



Why Camp?

Type 1 diabetes is a life-changing diagnosis that plunges children and their families into a maze of medical specialists, disease technology, and worry. Families with T1D feel isolated and overwhelmed. Without strong support and progressive, life-long education, life with diabetes can be defined by illness and personal limitations.

DYF believes those affected by type 1 diabetes deserve more. That's why we provide our services with a bold declaration of health. Our Healthcare Professional Advisory Board guides curriculum and health policy, ensuring we are on the cutting edge of diabetes care and education. Surrounded by peers and supported by dedicated counselors, role models, and medical professionals, children and their families develop the courage and confidence to live well and thrive with diabetes.

Diabetes Camp:

- Reduces diabetic-specific emotional distress and increases self care skills
- Provides an ideal environment in which teens can safely enjoy activities that would be unimaginable to many T1D families. Under close medical supervision, campers gain insight into how to calibrate glucose levels during exercise, how to adjust insulin doses in response to the environment, and have the opportunity to try new foods that impact glucose levels. With practice in the resident camp setting, participants gain the skills and confidence to try new activities with T1D.
- Fosters independence. With heightened parental concerns regarding type 1 diabetes and adolescence, many teens with T1D find it difficult to establish their independence. At diabetes camp, teens have an opportunity to establish their independence from their parents and families while having their health needs met. The growth, pride, and personal development that takes place during this time is invaluable.