at select school locations. Dates and times for spring and summer will be announced soon. The Twilight Centers program is free to students. The centers offer activities such as roller skating, games, open gym, and movie nights. Twilight is open to MPS and non-MPS students alike. Learn more at

<https://milwaukeerecreation.net/en/Programs/Twilight-Centers.htm> or call (414)475-8937.

COA Youth & Family Center

COA Youth & Family Centers offers summer youth programs Monday through Friday at the COA Goldin Center and at COA's Riverwest Center. At both locations there are programs ages 7-18. To register, call COA at (414) 263-8383 and ask for the registrar for the Goldin Center or the Riverwest Center. More information on the COA website at <https://www.coa-yfc.org/>

Milwaukee Jewish Community Center's Rainbow Day Camp

The Albert and Ann Deshur JCC Rainbow Day Camp is an inclusive summer day camp, for children and teens, guided by Jewish values, which fosters personal development, and community. Camps run from June 17th- August 9th weekdays from 9:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.. Scholarships are available. Find out more information at <https://www.jccmilwaukee.org/programs/camps/day-camp/> or call (414)-964-4444.

Summer 2024 Virtual Camp Options

Camp Wonderopolis

Camp Wonderopolis is the free online summer-learning destination that is full of fun, interactive STEM and literacy-building topics boosted by Maker experiments! Learn more <https://camp.wonderopolis.org/>

PBS Kids for Parents

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If you are planning to make your own virtual summer camp or are just looking for some new activities for kids PBS Kids for Parents is a great resource. They offer free activities for kids from 2 to 8 with a wide range of topics. Learn more about the activities they offer here, <https://www.pbs.org/parents>

Virtual 4-H Camp

Virtual 4-H Camp helps families experience the typical summer camp experience indoors. You can find all sorts of the usual camp activities like arts & crafts, cooking projects, STEM learning programs, and much more. They even include camp songs on the site to play in the background to get into the camp spirit. Learn more here, <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/camp/>

Badger Pre-College

With programs in STEM, music, creative arts and college prep, kids ages 5-18 can explore their interests and meet new friends with the Badgers virtual programs. Choose from online programs, intensives, residential camps and more. Learn more about what programs are available here, <https://precollege.wisc.edu/>

Camps for Kids with Special Health Care Needs

Do any of your children have a particular health or mental health issue? If so, there is likely a special camp just for your child. There are camps for grieving children who have lost a parent, camps for children with juvenile arthritis or Type 1 diabetes. If you are having trouble finding a camp for your child's special health need, please reach out. Here are just a few samples.

Camp Odayin

Camp Odyin's residential program is for children with heart disease in grades 1-11, who would benefit from connecting with other young people who may share similar health, emotional, and social concerns. The only charge to a camper is \$50, but Camp Odayin has a Pay-What-You-Can (PWYC) option available. Registration deadline is April 1st! Find out more information at <https://campodayin.org/camp-programs/residential-camp/> or call (651)-351-9185.

Camp Kesem

Camp Kesem is a free, week-long overnight summer camp experience designed for children ages 6 to 18 who are impacted by a parent's cancer. Find out more information at <https://www.kesem.org/programs-services/camp-kesem> or call (253)-736-3821.