N OUR SUMMER CAMP TEAM

Many children and families in Utah and surrounding states are tackling the psychosocial and medical challenges that occur with cancer and similarly-treated disorders. Be a part of a program that helps support their needs through our summer camps and year-round family outings! Make a difference, meet new friends, and learn about cancer and similarly treated disorders. Our volunteers make Camp Hobé happen; we cannot do it without you!

We have a variety of positions that are suitable for all ages and skill sets. We need medical volunteers, lifeguards, and food service staff, as well as volunteers to help run activities, supervise campers, publicize our events, and raise funds throughout the year. We are now accepting applications for the 2022 season. All volunteers must apply, be interviewed, and complete staff training before camp. Each session's volunteers must be onsite for their full summer camp session, as well as meet other criteria. For more info, visit https://camphobekids.org/home/volunteer/. We thank you for your consideration to volunteer with a program



that will give children the opportunity to have fun and discover the joy and freedom of being a kid.

> **Shamar Lejardi** (aka Shammy). Volunteer Coordinator

2022 PROGRAM DATES

Family outings: free of charge to all eligible families.

- ACS Big Dig Construction vs. Cancer: TBD
- Other events: Coming soon!

In-person Summer camp sessions

Volunteers / Staff

- Day Camp / Hobé Juniors: Thursday 6/9 to Saturday
- Kids Week: Sunday 6/12 to Friday 6/17
- Teen Week: Sunday 6/19 to Friday 6/24

- Day Camp / Hobé Juniors (ages 4-6 years): Friday 6/10 and Saturday 6/11. Day Camp for 4-6 years, and Hobé Juniors (1-night overnight) for 6+ years.
- Kids Week (ages 7-11 years): Monday 6/13 to Friday
- Teen Week (ages 12-19 years): Monday 6/20 to Friday

Virtual Summer camp sessions

Summer 2022, exact dates TBD





To see all important Camp Hobé dates, visit our event calendar here: https://camphobekids.org/home/camp-hobe/camp-dates/

Psychosocial support programs for kids with cancer (& similarly-treated disorders) and their families. HTTPS://CAMPHOBEKIDS.ORG

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HOBE HERALD

THE ANNUAL CAMP HOBÉ NEWSLETTER: FEBRUARY 2022

Message from the Executive Director

Welcome to 2022! As we look forward, I want to recognize that 2021 was exciting and challenging, as we learned how to run successful and safe in-person programs during a global pandemic. We were all so excited to be back together at camp, and also to continue "gathering" through virtual offerings.

Our 2021 camps took our kids and teens on an exciting Safari Adventure! Our summer camps served 230 kids and teens in June 2021. Thirty-six kids registered for Day Camp / Hobé Juniors, 64 for Kids Week, 82 for Teen Week, and 48 for Virtual Camp. Thirty-three percent were new campers this year, and 67% had participated in Camp Hobé at least once before. Thirty-six percent were patients and 64% were siblings. Of our patients, 97% had a diagnosis of cancer and 3% had related illnesses. Approximately 94% of our campers live in Utah, and the rest in Idaho, Nevada, and Wyoming. Thanks to all the hard work and commitment of our volunteers, camper families, and medical staff in following COVID-19 protocols, our in-person camps successfully avoided any Hobé-related cases of COVID-19.

In addition to our camp programs, we offered 4 free activities to our families. Thanks to the generosity of our partners at the local American Cancer Society, many families participated in the August Big Dig program, both in-person and virtually. The Utah Arts Festival hosted another 15 families in August. Then, in November, our Utah-based campers and their families wore their Halloween best while they picked up yummy commercially-baked cookies and cocoa at our Drive Up Costume Parade. Overall, our family programs served almost 700 individuals in 2021.

Our primary focus is always on serving our families. We are still working out how some program offerings will look in 2022. We'll continue both in-person camp and virtual camp. You can find all our program dates on our event calendar at https://camphobekids.org/home/camp-hobe/camp-dates/. Dates for virtual camp and family programs have not been set; stay tuned! Patients with cancer (and similarly-treated disorders) and their families are eligible to participate in our programs during treatment, and for 3 consecutive camp seasons after their final chemotherapy, radiation, or immunosuppressive therapy.

We truly enjoy offering these psychosocial support programs to our campers and their families. Thank you so much for all you do to make it possible – whether your family participates in our programs, volunteers with us, or gives to us. We could not do it without you. For a list of recent sponsors and supporters, please visit our sponsorship page at https://camphobekids.org/home/help-us-out/our-sponsors/. I look forward to seeing you soon! Happy 2022!

Christina Beckwith (aka Wapiti Mama), Executive Director



Camp Hobé provides psychosocial support for kids with cancer (and similarly-treated disorders) and their families, through summer camps and family outings. Our mission is to create an atmosphere that enhances self-esteem, fosters independence and friendships, and creates a feeling of belonging.

DAY CAMP / HOBE JUNIORS

What an adventure our 2021 Day Camp / Hobé Junior Safari was! We were back at it, ONSITE this year with a few twists and turns in the Wild. We jumped right out of our Jeeps and headed straight into our groups. We made a few essential items in arts and crafts for our Journey - one of the most essential, our own cameras! The kids took some amazing (pretend) photos of wildlife, bugs, dirt, other campers and A LOT of their amazing counselors! Using these amazing cameras, we went out on a Safari adventure around camp, doing relay races and other field games adventures. Singing all along the way about some of the most fun wild animals and practicing our best wild animal noises with masks and all! We had our own Giraffe on site to read some fun Safari Stories and don' forget swinging through the trees like monkeys!

Our Hobé Juniors had a chance to perform their own skits, tie-dye their own shirts and stay up a little late to watch a movie on the field. Our Safari adventure wouldn't have been the same without a little dip at the local watering hole; we all missed swimming the year before and we sure made up for lost times!

This Safari was the best because of all the amazing staff! I want to thank our Kitchen staff for taking extra time and effort to make our COVID-friendly meals; our wonderful Medical Staff for working tirelessly, keeping everyone hydrated, sunburn-free and especially COVID-free; our fabulous Activity Staff for creating the BEST adventure yet; and, of course, the tireless effort of our Cabin Counselors helping the kids feel welcome, safe and loved. This year was so special, and such an amazing experience for all of us. I think the saying is true, 'absence makes the heart grow fonder.' We all wondered how this year was going to go, (especially me). And, once we got there, we all just felt so much warmth and love for each other. Our campers make Camp Hobé the most special place around! Thanks to our families for sharing them with us for a couple days!

Laura James, Day Camp / Hobé Junior Program Director

FEEN WEEK

I'm not really sure how else to describe camp this year, other than AMAZ-ING! Our teen campers all showed up ready: ready to engage, ready to accept and support, ready to shake off the past difficult year, and, most importantly, ready to have fun!! I can tell you that all the volunteers were ready as well and definitely brought their A-game.

Speaking of A-game, our Activity Leaders definitely brought theirs! Holly and Lexi kicked us off with water bottle sketching, wood art and resin keys, while Tony kept us HIGHLY entertained with Freeze, half-life and THUNDERDOME!!! That game is so infectious and exciting that even I couldn't stay away for a round! Kierstin encouraged our inner wild animals with high-energy kickball, ultimate frisbee, and the ever-loved capture the flag, while Byron and Andrew brought out our inner-courage with the rope swing, zipline and low ropes! We conquered a lot of fears this year and realized that we are the same animal deep-down. Kaitlyn turned us all into entertainers with Name that Lyric, as well as our beloved lip-sync battle, which I think turned out better than ever given are renewed energy!! And finally, Brandey transformed us into engineers with her newly introduced STEM! We were able to build self-propelled cars, learn survival skills with paracord bracelets and beyond!

The Hobé Elephant Stomp was absolutely magical. We lost track of time, we jumped higher than we ever have, and we all danced as if there wasn't a care in the world.

Closing campfire this year was something we will never forget. Emotions ran high and every single one of you opened yourselves up to each other. I speak from the bottom of my heart when I say that I, and everyone else, needed this. To mourn together, laugh together and to be ONE again (we are ONE voice, remember?). On a sillier note, I hope you all remember the "very true" story about my grandfather so that you can tell your children and grandchildren.;) I've heard rumors that the story of the Golden Giraffe has already spread far and wide!

Our teen campers are all such an inspiration to the counselors and staff. I wish I had the words to express how much we learn from them. This year was simply magic. I've said it before and I'll say it again - we have the best Teens around and we can't wait for next year! Love in Hobé,

Nicole Bailey (aka Princess), Teen Week Program Director



Hello my fellow Safarians! It seems like yesterday we were sweltering in the heat of the Camp Hobé safari outback looking for the elusive Wapiti tiger.

As the chill of winter sets in along the Wasatch front, my mind returns to the magical summer of 2021! I hope by now each of you have been able to look back on our safari adventures with great gratitude. So many people worked so hard to make Camp Hobé happen this year. The greatest staff ever assembled answered the call. They gave so much to help create and protect our "bubble". The planning and execution from our medical staff, kitchen staff, activity leaders, and more allowed us to achieve the impossible. We had an all-star team in every way!

The summer of 2021 will never leave our memories. We will talk and reminisce about the carefree record-breaking heat days and the fun we experienced together for many years to come. We were laughing at the wonder of magic from Mont the magician, we soared to new heights with knowledge and facts from HawkWatch International who brought with them a Golden Eagle, a Grey Horned Owl, and a Falcon. We cooled off in the swimming pool, flew down the zip line, sailed through the tree canopy on the giant swing, stretched with yoga, created tie-dye shirts at crafts, and experienced the joy of music and drama, while working as a team during field games. We watched as Kacey the science guy created elephant toothpaste, crushed soda cans and more. There was so much love and fun at camp this year. Too many activities to list. At the end of our safari adventures, we went out with a bang: the most epic outdoor night party put on by our awesome CITs!

May the spirit of Camp Hobé melt into your memories and hearts, and stay with you as you will always be a part of Camp Hobé. It is with a heart full of love and gratitude that I want to thank each camper and staff for making camp happen this year. See all y'all soon! And keep your eye open for that Wapiti Tiger!

Eric Willison (aka Captain Grape Boy), Kids Week Program Director

VIRTUAL CAMP

The spirit of Camp Hobé has taken many forms this past year. We were lucky (with so much hard work) to have in-person AND virtual sessions of camp in 2021! I was lucky enough to attend both! As always, I'm impressed with the dedication, love, and joy we all share.

With some adaptations to our Virtual Camp, I'm proud to say: IT WAS A HIT! We had kids and teens alike join us from the comfort of their homes. All shared in the fun as we ran around doing scavenger hunts and yelling the "Turkey Song" while wearing our camp shirts and silly socks! Lexi led us in some great Arts & Crafts, Kacey taught some fantastic science experiments, Tony led us in a rollercoaster and some Jack-Box games, and Brandey helped us with STEM. We worked together to solve riddles and answer trivia questions, and got moving with Safari Yoga and dance moves. We all loved watching a live Bird Show from Jeff, singing along at virtual campfires, as well as eating cotton candy and watching Mont Magic during our Kids Carnival. Plus, we had the chance to share our thoughts and feelings at Hobé Forever! Though we were sharing screens, we felt all the friendship, love and fun that Camp Hobé has to offer!

I'm so proud of our staff! And I am grateful for the opportunity to bring our classic Hobé traditions and the unique camp spirit to a virtual setting. As one of our amazing volunteers (Mac) put it: "Even though we may not have been hand in hand, the camp spirit surrounding us proved you don't need to be physically together to feel connected. Every moment at camp, virtual or in-person, is as treasured as the next."

I'm excited that our virtual program will continue and I feel so privileged to be a part of this amazing organization. See you next summer! Side hugs

Ashley Clinger (aka Smashley), Deputy Director



HELP HOBE

You can help Camp Hobé year-round in many ways, including shopping programs and workplace giving. Visit camphobekids.org/home/help-us-out/ to learn more!

Shopping programs: Participation is completely free for you. The more you shop, the more you help us keep program costs low for our families.

- Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com): sign in with your regular Amazon account information, then choose Camp Hobé as your charity.
- CAR'S (<u>careasy.org/nonprofit/camp-hobe</u>): Donate your clunker! Complete
 the online form, or call 855-500-7443. They'll pick it up (running or not), sell
 it, and give Camp Hobé the money.
- Smith's Inspiring Donations (<u>smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-in-spiring-donations</u>): log in to your existing frequent shopper account, then choose Camp Hobé as your charity. The donations add up when you buy groceries, gas, or other items at Smith's / Kroger. Organization #TN890

Workplace giving: We are a proud member of several workplace campaigns, which let you donate regularly and easily. Only \$10 a week adds up to more than \$500 a year!

- Combined Federal Campaign (CFC, <u>cfcgiving.opm.gov</u>): Includes federal employees in Utah (<u>mountainstatescfc.givecfc.org/</u>), from agencies such as Social Security Administration, Federal Reserve, Tooele Army Depot, and many others. CFC #50666
- Creating Healthier Communities (formerly Community Health Charities; (<u>chcimpact.org</u>): Includes employees of local school districts, city/county governments, Kennecott / Rio Tinto, Deseret Mutual Benefits Administration, Bard Access Systems, and other local companies.
- Utah State Employees Charitable Fund (<u>usecf.utah.gov</u>): Includes anyone who works for the State of Utah, such as the State Parks, Driver License Division, and many other useful offices!

You may be able to give from other campaigns such as United Way. While we are not a member of these campaigns, you may be able to designate contributions directly. Ask your work's campaign director and tell them Camp Hobé is a 501c3 nonprofit, EIN 57-1149391. Thanks for all you do to support our campers and



MEDICAL WRAP-UP

Summer 2021 brought one of the most meaningful and best Camp Hobé sessions we have ever had! It was so fun! As we began planning last winter, we knew it would be a challenge to pull off a COVIDfree in-person summer camp. However, we also knew our Camp Hobé family was special and would always go above and beyond. And boy were we right! Everyone from staff to volunteers, and especially our campers and families did everything we asked. And, it did take a lot. In fact, it took 318 COVID vaccine injections, over 600 COVID tests, making Camp Hobé a testing site, and stocking up on hundreds of masks and gallons of sanitizer. Every activity and meal was reworked to meet guidelines. Then we wondered if the masks, testing, and distancing would ruin camp. We wondered if they would work, and whether we could keep everyone safe. . .

Well, it did work! We reached the goal. We had a 100% COVID-free summer at Camp Hobé 2021. The joy, laughter, and fun of camp persisted because of everyone! No mask or test or social distancing could stop what is truly the magic of camp! Because the magic is in the people, the friendship, the love, and the bonds we share. From the minute I drove onto the camp site, my heart was full. I woke up each morning to the sound of people talking. laughing, excited for the day. The 3 seconds it took to sanitize and do a temperature check didn't alter the joy one bit. I watched as children and young adults conquered their fears and met new people, rode the zipline, and performed in front of a group. I heard story after story about how much camp meant to everyone. The tears of gratitude for each other were shed daily; and the laughter and singing was non-stop. And, we even loved a few of our COVID adjustments, like eating outdoors, scheduled shower times, and drive-thru check-in!

Everyone at camp means so much to me, and the hard work to make camp happen did not go unno-

ticed. Thanks so much to our families and campers for trusting us to care for and protect you. We're looking forward to this summer!

Jamie Seale, Medical Director



Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program

This past year has been nothing but crazy, but that didn't affect our camp spirit! Because we were completely online in 2020, the CITs made sure to put 110% into 2021 by organizing fun activities and being a source of compassion and support. Our Safari was nothing short of exciting. One of the best things about camp is the spirit of community we all feel every summer. The CIT program allows the volunteers and campers to make bonds that will last them a lifetime and make memories that they will hold close to their hearts. One of our star CITs, Zachary Warnick, impacted multiple camper experiences this summer. He went above and beyond to make sure that each camper felt heard and valued. From field games to mealtime and even swimming, Zach had the campers singing and laughing the whole time. He brought to life the CIT mission of providing a community of inclusivity by fostering an environment that celebrates diversity and providing an opportunity to have a meaningful impact on children's lives. We can't wait until next year to see our amazing campers again!

Emma Fisher, Counselor-in-Training Director

