

Camp Wekandu

June 22–27, 2025



A summer camp for
children and teens with
juvenile arthritis and
other related diseases

1980–2025

45 years of fun & friendship

For 45 years, Camp Wekandu has provided the opportunity to attend a summer residential camp to children and teens with juvenile arthritis, or a related illness. The staff at the Rheumatology Clinic of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, alongside the staff of Joy Outdoor Education Center, organize activities that help campers build self-esteem, confidence, independence and lasting friendships.



FACILITIES

Camp Wekandu is held at Joy Outdoor Education Center, 10117 Old 3-C Highway in Clarksville, Ohio, approximately 50 minutes from Cincinnati and 75 minutes from Columbus. Easily reached by interstate and state routes, the camp occupies 315 acres of trees, trails, fields and meadows overlooking a river valley. Three air-conditioned accessible cabins, with indoor bathrooms and hot showers, will house campers near the air-conditioned dining hall.

WHEN AND WHERE DO WE GO?

Camp will be held Sunday, June 22 through Friday, June 27, 2025. Campers should arrive for registration at Joy Outdoor Education Center between **1–2 pm** on Sunday, June 22. The Camp session will continue until 10–11 am on Friday, June 27. A brunch for campers and families will be served from 10–11 am.



WHO MAY ATTEND?

Any child or adolescent with arthritis or a related rheumatic condition, who has completed first grade through high school graduation, may attend regardless of ability to pay.

MAY WE VISIT OR CALL?

In order to safeguard the privacy of all campers, and to encourage camper independence, visits or phone calls are not permitted during the camp session. If a camper must be contacted, the parent/guardian should contact the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Division of Rheumatology physician on call, through the Cincinnati Children's operator, at 513-636-4200 or 800-344-2462. He or she will then reach the physician on-site at Camp Wekandu.

HOW DO WE REGISTER?

To register, a parent or guardian must complete the Application Form in this brochure. Reservations will be made based on the date of receipt of this Application Form. In addition, required medical forms will be sent for completion after the Application Form is received. You can access an electronic version of the forms at cincinnatichildrens.org. Once you get on the site then go to "Our Clinical Services," then to "Rheumatology" and then "For patients and families." You can also search the site for "Camp Wekandu."

Please arrange an appointment with the camper's physician as soon as possible so that he or she can provide up-to-date medical information and input regarding camper activity.

ACTIVITIES

Camp Wekandu encourages participation in a variety of activities that help the camper develop skills and a sense of accomplishment. Activities are adapted to each child's abilities and promote the development of new friendships and individual growth in social, motor and self-help skills. All camp activities are supervised in a safe and nurturing environment. Examples include:

- Archery
- Music
- Arthritis education programs
- Nature center
- Arts and crafts
- Media center
- Boating
- Offsite activity day
- Campfires
- Ropes Courses
- Canoeing
- Singing
- Climbing Wall
- Star gazing/ Astronomy
- Culinary arts
- Survival skills
- Fishing
- Swimming (walk-in pool)
- Group exercises
- Webcasting
- Medical Education Sessions
- Yoga

CAMP STAFF

The camp staff includes a full-time camp director, program specialists, cabin counselors, and auxiliary staff. The counselors are selected from experienced college-age and older individuals with a special interest in working with children who have arthritis.

A physician from the Division of Rheumatology at Cincinnati Children's, and a camp nurse are on the premises 24 hours a day. Either a physical or occupational therapist is there daily.

The physical therapist or occupational therapist provides group exercises, supervision of individual therapy programs, and instruction in independent daily living activities.

To help the campers understand and deal with health-related problems more effectively, additional members of the Division of Rheumatology staff visit the camp daily to hold group educational sessions. Division of Rheumatology staff will meet with campers' parents on the first day of camp to review medical orders. All medications given during camp are given by the physician or camp nurse. Camp personnel will adhere to all medical orders and activity recommendations sent by the camper's physician.

QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

For more info on Camp Wekandu, please contact the Rheumatology Clinic.

Phone: 513-636-4676 | 800-344-2462 ext 4676
E-mail: daniel.lovell@cchmc.org
Fax: 513-636-5568

(tear here)

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete and return this application with an enclosed check by **May 10**. **Space is limited and campers will be accepted in the order that they apply.**

A \$25.00 registration fee must be sent with this application form. Medical forms will be mailed out after application is received and are due by June 1.

Mail forms to:
Attention: Daniel Lovell
Division of Rheumatology
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
3333 Burnet Avenue, MLC 4010
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039

Camper's name:

Date of Birth: Male Female

Address:

County:

City:

State, Zip:

School: Grade Completed:

Parent or Guardian's name:

Parent or Guardian with Custody:

Mother Father Joint

I heard about camp through:

Home phone:

Parent's work phone:

Parent's cell phone:

Parent's email address:

Total fee for 2025 camp session is \$1010.00*, including a \$25.00 registration fee. *Make checks payable to: CCHMC - Camp Wekandu*

*** Difficulty in paying the full fee should not prevent ANY child from attending camp. Families are asked to only pay what they can afford. Any amount is accepted.**

- Please check here if you are interested in donating to a Camp Wekandu scholarship fund
- Indicate donation amount

All campers receive a Camp Wekandu T-shirt.
Check one: (men's adult size)
 XS S M L XL XXL

.....
Parent's or guardian's signature

Applications will not be accepted without \$25.00 registration fee.



FUNDING AND SUPPORTING AGENCIES

RCF Group
 Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
 Cincinnati Walks for Kids
 Arthritis Foundation
 Lupus Foundation

HOW DO WE GET TO CAMP JOY?

From Cincinnati: Take I-71 north to exit 36. Go right onto Wilmington Road, then take an immediate right on Middleboro Road. Go left at first stop sign onto SR 350 east. Follow 350 for five miles to US 22. Go right on US 22 south for one mile, then left on Old 3-C Highway, 1/2 mile to Joy entrance on right. (About 50 minutes from downtown Cincinnati)

From Dayton: Take I-75 south to exit 38, then go left to follow SR 73 east through Springboro. Continue through Waynesville and the Caesar's Creek area. Cross over I-71. Go right on 380 south to US 22. Go right on west-south US 22 for five miles to Old 3-C Highway, then left 1/2 mile to Joy entrance on right. (About 60 minutes from downtown Dayton)

From Columbus: Take I-71 south to exit 45, then left 1/4 mile on SR 73 to SR 380. Go right on 380 south to US 22. Go right on west-south US 22 for five miles to Old 3-C Highway, then left 1/2 mile to Joy entrance on right. (About 75 minutes from downtown Columbus)

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Division of Rheumatology
MLC 4010
3333 Burnet Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45229-3039



Camp Wekandu

is a project of the Division of Rheumatology
at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.



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