



# Impact of Donations

Camp Good Days is a local nonprofit that provides year-round programs and summer camping sessions to children impacted by cancer. Since 2018, the 11 Day Power Play has sent 670 kids to Camp Good Days! By participating in the 11 Day Power Play **you** are helping to give back a little bit of the childhood that cancer has stolen

## OUR HISTORY

In 1979, Elizabeth "Teddi" Mervis was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor at the age of nine. Her father, Gary Mervis, quickly realized it wasn't the chemotherapy, the radiation, or even the 7.5-hour craniotomy that bothered Teddi most; it was the loneliness of not knowing anyone else her age going through something similar. It was then that Gary created Camp Good Days and Special Times – a place where kids with cancer could go and just be kids. Gary's daughter passed away in 1983, but the organization continues as a legacy to her and all the children battling cancer.

In addition to summer camping sessions, the WNY office provides **year-round, monthly** programming for:

- Kids with cancer
- Kids who have a parent or sibling with cancer
- Kids who have lost a parent or sibling with cancer



## OUR MISSION

Improve the quality of life for families affected by cancer or sickle cell anemia through residential camping programs and year-round recreational and support activities, in the Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse, NY areas.



## WNY CAMP GOOD DAYS FACTS

- Camp Good Days supports approximately 500 children annually in the WNY region.
- Our monthly programs range from sporting and concert events, to laser tag, to snow tubing, to fishing, and everything in between; hosting about 50 events annually.
- In 2023, we started a support program for teen boys who have been diagnosed with cancer. The group provides a safe space for the boys to form stronger bonds, while also discovering more about themselves. The group is supported by a social worker (LMSW) and a former pediatric cancer patient who is now an adult.
- All volunteers are background checked, trained, and work on a 1:1 or 2:1 ratio with the kids. Additionally, there is a pediatric nurse present at each event.
- It costs Camp Good Days approximately \$1,000 per child per year, but thanks to our amazingly generous community, all programs are provided free of charge to our participants.

## CONTACT US

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