

CAMP HOPE ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

To enroll or request more information about
Camp Hope, contact

CAMP HOPE
4675 Sunset Drive
Lockport, New York 14094
(716) 280-0777

APPLICATIONS ONLINE at
www.NiagaraHospice.org

Camp Hope is offered **FREE** of charge to
participants and is open to children throughout
Western New York. Registrations are taken on
a first-come first-served basis upon receipt of
completed enrollment materials.

ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

- Child must be age 7-13
- Child is grieving the loss of a loved one
- Camp application, proof of immunization, and signed permission of parent or guardian required



Roger A. Foote Camp Hope Endowment Fund



Camp Hope relies on the generosity of a
giving community through donations, planned
giving and grants to ensure Camp Hope remains
available to our children.

With a generous gift given by the family of
Roger A. Foote, Niagara Hospice has created
the **Roger A. Foote Camp Hope Endowment**.
This endowment was established to provide
the financial ground on which Camp Hope will
continue to serve the children of tomorrow as
they work through their grief. Mr. Foote's love of
children makes this gift a fitting tribute.

For more information about the **Roger A. Foote
Camp Hope Endowment** and to learn how you
can help a grieving child by sponsoring a camper,
contact the development office at 280-0780.

Camp Hope is a free service of Niagara Hospice.
Without generous financial contributions from
sponsors and our community, this opportunity
would not be possible.

Camp Hope is sponsored in part by:

*Grace Clark-Burch
Kiwanis Club of Lewiston
Lewiston Community Lions Club
Matthew & JoAnne Ruppel-Frawley
Frontier Science & Technology Research Foundation, Inc.
Lewiston Niagara On The Lake Rotary Club
William & Leann McConchie
Mighty Niagara Half Marathon
Frank & Carol Nochajski
Rainbow of Help, Inc.
Saint Gobain/Advanced Ceramics
Wilson Conservation Club Aux., Inc.
Wrights Corners Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary
YMCA – Camp Kenan
Youngstown Lions Club, Inc.*

CAMP HOPE

*Because children grieve
differently than adults*



**A Learning Experience for
Grieving Children AGES 7-13**

June 22 – 24, 2018

*An Outreach Program of
Niagara Hospice*



"Camp Hope is a wonderful way for children to express their feelings, happy and sad, about their loved ones."

When families face the death of a loved one, each will grieve in their own way. Children in particular grieve differently than adults. They may have difficulty understanding and expressing the intense feelings that come after a loss. Because their grief may be too overwhelming to focus on for long periods of time, they tend to grieve in spurts, moving fluidly between periods of grief and play. Children will also continue to grieve a loss as they grow, understanding the loss in new ways at each stage of developmental growth.

Grief is a difficult experience, but it can also be an opportunity for healing and growth. It is important for children to have supportive adults to offer encouragement, to let children know that they are not alone in their grief, and to help teach them positive ways of coping with their feelings.

To help children navigate their grief journey in a healthy way, Niagara Hospice offers Camp Hope. At Camp Hope children meet and interact with others experiencing many of the same feelings. They talk together about their losses, share emotions with each other, and come to recognize that the expression of grief is a natural response to losing a loved one. Together, they learn to help each other with their grief, learn ways to help themselves, and learn that they are not alone.

ACTIVITIES

Camp Hope is held at the YMCA's Camp Kenan on the shores of Lake Ontario in Barker, NY. At Camp Hope, children have the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings in small groups, facilitated by professional counselors, social workers, nurses and trained volunteers. Children enjoy camp activities with others in their age group. Learning activities include:

- A memorial bonfire to remember loved ones
- Arts and crafts
- Music
- Rock wall climbing
- Swimming
- Pet visits



WHAT TO EXPECT

Professionals and volunteers trained in working with grieving children staff the cabins over the weekend. All meals are provided and a camp nurse is present at all times.

Once the campers arrive on Friday evening, they participate in activities that encourage sharing and socializing with the other children staying in their cabin. Later, all of the campers, staff and volunteers engage in activities that include a pizza party and an ice cream social.

Saturday holds a full day of activities and a memorial bonfire in the evening. Campers end their day with campfire songs and S'mores. On Sunday morning, caregivers are invited to join their children for a community breakfast.

Children leave Camp Hope with new coping skills they will continue to use to work through their grief. They also leave with many fond memories and Camp Hope mementos.

"I learned that it was okay to not be afraid anymore, and that there are other kids who feel like I do."

– 8 year-old Sam

In the fall, the children and their caregivers are encouraged to meet with staff and volunteers for a Camp Hope reunion. Children are given a camp yearbook to exchange signatures with their new friends. Referrals are made with a bereavement counselor for children in need of additional grief support.