SUMMER



OUR TEAM

executive director

MARY JACOB <u>mjacob@fhfofgno.org</u> - Ext. 207

statewide outreach specialist

SHARON BLACKMON
sblackmon@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 208

director of public relations

BEBE BODE bbode@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 226

information & training specialist

NICOLE DESROCHE <u>ndesroche@fhfofgno.org</u> - Ext.218

administrative assistant

LIZ DUMAS ldumas@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 202

director of peer-to-peer support LAURA S. NATA <u>lsnata@fhfofgno.org</u> - Ext. 209

community resource specialist
THUY NGUYEN

tnguyen@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 211

community resource specialist

STEVEN NGUYEN snguyen@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 212

director of training

JESSICA RODRIGUE <u>jrodrigue@fhfofgno.org</u> - Ext. 204

director of administrative services
DENISE SWEATMAN
dsweatman@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 203

coordinator of grants and contracts SAVANNAH THIBODEAUX sthibodeaux@fhfofgno.org - Ext. 217

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gregory Brenan, CPA, CCIFP, CGMA

Jo Ann D. LoRusso, Ph.D.

Denise Barrera, MPH, MSW

Debra Dixon M.Ed.+30

Ashley Bourg

Michelle Archambault, CPA/PFS

MISSION

The Mission of Families Helping
Families of Greater New Orleans is to
educate and connect children and
adults with disabilities, and their
families to resources, services, and
supports to attend school, work, and
thrive in their communities.



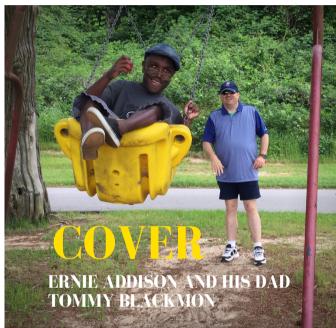
700 Hickory Avenue | Harahan, LA 70123 (504) 888-9111 | 800-766-7736 fhfofgno.org | info@fhfofgno.org







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Summer is also about ensuring our most vulnerable youth have access to good nutrition.



What can we do at HOME today?



Outdoor Activities

Make sailboats and race them. Put water into a plastic kid's pool and race your handmade sailboats. Use only the natural wind power to make them go and see who makes it to the finish line first! Remember water safety with young children.

Puddle jumping. Nothing is more fun than getting to play outside when it's raining. Summer rainstorms don't always mean you have to head inside - put on bathing suits and rain boots and stomp in the puddles!

Plant a container garden. Many vegetables and herbs can be grown indoors or out inside containers. Let your children pick some varieties to grow and tend to them throughout the summer. It may even convince them to eat a vegetable if they know they grew it!

Car wash. Arm your kids with the hose, a bucket, soap and some sponges and set them to work washing the family car (and each other). Remember, children will often get tired before the car is clean.

Dirt restaurant. Kids love to play restaurant, and who doesn't love to play in the dirt? Send the kids outside with plastic cups and plastic spoons, a few dollar store dishes and see what kind of gourmet meals they come up with. They can make salads from leaves and flower petals, mud pies, and tree bark chicken. The kids can take turns making meals or being waiters and restaurant patrons.



Go for a hike, walk, or bike ride. Most towns have parks and areas that are perfect for this, but even if you have to make it a full day trip and travel a bit, this is a great activity. Pack a picnic lunch and plenty of fluids and enjoy some exercise.

Oversized painting. Tape several large sheets of paper together on the backside, and flip them over on the lawn. Fill a few containers with different colors of finger paints and give the kids a box of strange items to make their painting with. Try a spaghetti strainer, a balloon, a mop head, sponges, rain boots, and any other objects you see lying around!

Water painting. Paint with clean paintbrushes and a pot of water outside on walls, pavement, wood fences, etc. The sun removes the evidence.

Bubbles. Just about every kid enjoys bubbles! Create your own bubble solution (see Fun Art Recipes). Pour the solution into a shallow container with a wide-open mouth and then use odd objects to create your bubbles. String, rubber bands, the spaghetti strainer, straws, slotted spoons, and anything else you can think of to make some fun bubbles!

Bubble art. When the kids get tired of making bubbles, add a few drops of food coloring to the bubble solution and have them blow bubbles that pop onto white paper. The result will be an artistic masterpiece made from the rainbow-colored bubbles!

Sand art. Use food coloring to color sand in zip-closure bags. Pour the sand on paper plates to dry before using. Once dry, glue to paper to make cards and art, or fill plastic containers with your sand art creations.



Make a sandbox. For whatever reason, kids like playing in the dirt! You can make an inexpensive sandbox by filling a kid size plastic pool with clean dirt you dig up from your yard or from sand you purchase from the store. Fill with plastic trucks and plastic cups and let the kids go to town.

Organize play dates. If you live in an area where there are many children, you may be able to organize play dates, taking turns at each other's house. Set up some of the activities listed here for fun activities to do together.

Create a racecar. If you have miniature cars (hot wheels and others), it can be tons of fun to create elaborate race tracks in the dirt, complete with jumps, water pits and crash areas.

Water games. You can let the kids run through the sprinklers, wade in a kid's pool, spray each other with the hose, or play with a bucket full of water and plastic cups. They'll be creative with it, or they'll just get each other wet, but either way, they'll have fun doing it.

Organize a bike parade. Gather as many neighborhood kids as you can and have everyone decorate his or her bike or wagon like parade floats. Parade around the driveways or through a bike path.

Collect cans and bottles. Take your kids through the town and collect as many bottles and cans as you can. Return them to the store and give the kids the money to buy themselves a treat. It will take up an afternoon, give the kids exercise, and help the environment all at the same time.

Lemonade stand. Turn your children into mini-entrepreneurs! Teach them how to figure out their profits by subtracting the cost of their materials and supplies from how many cups of lemonade they sell.

Start a collection. Seashells, rocks, old keys, fancy pencils, matchbox cars, etc. Starting a collection can be a lot of fun, especially if you can start with items you have around the house or can find easily.

Make a nature display. Go for a nature walk and collect items such as leaves, twigs, flowers, rocks, and acorns. When you get home, take a shallow box (a cereal box works well) and cover it with plain white paper or the paper of a brown grocery bag. Cut the front of the box open, leaving a 1-inch border. Glue lightweight items to the back inside of the box, and heavier items to the bottom.



Have a campout. You don't have to actually go anywhere to go "camping". Pitch a tent in the backyard, build a fire (if local laws allow), toast marshmallows and enjoy camping in the backyard.

Set up an obstacle course. Turn your backyard into an amazing obstacle course! Help your kids create a course from toys, bikes, and other things found in your backyard. Build the course with your child's age and ability level in mind.

Build a rock garden. For some reason, kids really enjoy rocks. Let them collect various rocks and arrange them in a nice garden. For added fun, they could paint the rocks.

Make a slip n'slide. Use an old tarp as a slip n' slide or buy one. The kids will enjoy this activity for a few hours on a hot summer day.

Stargaze. Take a blanket, a flashlight, and an astronomy guide outside after it gets dark. See if you can find all the constellations.



Indoor Activities

Indoor camping. Throw a sheet over your kitchen table and camp out underneath. You can sing campfire songs, make s'mores in the microwave, and pretend to go fishing. If you have a small pop-tent, it can be set up indoors temporarily and provide hours of entertainment.

Make a puzzle. Draw a picture or cut one from a magazine or cereal box. Cut it into puzzle shapes and then put it back together.

Play volleyball. Yes, you can play this version of volleyball inside. You just need a blow-up beach ball and your couch. Pull the couch into the middle of the room so you can stand on either side of it and use it as your volleyball net. (You could also drape a sheet over a couple of chairs to create your net).

Newspaper basketball. Roll a sheet of newspaper into a ball. Throw into an empty wastepaper or laundry basket. Add different size baskets or distances.



Dance, dance, dance.

If you feel like you've been cooped up inside for too long due to bad weather or other reasons, put on some upbeat music and dance until you're too tired to dance anymore!

The sillier you are, the better!

Set up an obstacle course. Turn your living room or basement into an amazing obstacle course! Let the kids create a course from toys and other things found in the house. Crawl under tables or chairs and slither through a tunnel made from couch cushions. Build the course with your child's age and ability level in mind.

Café Kids. Let the kids create restaurant menus of items you have in your kitchen and then take turns taking lunch orders from each other (or you). Let everyone be the kitchen staff to prepare the lunches and then switch to become the customers who get to eat the delicious meals they've ordered!

Make your own board games. Playing board games is fun for all ages, but can get a little boring when you play the same games over and over. Spend some time creating your own board game with cardboard, crayons and other objects, and then play! The real fun is the creation of the game itself, but you can play and save the game for future playtime as well.

Draw mazes. On paper, create mazes and let your kids try to get to the endpoint. If you have a hamster or guinea pig, create a maze out of cardboard and see if it can find the end of the maze.

Start an activity co-op. If you are good at arts and crafts, your friend is good at yoga, someone else knows gymnastics or plays an instrument, etc. - you could all get together and start an activity co-op. Once a week, each parent could host an activity at their home for everyone's kids. It's a low-cost way to keep the kids involved in various activities.

Indoor picnic. Spread a blanket out on the living room floor and have an indoor picnic. The best part is no bugs!

Put on a talent show. Let the kids practice their talents, create tickets and flyers to give to the neighbors, and invite everyone to watch their performance. Let the neighborhood kids participate in the talent show, too! You can hold it inside or out, and give every participant a certificate and a round of applause.



Make a dream book. Using magazines, let the children cut out photographs or draw pictures of things they'd like to have someday, places they'd like to go, careers they'd like to have one day and glue them into a dream book.

Make holiday gifts for family. Using various craft supplies, the kids can make photo frames, mini scrapbooks, and other items to give as gifts throughout the year.

Room rearranging. Let the children draw a new layout of their bedroom(s) on paper, and then help them move everything around to their new configuration.

Set up a net. Put up a badminton or volleyball net, or create one from a clothesline and a sheet. Use a blow-up beach ball to play volleyball or get a badminton set from a yard sale and play.

Soccer bowling. Set up 10 empty soda cans or plastic bottles in a triangle or circle on a fairly level section in your yard or driveway. Give each child three tries to knock down as many "pins" as possible by kicking an inflated ball at them. Keep score like bowling.

Treasure Hunt. Hide a small treasure (a bag of candy, new game, stickers, etc.) somewhere in the house. Then use Post-its® to write clues or pictures. Each clue will lead to another clue until finally, the last one will lead the children to the "treasure".

Make music together. Write song lyrics and come up with a melody. Record the tune on your computer, voice recorder or favorite electronic device as a special keepsake.



Make your own musical instruments. Cymbals: 2 saucepan lids; Drum: upside-down saucepan and wooden spoon; Maracas: rice, dry beans or pasta in an empty water bottle; Xylophone: jelly or pickle jars filled with different levels of water and a spoon; Guitar: shoe box without the lid and rubber bands around the box.



Play store. Either purchase a toy cash register from the store or set up a calculator at the check-out station. Make or buy play money, and spend an afternoon buying items and making change. You could even make a pretend check register and write checks, depending on how old your children are.

Collage Art. Have your child cut out pictures from magazines or weekly ads and glue them onto paper to create a collage.

Start a parent-child book club. Ideally, you could get a few kids around the same age with their parents to all read the same book and get together to chat about it. Make it a fun time together and create a craft or snack that relates to the story.

Play school, restaurant, veterinarian, or florist. If possible, plan a visit to see what happens in a school, restaurant, veterinarian's office, or florist. Talk about what you see and hear. Take pictures that you can look at once you are at home. Gather the props you will need such as stuffed animals, pretend money, menus, paper, and pencils.

Keep a journal. Have your children keep a journal. They can draw about what they did that day, or what they hope to do the next day. Ask your child to tell you about their picture and you can write the words.

Toss a ball. Have everyone sit in a circle. Every time someone gets the ball, she says a name of a state (or animal, or food, etc.) that starts with the next letter of the alphabet as the ball is thrown to someone else.

Sink or Float. Add water to a large container and collect a variety of objects from around your house (e.g. crayon, pencil, small toy, cotton ball, toy car, paper clip, coin, key, etc.) Have your child predict which ones will sink or float when placed in the water. Place the items in the water and watch what happens!



Puppet Play. Using a paper lunch bag have your child create a puppet. Add features using markers or crayons. You can also use materials you may have around the house such as yarn for the hair, sticks for the legs/arms, buttons and stickers, etc.

Cereal Necklace. Have your child make a necklace using rainbow-colored circle-shaped cereal. String the colored cereal onto yarn/string. Talk about the colors that your child is using.



Special Needs & Inclusive Summer Camps

CAMP TIGER

Participation in Camp Tiger is open to all qualified children and is completely free of charge. This camp invites children between the ages of 6-15 years old in the New Orleans, Northshore, Baton Rouge, and Lower Parish metropolitan areas who are physically and/or mentally challenged. We especially welcome those children who are unable to attend other camps available for special needs children. It is our goal to accommodate all children, due to limited funding and staff, we can only accept campers whose needs we can meet with our current resources. Campers must be **age 6-15** at the time of camp.

This year's Camp Tiger will be from **Monday, May 23rd to Friday, May 27th** and will have two formats, both an in-person format and a virtual format. In order to adhere to current COVID-19 guidelines, we are planning to accept a lower number of campers than in previous years to the in-person format of camp. We will also be accepting campers to participate in camp virtually. With our priorities in health and safety, LSUHSC has the right to cancel the in-person aspect of Camp Tiger at any time if the status of COVID-19 makes it unsuitable to hold in-person events. If this occurs, Camp Tiger will be converted entirely to the virtual format.

How much does it cost? The camp is free of charge for eligible children.

More information about Camp Tiger 2022 can be found on the <u>schedules & activities</u> <u>page</u> or on the <u>camper application page</u>.

Any inquiries can be made to Jayne Mora, Camp Tiger Director, at **jmora@lsuhsc.edu**.

Louisiana Lions Camp

Jun 5, 2022 - Jun 11, 2022

Lions & LPDCI Camp Pelican

Session 1 – Districts LIONS

In 1988, LPDCI joined with the Louisiana Lions League for Children, Inc. to provide the pulmonary session of Lions Camp. Louisiana Lions-LPDCI-Camp Pelican is a weeklong summer camp program for **children living with pulmonary disorders ages five to fifteen years.** The program offers a wide variety of activities including swimming, sports, arts and crafts, and many special events to entertain and educate these children. **APPLY HERE**

Lions Camps Below:

Jun 19, 2022 - Jun 25, 2022

Lions Camp - Mentally Challenged Youth

Session 2 - Districts NS

For over 60 years Louisiana Youth, *aged 8-19*, with Mild-Moderate mental challenges have enjoyed an outdoor summer experience filled with laughter, smiles, and LC Love. Activities include swimming, fishing, archery, gun safety, sports, and much more. We are an American Camp Association Accredited Camp and have LPNs & RNs on-site for the entirety of camp. Our staff is volunteers, full of life and

energy pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. APPLY HERE

Jun 26, 2022 - Jul 2, 2022

Lions Camp - Mentally Challenged Youth

Session 3 – Districts LIO

For over 60 years Louisiana Youth, *aged 8-19*, with Mild-Moderate mental challenges have enjoyed an outdoor summer experience filled with laughter, smiles, and LC Love. Activities include swimming, fishing, archery, gun safety, sports, and much more. We are an American Camp Association Accredited Camp and have LPNs & RNs on-site for the entirety of camp. Our staff is volunteers, full of life and energy pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. <u>APPLY HERE</u>

Jul 3, 2022 - Jul 9, 2022

Lions Camp - Physically Challenged Youth

Session 4 - Districts LIO

For over 60 years Louisiana Youth, *aged* 7-19, with Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, and other physical exceptionalities have enjoyed an outdoor summer experience filled with laughter, smiles, and LC Love. Activities include swimming, fishing, archery, gun safety, sports, and much more. We are an American Camp Association Accredited Camp and have LPNs & RNs on-site for the entirety of camp. Our staff is volunteers, full of life and energy pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. <u>APPLY</u> HERE

Jul 10, 2022 - Jul 16, 2022

Lions Camp - Physically Challenged Youth

Session 5 – Districts NS

For over 60 years Louisiana Youth, *aged* 7-19, with Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, and other physical exceptionalities have enjoyed an outdoor summer experience filled with laughter, smiles, and LC Love. Activities include swimming, fishing, archery, gun safety, sports, and much more. We are an American Camp Association Accredited Camp and have LPNs & RNs on-site for the entirety of camp. Our staff is volunteers, full of life and energy pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. <u>APPLY</u> HERE

Jul 17, 2022 - Jul 23, 2022

Louisiana Lions Diabetes Camp

Session 6 – Districts LIONS

Louisiana Lions provide an opportunity for youth *ages 6 to 14*, who live with Type 1 diabetes, to learn about their disease and get to know others who face the same challenges. While many lessons are being taught, our campers have a week packed with fun and discovery. Safety, education, increased self-esteem, and respite for the family from the daily demands of diabetes are all benefits of Lions Camp. The main reason to go to diabetes camp is to have FUN, and it is most often an unforgettable adventure that makes our campers eager to return. The overall goal of the camp is to provide a safe highly supervised, recreational experience for children with diabetes.

Louisiana Lions Camp is an American Camp Association Accredited Camp and has a full medical staff on-site for the entirety of our diabetes session. The medical staff is comprised of Medical Doctors, Physicians Assistants, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Pharmacist, Pharmacy and Nursing Students, Registered Dietitian, and Dietetic Interns. Medical staff is volunteers, full of life and energy pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. **APPLY HERE**

Jul 24, 2022 - Jul 30, 2022

Louisiana Lions & Camp Challenge

Session 7 - Districts LIONS (ages 6 - 14)

Louisiana Lions and Camp Challenge joined together to provide a life-changing experience for the youth of Louisiana dealing with **childhood cancer as well as hematologic disorders**. Louisiana Lions Camp is an American Camp Association Accredited Camp. During Louisiana Lions and Camp Challenge, we have a full medical staff on-site for the entirety of our session. Our staff is volunteers, full of life and energy, pouring all of their talents and love into camp week. **APPLY HERE**

Krewe DeCamp

Email <u>friendshelpingkids@gmail.com</u> for more information *May 29 - June 4, 2022*

Krewe de Camp provides a traditional, overnight summer camp experience to children with **developmental disabilities** while also giving their parents and caretakers a much-needed rest. We operate the one-week-long camp without charging the campers or their caretakers any fees so that the experience is available to all families regardless of financial need. Our campers get to experience an array of activities including swimming, outdoor games, guest presenters, arts and crafts, concerts, a dance, and a fair. Camp is also an opportunity to socialize with peers and relax in a fun nurturing atmosphere.

MEDCAMPS of Louisiana

MEDCAMPS holds a series of one-week, fun-filled camps each summer free of charge for children in Louisiana facing the challenges of a variety of physical and mental disabilities. These include Spina Bifida and orthopedic conditions, cerebral palsy, asthma, sickle cell anemia, autism, epilepsy, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech impairment, and those developmentally disabled. The focus is on what campers can do, and all campers are encouraged to reach their full potential. In the safe environment of MedCamps, surrounded by other children with similar challenges, these special campers discover they are not alone and gain a genuine sense of belonging, accomplishment, and self-worth. MedCamps also has camp dates available to adults with developmental disabilities ages 22 and up.

Register for any of the MEDCAMPS below here.

Tall Pines Retreat

Date Period: May 13 - May 15, 2022

3- Day retreat for adults, *ages 22 and up*, living with cognitive disabilities. (Participants must be ambulatory)

Camp Kandoo

Date Period: May 29 - June 03, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-11, living with cognitive disabilities.

Camp Hot Shots

Date Period: June 05 - June 10, 2022

Camp for children, *ages 8-16*, living with **juvenile diabetes**. This camp is in partnership with Diabetes Care Center and funded by The Holtz Family Foundation.

Camp Rolling Thunder

Date Period: June 12 - June 17, 2022

Camp for children, *ages 6-16*, living with **Spina Bifida, Orthopedic Conditions, and Spinal Muscular Atrophy**.

Camp Champ!

Date Period: June 19 - June 24, 2022

Camp for children, ages 12-16, living with cognitive disabilities.

Camp Alive

Date Period: June 26 - July 01, 2022

Camp for children, *ages 8-16*, who are **3 months to 5 years post-treatment.** This camp is in partnership with Cancer Services and OLOL Children's Health.

Busy Bees Retreat

Date Period: July 07 - July 09, 2022

3-Day retreat for children, **ages 6-16**, living with **Autism**. Campers MUST be accompanied by one parent/guardian.

Camp Rough Riders

Date Period: July 10 - July 15, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-16, living with Cerebral Palsy.

Camp Smiling Suns

Date Period: July 17 - July 22, 2022

Camp for children, ages 17-21, living with cognitive disabilities.

Camp Little Giants

Date Period: July 24 - July 29, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-16, living with Sickle Cell Anemia.

Camp Shining Stars

Date Period: July 31 - August 05, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-16, living with Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders.

Camp Big Hearts

Date Period: July 30 - August 05, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-16, living with hearing, speech, and vision impairments.

Camp Easy Breeze

Date Period: July 30 - August 05, 2022

Camp for children, ages 6-16, living with Asthma.

High Rollers Retreat

Date Period: Sept 02 - Sept 04, 2022

3- day retreat for **adults ages 18-30**, living with **Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, or are in a Wheelchair.**

Camp ABLE

Staff Training: July 27

Campers: July 28 - July 31

St. Andrews Episcopal Church

1031 South Carrollton Avenue at Zimpel Street • New Orleans, LA 70118

(504) 866-0123

2022 Director: Taylor Cheek

info@campable.org

Camp Able is a vacation, birthday party and family reunion all rolled up together. Camp Able is a gift of mutual respect and compassion wrapped up in silliness and love.

At Camp Able, we aspire to be a community that celebrates our diverse abilities and gifts. Camp Able is not about what we can't do, whether camper or staffer, the focal point is what we "can" do.

Camp Able was specifically created to provide a unique camping experience for persons with diverse abilities. We seek to love our neighbors as ourselves, understanding that our neighbors don't always look, sound or think the same way we do.

Camp Able is about forming a community that loves us just as we are. Our goal is to establish, at least for one week, a community of unconditional love, compassion, and acceptance.

Each camper, faced with their own set of circumstances, works through their challenges with full inclusion of a community that allows them to have fun, experience new wonders, and most importantly gets to be an extraordinarily beloved child of God.

In seeking to define ourselves in relation to each other we find that we hold more in common than we ever thought possible and need each other more than we ever could imagine. Camp Able is a journey of exploring with dignity the diversity of humanity.

Camp Dream Street

Summer 2022 Dates

Staff Opening Day: May 27 Camper Opening Day: May 29

Closing Day: June 2

Dream Street is a **five-day**, **four-night camping program for children with physical disabilities**. The camp is held on the grounds of URJ Henry S. Jacobs Camp in Utica, MS, and is sponsored by NFTY's Southern Region. Dream Street was founded in 1975 with the mission that all children, regardless of their abilities, must be offered the chance to have fun, to make new friends, to achieve, to be accepted for who and what they are, and to learn from the challenges of group life. Both the children and the staff at Camp Dreamstreet benefit from life-changing experiences the camp has to offer. Dream Street is a place where children with physical disabilities are given the chance to be children - not "special" children, not children with disabilities, but just children. This is the true magic of Camp Dream Street.

Dream Street campers are primarily from Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and West Tennessee and are between the *ages of 8 and 14*. All of our campers are children with physical disabilities. **Predominant diagnoses of our campers include cerebral palsy, spina bifida, limb deficiencies, spinal cord injury, communicative disorders, and other developmental disabilities.**

We are able to accept approximately **sixty children** each summer to participate in our overnight camping program. Children applying to participate in camp should be between the ages of **8 and 14** and should have a physical disability or mobility impairment.

<u>Jefferson Parish Recreation Department</u>

Summer Camps (East & West Bank)

SPRING & SUMMER 2022 - GUIDE

You can check availability at JPRD.org

Session 1: June 13 - July 1 (3 weeks) \$264

No Camp on June 20th

Session 2: July 11 - August 5 (4 weeks) \$350

7:00 am - 3:30 pm

Aftercare 3:30 - 6:00 pm Session 1: \$38 Per Camper Session 2: \$50 Per Camper Arts & Crafts, Camp Shirts, Field Trips, Special Events, & Swimming Included!

East Bank:

Leslie Dunn <u>ldunn@jeffparish.net</u>

(504) 736-6999 Ext. 100

Summer Camp for Ages 13+ Delta Playground

Summer Camp for Ages 6 -13 Ree Alario Special Needs Center

Pinnacles Summer Hang About (Must be an existing Pinnacles member)

Pontiff Playground 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Session 1: **June 6 - July 17** \$175 Session 2: **June 20 - July 1** \$175 Session 3: **July 11 - July 29** \$263

West Bank:

Susan Hirschman

(504) 349-5000 Ext. 105

Summer Camp for *Ages 13+* Nicholson Playground:

Summer Camp for Ages 6 - 13 Estelle Playground

<u>Louisiana Academy of Performing Arts Summer Camps (including Attention-deficit Disorder (ADD), Autism, developmental disabilities, and Down syndrome)</u>

Mandeville School of Music | 316 Girod St. | Mandeville, LA | (985) 674-2992 River Ridge School of Music & Dance | 2020 Dickory Ave #200 | Harahan, LA (504) 738-3050

Our Summer Camps provide all campers (beginning, intermediate, and advanced) with the opportunity to explore up to five of our instrumental, theory, and vocal programs. Campers (with little or no musical background) are able to receive initial training and see what program(s) interest them. Our camps can also provide experienced students with a week of concentrated study to accelerate proficiency and to generate motivation to learn new and improved methods of study, giving new life to the student's instrument or vocal study. 25 students are admitted per week. Accommodations are provided for children with disabilities **Ages 5-17**.

St. Charles Parish Parks and Recreation Camps

St. Charles Parish's **Inclusive Summer Day Camp** will provide attendees with six weeks of educational and leisure activities Monday through Friday beginning in early June. Children will experience arts and crafts, games, field trips, water days, and friendships during the lazy days of summer. The camp will also offer swimming one day a week for all four campsites. No fee refunds will be issued. For more information, please call (985) 783-5090.

BREC Summer Camps

2022 Camp Sunshine

Camp Sunshine is an exclusive summer camp designed for campers with **intellectual** and developmental disabilities, offering different sections for ages 8-11, ages 12-14, and ages 15-17. All BREC summer camps are inclusive, but Camp Sunshine is for campers who need to function within a staff ratio of 1:5 and/or 1:10. Before registration is complete, our staff would like to meet with you to determine if Camp Sunshine is the right opportunity for you this summer by completing a recreational assessment.

To schedule an appointment for an assessment, email Molly Orr at molly.orr@brec.org beginning February 1. Each themed week consists of recreational games and activities, arts and crafts, field trips, water activities, and inclusive activities with other community recreation camps to give the campers social opportunities to interact with their peers.

NORTH SHERWOOD FOREST COMMUNITY PARK

Ages: 8-11

JEFFERSON HIGHWAY PARK

Ages: 12-14 + 15-17Session 1: **June 6-10**Session 2: **June 13-17**Session 3: **June 20-24**Session 4: **June 27-July 1**

No Camp July 4-8 Session 6: *July 11-15* Session 7: *July 18-22* Session 8: *July 25-29* Session 9: *Aug. 1-5* 7:00 am - 3:30 pm

\$100 per week for East Baton Rouge Parish residents

\$120 per week for out-of-parish residents

Sunshine Club

This program offers recreational opportunities as a learning tool for daily living activities for **adults with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities.**This program bridges the gap between high school and the life after for our participants. We will learn how to become a part of their community, engaging in meaningful daily activities while learning new skills. The participants will have opportunities to take daily trips to volunteer sites and actively engage in activities in the community.

All participants must complete an assessment before registering. To register or set up an appointment for an assessment, please contact <u>molly.orr@brec.org</u> starting February 1.

MILTON J. WOMACK PARK - SUNSHINE CLUB ROOM

Monday-Friday / 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. / Ages: 18+ / \$90 per week

Camp Shriver

Mon, June 6, 2022, 8:00 am - Fri, June 10, 2022, 1:30 pm

First Church of the Nazarene 9955 Old Hammond Hwy

Baton Rouge, LA 70816, USA (map)

Athletes arrive daily at 8:00 am and leave at 1:30 pm

Check <u>Louisiana Special Olympics (LASO) calendar page</u> to see if they are having additional camps in other areas of the state.

Audubon Zoo Summer Camp

6500 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70118 (504) 212-5380 or (504) 861-5103

Audubon offers your young nature enthusiast a unique summer camp experience filled with hands-on science investigations, Zoo explorations, up-close animal encounters, arts and crafts, and nature-themed activities. Campers will enjoy the Zoo as their playground as they discover wild animals, wild places, and what people are doing to protect them. Audubon Nature Institute strives to accommodate all children interested in attending Zoo Summer Camp. Please be aware that our camp is physically active, at least half of the day is spent outdoors, and there are multiple transitions and sensory changes throughout the day. All campers are expected to adhere to the Camp Code of Conduct, follow directions from staff, and respect the safety and well-being of the people and animals at the Zoo. If you have any questions regarding registration, please email zooedadmin@auduboninstitute.org or call (504) 913-0254.

Kingsley House Summer Camp

(504) 523-6221 ext. 188 or 261

1600 Constance St

New Orleans, LA 70130

Kingsley operates a full-day summer camp including academic enrichment (with a special focus on math and reading), leadership development, STEM career exploration, recreation, and weekly field trips to fun and exciting locations throughout the area. Registration information for 2022 will be available on the website in April.

Center Ridge Outpost - TEEAM

Located in Smith County on Highway 37 between Raleigh, MS, and Taylorsville, MS. It is the location of our summer camp programs as well as all of our other inclusive adventure recreational activities.

SUMMER CAMP REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDANCE

Campers must meet the age requirement for the camp they attend (**7-17 for some weeks, 18+ for others**)

- Campers with a diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder, Asperger Syndrome, or a related Developmental Disability are given acceptance priority. Campers with all types of disabilities or non-disabled campers are welcome to attend!
- Camp involves a great deal of walking, including trails and hills. This should be considered when applying.
- Campers are encouraged to participate in the daily activities and programs at camp. A camper can opt-out of an activity if necessary.

THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULES

- Center Ridge Outpost holds 4 weeks of camp. Two of those weeks are for ages 7
 to 17 and two are for ages 18 and older. There is no maximum age.
- All camps begin on Monday with an arrival time between 10 AM and Noon.
- All camps end on Friday with a program that is presented at 3 PM. We encourage all families to stay and enjoy the program.
- Short sessions (3 days) are as follows: Monday-Wednesday: Campers should arrive on Monday between 10 AM and Noon. Campers should be picked up on Wednesday between 10 AM and Noon. Wednesday-Friday: Campers should arrive on Wednesday between 1 PM and 3 PM. Camp ends on Friday with a program that is presented at 3 PM. We encourage all families to stay and enjoy the program.

Summer Camp Week 1

(Campers 18 and older):

June 6, 2022 - June 10, 2022

Summer Camp Week 2

(Campers 7 to 17):

June 13, 2022 - June 17, 2022

Summer Camp Week 3

(Campers 7 to 17):

June 20, 2022 - June 24, 2022

Summer Camp Week 4

(Campers 18 and older):

June 27, 2022 - July 1, 2022

Camp Unique

Acadian Village | 400 Greenleaf Rd. | Lafayette, LA | (318) 610-0707

July 18 - 22 | Ages 5-15 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

All disabilities. Theme - Inspector Gadget

Camp Unique

Acadian Village | 400 Greenleaf Rd. | Lafayette, LA | (318) 610-0707 July 25 - 29 | Ages 13 + | 9:00 Am - 12:00 PM All disabilities. Theme - Inspector Gadget

CAMP GUIDES

(additional resources)

- Macaroni Kid Alexandria 2022 Summer Camp Guide
- 2022 Ultimate Guide to Summer Camp In and Around Baton Rouge
- BREC 2022 Summer Camps
- 2022 Ultimate Guide to Summer Camp In and Around New Orleans
- New Orleans Recreation Department (NORD) 2022 Summer Camps
- Macaroni Kid New Orleans 2022 Summer Camp Guide
- Jefferson Parish Recreation Department (JPRD) 2022 Summer Camps
- Northshore Parents Summer Camp
- Summer Camps in Louisiana
- Louisiana KidCam 2022 Summer Camps

Recreation



Special Needs Swimming Lessons

JoJo's Hope Therapeutic

Swimming at Elmwood Fitness Center 102 High Avenue | Metairie, LA | (504) 957-9962

JoJo's Hope focuses on an interactive aquatic curriculum that includes games, songs, and laughter. Sessions are on Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays. Activity programs are adapted to meet the needs of individuals with mental or physical limitations. The therapeutic programs are specially designed for those with Multiple Sclerosis, Cerebral Palsy, Spina Bifida, Autism, Down syndrome, and other disabilities. JoJo's Hope is for all ages, with special emphasis on children and mature adults (ages 6 months-100 years).

Diverse Abilities Swim Lessons

The YMCA of Greater New Orleans will be launching a pilot program focused on reaching children with diverse abilities during the summer of 2019. Our new program will provide specialized one-on-one or small group lessons for children with various special needs. Through this swimming program, parents and caregivers will be given the opportunity to provide their children with the means to learn fundamental water safety and swimming skills in a safe environment. Offerings vary based on location. Scholarships are available based on financial needs. Please see your branch for more details. Please contact Association Aquatics Director Rachael Jonas at rachaelj@ymcaneworleans.org to discuss options and availability.

Love Swimming

5221 S. Front Street | New Orleans, LA | (504) 891-4662

Email: loveswimming@gmail.com

Year-round, indoor swilling lessons for ages 6 months to adult.

Jewell's Pool

2315 Alcide Drive | Marrero, LA | (504) 218-8800

Sports & Adaptive Sports

S.M.C.L. Foundation - Samaritan Multi-Services Centered on Living (S.M.C.L)

Foundation & Associates, Inc. – Paralympic Sport New Orleans

Julius Lee | (504) 450-4014

Email: Jleepva@cox.net Established in March 2006 to improve the quality of life of our veterans or youth with

disabilities and those who are economically disadvantaged in the Metro New Orleans Community and Southeast Louisiana. The Rollin' Pelicans are a Division 3 wheelchair basketball team and represent Louisiana as members of the National Wheelchair

Basketball Association (NWBA).

The Miracle League

The Miracle League provides all children with special needs, regardless of their level of disability, the opportunity to play league sports and be part of a team.

The Miracle League of Greater New Orleans | (504) 894-5415

Email: glorio@chnola.org

The Miracle League Northshore | (601) 431-0696

Email: noble.voung@lcmchealth.org

Ainsley's Angels

Build awareness about the importance of inclusion, through action, while transforming populations into all-inclusive communities that celebrate everyone.

Angel Athlete riders and Angel runners

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AMBASSADOR

Northeast Louisiana- Jason Sandidge

Southwest Louisiana - Kris Seaward

Northwest Louisiana - Eric Kirkendall

Baton Rouge - Landis Manchester

New Orleans - Ryan Cardinal

Acadiana - Michelle Monte

Central (Alexandria) - Jason Tassin

Baton Rouge Wheelchair Tennis Association

The Baton Rouge Wheelchair Tennis Association is a non-profit, all-volunteer 501c3 organization dedicated to promoting the sport of wheelchair tennis.

Louisiana GUMBO

Games Uniting Mind and Body (GUMBO) is an interscholastic track and field competition designed for children ages 5 to 18 years of age who have physical or visual disabilities. The events are not unlike those at any other track and field event: races, shot put, discus, etc. What makes GUMBO different is the fact that all of the athletes have mobility or visual impairments and most compete with leg braces, wheelchairs, or assistance from sighted guides. The athletes competing in GUMBO are not intellectually disabled. Eligibility for competition comes from having a physical disability or visual impairment and athletes compete with athletes who have similar or like impairments.

Special Olympics Louisiana

Special Olympics Louisiana provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for all children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community. Athletes participate in local, parish, and area-level competitions.

League of Angels

Email: angels.league@yahoo.com
Email: cnunezloa@gmail.com

League of Angels offers a chance for the special needs community to participate in sports with their peers. We also provide additional activities throughout the year.

Ski-Dawgs Adaptive Water Skiing | (985) 516-8283

We are an adaptive water ski clinic page wanting to promote our favorite sport and get as many people as we can out on the water.

Disability Resources, Education, Activities, Management, and Services (DREAMS)

113 Oil Center Dr. | Lafayette, LA | (318) 610-0707

Email: Donielle@dreamsfoundationaca.org

The D.R.E.A.M.S. (Disability, Resources, Education, Activities, Management, and Services) Foundation of Acadiana, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, was incorporated in 2007 to help individuals with special needs and their families. They have sporting programs at different times throughout the summer and the whole year.

5 Tips to Prevent Summer Slide

by Sharon Blackmon

How do we keep our kids from sliding backward during the carefree days of summer without stressing ourselves out and boring them to tears? That's the age-old question for parents of ANY child, but especially those who have a child with some type of learning differences or difficulties. And there really are many non-traditional ways to "teach" or engage in educational outings or activities without sitting at the dining room table practicing your multiplication tables.

Studies show that there are five things that are important to do every day to prevent the summer slide:

READ. For some children reading may be a pleasure, but for others it can be a struggle. Making a habit of going to the library and browsing through the books and letting them choose one THEY want to read is helpful if your child falls into the latter category. What are their interests? If they like trains, find books from the nonfiction section on trains. If they're fascinated by weather, or the monthly cycles of the moon, go check out those sections in the library and let them choose what they want to read. Most public libraries also have summer reading programs; some children may be motivated to read more just to win prizes from the library. Some libraries also have a Reading to Rover kind of program, where kids get to come and read to therapy

dogs. (Of course, they could also read to their own pet at home!) The library also offers a wide assortment of audiobooks that kids may enjoy listening to while they play or ride in the car. Getting them into stories that are read to them may motivate

Remember, too, that there are things around us to read almost all the time. When you're out in the community, make a game out of reading signs or store names. Make a grocery list and have your child read it as you go through the store. Play "I Spy" in the car and see if they can find a word that you name using signs or store names around you.

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them to read more on their own.

USE MATH. Do you know how much academic mileage you can get by making a dish from a recipe? Well, of course there is the math. My six-year-old LOVES to bake. So while we go through the recipe and use measuring spoons and cups to add our ingredients, we talk about how many ¼ cups of flour she would need to equal 1 cup of flour. And I'll sometimes purposely use a ¼ measure to get ¾ cup of sugar, or something similar, and ask her beforehand how many we will need. Even at six, she is

starting to get a basic grasp of fractions, which is half the battle won for later on! Recipes involve reading, measuring, following directions, sorting, using gross and fine motor skills, planning, observing safety rules, performing tasks in a given order, the list goes on. You might also half or double a recipe if they are ready to get a little more into fractions. And if the child is involved in the meal planning from the start, they can choose the recipe and assist with making a list and purchasing the groceries (which involves reading, writing, and math). And navigating a grocery store uses a whole other list of skills! See, math really CAN be fun!

GET OUTSIDE AND PLAY. It's hot." "I'm thirsty!" "There's nothing to do." "I'm bored." "There's a spider on the swing!" "An ant bit me!" Those are just my husband's complaints; you should hear the kids! And not everyone has a playground in the back yard or even in the neighborhood where kids can safely play and get away from air conditioning and electronics. Also, most parents work all day and don't necessarily have the time to take kids outside or to a local park. But if it's feasible, TAKE your kids outside and play with them. A dollar store Frisbee, some water guns, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, a cheap inflatable pool, a hula hoop, or a plastic bat and ball can provide endless hours of summer fun. Kids are more apt to play when mom and/or dad is available for the fun as well. You don't need a long, expensive vacation trip to make memories that last. And let's face it: ALL of us can benefit from more exercise and sunshine! I think when I was a kid I spent about 92% of my summer sitting at the edge of our yard, playing in the dirt. I made dirt forts, dirt Barbie cities, dirt volcanoes, dirt houses, dirt swimming pools (yikes)... you get the idea. Kids benefit from being outdoors in so many ways.



WRITE. We've already looked at some ways to incorporate writing into daily activities. Think about making a summer scrapbook; keeping a daily journal; writing a story, either about an actual event or something imagined; making a list of things you want to do, either on a particular day or during the summer break; writing a friend or relative a letter or card and mailing it; co-writing a story where you take turns writing one sentence to add to the story; writing down interesting things you see as you ride in the car on a road trip. Think outside the box!

DO A GOOD DEED. While baking cookies to take to your local fire station or police precinct is a truly wonderful idea, a "good deed" doesn't have to be a pre-planned, all-day affair. Looking for little ways to simply make someone else's day better can build a child's self-esteem, foster empathy, evoke feelings of gratitude, encourage leadership skills, aid in improving communication/language, and cause friendships to grow! Something as

simple as bringing in an older neighbor's newspaper or mail could brighten their day and lead an ongoing relationship. Consider making a list of opportunities a child could look for to benefit another person, or keeping a daily journal of good deeds, along with the effects they had, to look back on at the end of the summer. (I know, there I go with the reading and writing again! And if you count the deeds, there's the math...).

Early Childhood

- Use wordless books to encourage language. Ask questions about each page; talk about what the child sees.
- Read storybooks with your child. Ask questions about each page, such as, "Can you find the blue flower?" "How many trees do you see?"
- Build communication by simply talking with your child and asking them questions
 that require more than a one-word answer. A simple conversation with your child
 while you're driving across town or on a road trip can be a boredom-buster and a
 language-builder.

Elementary School

- Do some of the cooking activities described earlier. Elementary school is a great time to begin learning those kitchen skills!
- Use a standard deck of playing cards to keep numbers on your child's mind during
 the summer. The classic card game War is great for younger kids to practice
 basic greater than/less than and number line thinking. For older children, play
 Double War. In this game, each player turns over two cards and must add them
 together to find out who wins that hand. You can try this using subtraction or
 multiplication as well for a bigger challenge.
- Visit places like public parks, zoos, aquariums, and museums and just talk about what you see. In New Orleans, NOMA and the Audubon sites have free days for some residents! Check their websites for more information.
- Play school, with your child as the teacher. Get them to teach you something that they know (you know, like how to reprogram a computer or open a Snapchat account...). Teaching someone else requires higher levels of thinking than just being told or taught.

Middle school

- Take cell phone pictures every day and arrange the printed pictures in a scrapbook or photo album. Actual scrapbooking supplies can be found at almost any department or craft store, or you can just use stickers or construction paper on hand to decorate the pages. Scrapbooks can also be done digitally through photo companies like Snapfish, or even Walgreens and Walmart.
- Start a passion project. Let your child choose something she is interested in, then use all the resources available to learn as much as possible about it. I know a young man who LOVES lawn work. A great passion project for him might be finding out how to start a lawn business of his own. How would he advertise, and what is the cost? How would he get customers to do their lawn? How many lawns could he cut in a weekend?

Is there a license of some sort needed? What about paying taxes? There are loads of things to learn and research, and a good passion project might take the whole summer to complete.

• Take a virtual vacation. Has your child taken an interest in traveling? If they have a place they'd love to visit, have them go online and find out everything they can about the people, the culture, the special events, the costs of different things, how much it would cost to get there and where they would stay. They might even create a virtual scrapbook of all their virtual journeys!

High School

- Summertime is an excellent time for high school students to start thinking about what they're going to do after graduation. Is there a certain passion they want to follow, such as starting a lawn care business like the young man mentioned earlier? Start considering what would be needed for that venture. Is there a trade they might be interested in that would take some training? Look into schools who offer the training: what does it cost? How long does it take? Is there financial aid available? Perhaps a college degree is the goal. Consider some campus visits over the summer or at least a virtual visit online. Find out about degree programs, cost, financial aid, transportation to and from.
- Get a job! It doesn't even have to be paid work. Does your child love animals?
 Encourage her to volunteer at the local animal shelter, or get a position with a vet or pet grooming business. Valuable information can be obtained with a regular position, be it volunteer or paid. Skills like appropriate interactions with a supervisor, being on time, dressing appropriately for the job, following rules and directions, and communicating effectively in social or professional situations are all excellent skills to learn early.
- Get ready for driving. If your child doesn't already have a driver's license, and they plan to get one, take the summer to study and learn as much about the rules of the road as possible. Go for local drives and talk about right-of-way, signage, signals, safety, pedestrian crosswalks, etc. Even if the child isn't ready to actually drive yet, there can still be a lot to learn and think about.

I know I've covered a lot of ideas and information; hopefully, there are a few things here that can work for your family. Some main things to keep in mind as you try to minimize the summer slide are to minimize screen time and increase stimulation. Take opportunities as they present themselves. Enjoy your family, and above all, HAVE FUN!

Summer Nutrition

From the Department of Children and Family Services

(we will update this page when more information is available)

P-EBT Summer 2022 Update

Over the last year, Louisiana has issued about \$811.4 million in P-EBT benefits to almost 1 million students and children through P-EBT for the 2020-21 School Year, Summer P-EBT, and Child Care P-EBT.

DCFS is currently working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to request benefits for the current (2021-22) school year. We will make more information available on this and Summer P-EBT if and when plans are approved. There is currently no information regarding further issuances of Child Care P-EBT.

Students are eligible for K-12 P-EBT if:

- Your student qualifies for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program. This includes any student in a school that provides free meals to all students (under a special rule called "Community Eligibility Provision"), AND
- Your student is in a hybrid (a combination of computer-based and in-person learning) or fully virtual (by computer) learning situation. Your school will confirm your student's learning situation.

If you received a card in your child's name for the 2020-21 school year, do not throw the card away as future benefits will be issued to the same card.

CALL YOUR REGIONAL FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.

We would like to give out a shout of gratitude to Macomb County Great Start Parent Coalition for sharing their wonderful Indoor & Outdoor Activities with us. We hope that you have a great time experiencing these fun activities with your children this summer.

Have a safe and happy summer!



700 Hickory Avenue | Harahan, LA 70123 (504) 888-9111 | 800-766-7736 fhfofgno.org | info@fhfofgno.org







Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans and Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center is a statewide agency and an IRS-approved 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. All of our programs, services, and resources are free to families of children with disabilities in the state of Louisiana.

Any information provided by Families Helping Families of Greater New Orleans (FHF) and/or Louisiana Parent Training and Information Center (LaPTIC), its staff, and/or its volunteers is intended for informational and educational purposes only. Any information expressed or implied is not intended nor should it be construed as legal, medical, or other professional advice. FHF and/or LaPTIC does not render legal, medical, or professional advice or recommendations; nor is legal, medical, or other professional advice implied by any information given. Any information provided should not replace consultations with qualified legal, educational, healthcare, or other professionals to meet individual or professional needs. Reference to any program, service, therapy, links to external websites, surveys, or treatment options does not imply an endorsement or support of a product, service, or opinion by FHF and/or LaPTIC or by its organizational staff/members and should not be construed as such. If any content is ever incorrect, inappropriate, or unclear, we will always do what is appropriate to rectify and correct any errors.