



CAMP QUALITY MICHIGAN NEWS

MARCH 2021

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS SUMMER?

Camp Quality has been regularly monitoring information from the Centers for Disease Control, State Departments of Health and our local oncology medical professionals. While we continue our efforts to reduce COVID-19 in Michigan we need to always keep the health and safety of our campers, volunteers, and staff as a priority.

Therefore, Camp Quality has made the very difficult decision to cancel our on-site Camps in 2021. We know how hard this is on our campers and volunteers as we have already spent a year apart. We know how much our campers and volunteers look forward to camp each year. So, we are offering a CAMP IN program again in 2021. Our week-long camp will be held virtually with each camper receiving a backpack full of the items necessary to attend "camp" at home.

We will also be offering an optional in-person outdoor family day event to kick off our camp. This event will follow all CDC recommendations and guidelines. The health and safety of our campers is most important.

We remain passionate about serving our campers during this time which is full of uncertainties and change. We are heartbroken that we won't have our traditional summer camp, but we are excited about the CAMP IN program and our family day event. Look for more information and updates on our website at www.campqualityusa.org/mi/

Jean McDonough
Executive Director
Camp Quality Michigan

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Peninsula



Winter Family Weekend 2020
Nan Winter & Gerri Raupp

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

If you have attended a Camp Quality Michigan Family event you have likely met or seen the work of volunteer Nan Winter. She and her husband Rex are both longtime volunteers, always willing to lend a hand in any way we may need. Over the years Nan has been the driving force behind the beautiful decorations you see at many camp events. We let her know the theme, she gets to work, and the result is magical.

Thank you, Nan, for your continued support, we appreciate you and all that you do for the Camp Quality Michigan families.

NEW! CAMP MICHIANA

Camp Quality Michigan has formed a new partnership to increase services to Camp Quality Michigan and Indiana children affected by cancer. We have been working since late last summer to move forward on our most recent venture: Camp Michiana. Working together with Lippert Components, in Elkhart Indiana supplier of recreational vehicle accessories, servicing children/families in northern Indiana and southwest Michigan areas.

The camp will be held at Summit 5 Star Camp in Union Michigan, a beautiful facility located approximately 1hour south of Kalamazoo on 300 acres of natural habitat featuring an indoor horse arena, riding trails, archery, a 45-acre lake with fishing, canoeing, swimming, and more.

We look forward to working together with Lippert and Summit 5 Star Camp are very excited to be able to provide our Camp Quality program to more children in Michigan and Indiana.



LIONS CLUB OFFERS ASSISTANCE

Lions Clubs International is a non-profit, worldwide service organization founded in 1917 and has over 1.4 million members. Well known for their work with Vision and Diabetes causes, they've recently added additional initiatives, including Childhood Cancer. Lions Clubs are organized into Districts which can include several counties with around 30 - 40 clubs in each District.

Michigan Lions have chosen to first and foremost provide whatever services, funds, and gifts that can go directly to families fighting childhood cancer. They also support Camp Quality, Maggie's Wigs 4 Kids, and Kids Kicking Cancer.

While available resources vary as they rely on donations and fundraisers, we may be able to provide some support to families during this time. Generally, families can google your local Lions Club chapters or you can contact the Lions of MI State Office at 517-887-6640.

Lions Clubs are very active on social media, particularly on Facebook. Families can check out our private groups for Childhood Cancer resources, support, and conversation. Search Facebook for these groups by name - Lower Peninsula MI Lions Supporting Kids with Cancer and Upper Peninsula Lions Supporting Kids with Cancer. Camp Quality Michigan is grateful for all the support offered by Lions Clubs around the state. They are wonderful partners in helping children with cancer and their families.

LADY BIKERS GIVE & GIVE



Over twenty years ago a desire to find fellow women motorcyclists to ride with lead Dawn Johnson to start Lady Biker's Day. At the first event twenty-five, fellow motorcyclists showed up. Soon after, the group learned of Sydney, a little girl with cancer who had participated in Camp Quality Michigan. Some of the bikers started volunteering and fell in love with helping children with cancer. Seeing the programs at camp made the group want to give more and women motorcyclist clubs around the state started raising money.

Lady Biker Day wrapped up its gatherings this year, giving over \$4,200, which is amazing in itself. When adding up all the years of giving, The Lady Bikers have contributed over \$224,000 to Camp Quality Michigan. As Lady Bikers Day grew and more clubs around the state joined, the fundraising commitment for Camp Quality Michigan around the state grew.

Linda DeVoll of the Detroit area Free Spirit biking club said her club loved raising money for the kids at Camp Quality. "We did motorcycle rallies like the Mystery Road Rally and Diamonds and Chrome, as well as a bowling event," she said and continued "everyone in the club would contribute something to the raffle." Their annual bowling fundraiser takes place every February to support Camp Quality Michigan. DeVoll went on to say that Lady Bikers Day was a wonderful event and she loved being part of it.

The competitiveness of the clubs was intense, said Dawn Johnson. "Some of the clubs would rush the stage to make sure their club gave the most through last-minute donations," said Johnson. The competition was always friendly and joyful.

After 20 years, Dawn gives all the credit to the women motorcyclists who raise the money while following their passion for motorcycling. "The ladies are the spirit of the club," she says. Dawn needed to give up biking a few years ago, but she is excited for the new clubs and groups that will emerge and find the same friendships in their mutual interests and service to others.

Thank you lady bikers and your clubs for all you have done for Camp Quality Michigan and children with cancer over the years!

NEW! CAMP UPPER PENINSULA



A PARTNERSHIP
SERVING CHILDREN
AFFECTED BY CANCER

CAMP QUALITY UPPER PENINSULA



New Programs Beginning in Summer 2021

A unique partnership is being formed to serve children affected by cancer and those with blood disorders in the Michigan Upper Peninsula. Michigan Lions will partner with Camp Quality Michigan to facilitate a NEW camp program to be held at Bay Cliff Health Camp in Big Bay. The new camp, Camp Quality UP, will serve the Upper Peninsula and Eastern Wisconsin.

This unique partnership will provide a no-cost camp experience for all children affected by cancer in the area.

For over 35 years, Camp Quality USA has provided camps for children affected by cancer across the country. Camp Quality is not in the business of finding a cure for cancer and blood disorders, but we are in the business of ensuring that every child who has been diagnosed can have a fun and safe summer camp experience. This summer Camp Quality will be offering a NEW program with two opportunities. To provide the safest environment for the children we serve, we will be offering TWO opportunities:

CAMP QUALITY UP FAMILY DAY

Date: Sept 25, 2021

Join us at Bay Cliff Health Camp for a family-style fun-filled day of activities and learn more about Camp Quality.



BAY CLIFF HEALTH CAMP

CAMP QUALITY UP 'CAMP IN'

Date: July 12-16

Join us for 5 days of virtual camp fun featuring live events, activities, and games with the amazing Camp Quality staff and volunteers!

For more information:

mioffice@campqualityusa.org

To register:

<https://www.campqualityusa.org/mi/programs/>



Open to all pediatric cancer & blood disorder children
Ages 4-17

CAMP QUALITY MICHIGAN
WWW.CAMPQUALITYUSA.ORG/MI

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