Welcome to Camp ChiMer 2019

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long does Camp ChiMer last?
   Camp ChiMer lasts for five days and four nights, starting on Saturday at 1:00 pm with registration. Camp concludes the following Wednesday afternoon after a closing ceremony, which parents are welcome to attend.

2. What is included in this FREE Camp experience?
   There is no cost to attend Camp ChiMer. Camp experience includes, 3 meals a day, housing for 4 nights, 24-hour medical supervision, a camp T-shirt, Camp photo, completed arts and crafts projects and a week full of fun.

3. How do I get to Camp?
   Camp will be located at Three Trails Camp & Retreat Center. The address is, 16200 E US Hwy 40, Kansas City, MO 64136. It is the camper’s responsibility to provide his/her own transportation to the camp grounds and back. If a camper needs transportation assistance, please inquire within his/her social work unit or case manager. Directions to Three Trails Camp & Retreat Center can be found on https://goo.gl/maps/t6nNqEGE1dQ2

4. How do I qualify for Camp ChiMer?
   Camp ChiMer is specifically geared for children ages 9 to 18 who are undergoing peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis or who have had a renal transplant.

5. Where will my child sleep?
   Your child will be housed on our camp grounds in a dormitory setting, which includes bunk beds and a shared bathroom. Males and females are housed separately. Each air-conditioned room holds 2-3 counselors and 6-8 campers. All events are medically staffed during the day and night. At night, additional security is provided by counselor patrols.

6. Is there on-site Medical Care?
   Health care professionals including a physician and nurses are available 24 hours a day to monitor vital signs and medications daily, and provide dialysis treatments.

7. Can I visit my child at Camp?
   We invite parents to bring their child to camp as well as pick them up and attend the closing ceremony. Otherwise, parents are not allowed at camp during the week of camp.

8. Where can I send a letter to my camper at Camp ChiMer?
   Three Trails Camp & Retreat Center
   Attn: Camp ChiMer/Camper’s name
   16200 E US HWY 40
   Kansas City, MO. 64136
9. **Who is responsible for my child while at Camp?**
National Kidney Foundation staff, camp counselors and trained medical professionals from Children’s Mercy Hospitals and Clinics care for your child during their camp experience. We require a counselor application from each counselor as well as a background check and a list of references to accompany the counselor application.

10. **What are the important Phone Numbers at Camp I need to know?**
- If you need to contact a camper or camp staff, please feel free to call us on the camp line at **816-876-7469**. We are not able to answer the phone during activities, but there is an answering machine and we will check messages regularly.
- After hours emergencies from 10:00pm to 7:00am, please call Children’s Mercy Hospital & request to page the on-call transplant coordinator at **816-234-3000**.

11. **What if I need to cancel my reservation?**
In the event your child can not attend camp, please let us know as soon as possible. We have some children on the waiting list to attend camp and would fill these spots with cancellations.

12. **How can I prepare for Camp?**
Some tips for handling homesickness:
- Prepare your camper in advance.
- Discuss what camp will be like before your child leaves home and discuss any concerns.
- Focus on the positive camp experience and not what they may be missing at home.
- Homesickness can occur; for the best experience, we encourage campers to stay the whole week.

13. **Should campers bring money?**
Campers do not need to bring any money. If they do, campers are asked at check-in to turn in their money for safe keeping with staff. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen money. Camp ChiMer provides snacks during trips, but does not provide money for purchasing merchandise, additional snacks, etc.

14. **What is the weather like?**
While the month of July is typically very warm, the weather can sometimes be unpredictable. It is suggested that you bring comfortable clothing and at least one sweatshirt or jacket as it might get chilly during an evening activity. One-piece bathing suits are needed for children who choose to swim as well. Otherwise recreational clothing and a good pair of walking shoes are required.

15. **Do I need to bring bedding and towels?**
Campers will need to supply their own pillow, blankets, and swimming towel. Camp will provide sheets and bath towels.

16. **What kinds of meals are served?**
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are provided in the common dining area daily. Snacks are also provided in between meals. On the first day of camp, Camp ChiMer will be providing a snack and dinner. Breakfast and lunch will be provided the last day of camp.
- At each meal, we offer a variety of foods to appeal to different preferences. Water and other refreshments are always available at various sites within the camp grounds. Meals are approved by a renal dietitian to ensure that dietary requirements are met to the best of our abilities. Parents should include their child’s special diet information in the Camp ChiMer application form.

17. For more information about Camp ChiMer please visit our website or contact Camp Director Janice Perez at 913-262-1551 ext 475. Email her at Janice.Perez@kidney.org