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A program of Ronald  
McDonald House Charities®  
of Southern California



## CAMP RONALD McDONALD FOR GOOD TIMES 2009 FACT SHEET

**What:** Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is a non-profit organization (TAX ID #95-3167869) offering one of the largest year-round recreational camping programs for children with cancer, and their families, in the nation. Camp brightens the lives of kids with cancer as they spend time outdoors—and away from the hospital—enjoying friendships, fun and adventures. Campers participate in activities such as arts and crafts, horseback riding, swimming, hiking and all the traditional activities of camp, modified to meet the special needs of these children. We even have a camper-run radio station. At Camp, children share common bonds and experiences with other kids who have or had cancer.

**Who:** In 2008, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times welcomed nearly 1,800 campers, offering a full range of activities at both Summer and Winter Camps. Family camps in both Spanish and English are offered for families with a cancer patient under the age of 9.

**When:** Camp sessions are offered in January, February, April, May, June, July, August, September, October and November. Outings and a Holiday Party are sponsored throughout the year.

**Where:** Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is located at Mountain Center's Apple Canyon Center near Idyllwild, in the mountains of Riverside County. This 60-acre American Camp Association accredited campsite is the home of our year-round programs. Fundraising and volunteer activities for Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times are headquartered in West Los Angeles.

**Why:** Children diagnosed with cancer today have better than a 70% chance of survival. To develop normally, they must have access to a broad range of childhood activities. For those children who will not survive, Camp may be their only opportunity to experience the fun, friendship and adventure of being away.

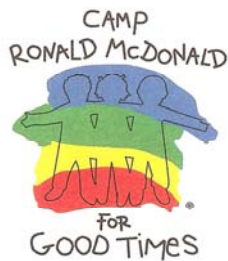
**How:** A volunteer staff comprised of doctors, nurses and specially trained counselors and activity specialists provide a medically safe and psychologically supportive environment for children.

Other volunteers donate their time in the office and help solicit contributions of funds, goods and services. Funds are raised by donations from individuals, special events, organizations, foundations and corporations.

For more information, please contact:

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## Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times ABOUT OUR CAMPERS

**MISSION:** The mission of Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is to create a positive, long-lasting impact on children with cancer and their families by providing fun-filled, medically-supervised, cost-free, year-round camp programs.

**AGE:** Over 100 children between the ages of 9 and 18 attend each of our five, week-long Summer Camp sessions and three three-day Winter Camp sessions. Our six Family Camp Weekends serve 25-30 families with a cancer patient from infancy through age 8.

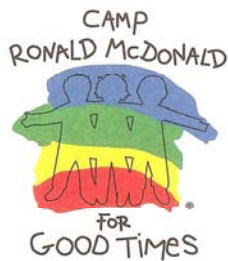
**MEDICAL CONDITIONS:** Our campers have or have had cancer or have a sibling with cancer. At each session, approximately 60% of our campers currently receive treatment for their disease. The remaining 40% have completed active treatment and are in remission. Campers must provide a physician's record of their current medical condition and an authorization from their personal physician to attend and participate in the activities at Camp.

**FUNCTIONAL CHALLENGES:** Of the campers at a typical patient session, approximately 30% face physical or mental challenges, ranging from the use of crutches or a wheelchair, to reduced vision or diminished cognitive ability. For these campers, we furnish one-on-one staff support in order to have the best possible camping experience.

**MEDICAL SUPPORT:** Our campers are reviewed prior to attending each session by both their personal physician and our medical staff. Campers have a variety of medical needs, and at Camp, it is possible for a child to continue their treatment. Licensed nurses, under the supervision of a physician, dispense campers' medication. Our on-site medical staff evaluates the health of our campers; our medical facility is equipped to provide emergency care. If a child needs additional medical attention, we arrange for the necessary transportation, under the supervision of one of our medical staff.

For more information, please contact:

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## CAMP RONALD McDONALD FOR GOOD TIMES HISTORY

Since the creation of Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times in 1982, there have been major developments in pediatric cancer. A child diagnosed in 2009 has a better than 70% chance of survival, up from only 30% at the time of our founding. At the same time, the incidence of pediatric cancer has increased 1% per year. Today, one out of every 1,000 young adults is a cancer survivor; by the year 2020, that number could be one in 250.

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times was founded by a group of caring individuals who dreamed of a place where children, who have had their lives devastated by childhood cancer, could recapture what being a child is supposed to be. In August of 1982, this dedicated group of parents, doctors, nurses, community leaders and volunteer counselors set off with 60 kids to Calamigos Ranch in Malibu, and conducted the first Camp Good Times ever.

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times' programs have grown to provide spring and fall Family Camps for families who have a child with cancer from infancy through 9 years old, (including Campamento Familiar for families whose dominant language is Spanish). Our programs offer the same fun and support to siblings of patients, as well. This year, we will hold 14 camp sessions: 3 Winter Camps, 5 Summer Camps, and 6 Family Camps. Camp is offered to any child from infancy through age 18 that has or has had cancer OR has a sibling with one of these diseases, at any stage of illness or treatment - at no cost to their family.

With so many more children surviving their cancer, we have had to expand our teen programs. Many of our campers now return year after year, some becoming our finest volunteer counselors. We are now building our leadership development programs for these survivors, who are wonderful role models for the brave children who are currently battling this devastating disease.

Over the years, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times has welcomed children from across the United States and the world. Camp has also served as a model for similar programs throughout this country and abroad. Thousands of children and their families have spent treasured days with us.

Originally Camp Good Times, we became Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times in June 1984, when McDonald's Operators' Association of Southern California announced they would support the Camp's efforts to provide memorable summer camp experiences for our campers. Ronald McDonald Children's Charities, McDonald's Operators' Association of Southern California and in-kind support from McDonald's suppliers contribute approximately 9% of our annual operating budget. Camp receives capital support from McDonald's Corporation.

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times is a division of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California (formerly known as Southern California Children's Cancer Services, Inc.), a non-profit corporation founded in 1977 to build the Los

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Angeles Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald House provides help, comfort and a place to stay for the families of young patients undergoing treatment at nearby Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles.

Additional divisions of RMHCSC besides Camp and the LA Ronald McDonald House include the Ronald McDonald Houses of Loma Linda, Orange County and Pasadena.

Whatever the prognosis, a cancer diagnosis brings with it a terrifying interruption of childhood and the experiences that lead to normal child development. At Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, these boys and girls recapture the hope, enthusiasm, and love of adventure that is an essential part of their youth. They blossom in the medically and psychologically safe environment that has been created especially for them.

Nothing can compensate for the anguish that childhood cancer inflicts, but Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, with the dreams it inspires, comes close. Thanks to our generous friends and supporters, patients are able to spend time at Camp throughout the year cost-free. We are proud of what we have accomplished since 1982, and look toward the future with enthusiasm.