

Camp Holiday Trails

Independent/Unaffiliated Charity

CVC Code number (5 digit) - 03609

Growing up in the CHT Caring Community...

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Annie first came to Camp Holiday Trails (CHT) in 2009 at age 9. Her father joked that he wanted to hide in the woods and leaving her behind was probably harder on them as parents than it was on Annie herself. There is no denying the positive impact; Annie's mother recently said: we will never repay what camp has given to Annie."

Annie has not missed a summer since and considers CHT a second family and both she and her parents agree that camp played a big part in her growing up. Annie's family rented CHT --the place she holds so dear—to celebrate her graduation from high school. Annie feels she owes her first "real" job this summer to CHT and that she is prepared to attend college in the fall due to her time at CHT. We are very proud of her and all of our Campers who find themselves and a place to belong within our Caring Community.

We strive to create community with our Campers who gain empathy and independence, with our families who find common ground with other families facing similar challenges, and with our network of medical volunteers who are forever changed, both professionally and personally, by their time at camp. We focus on the Camper, not the illness, and adapt every activity to our Campers. Our camp community gives and receives support, remains loyal to our mission - and has fun together!

Annie is truly a CHT Super Star and we will let her own words speak!

What is your favorite CHT memory?

"Out of 9 years, deciding my favorite memory is so hard - they are all so good. My favorite memories are of my first summer. I was especially attached to my first year counselors who made camp really fun by engaging the campers. One of my first counselors eventually became a doctor and comes back to camp to help out. I love that camp inspires people to go do things and then they come back to help camp."

Because of CHT....Annie says:

1. I can be away from electronics for a long period of time
2. I got my first job
3. I am more independent which means I would not be going to college if wasn't for CHT
4. I am more active
5. I have more friends
6. I've learned that there are more people with special health needs
7. I know it's ok to be scared even though there's nothing to be afraid of
8. I know that there is always help if you need it...you just have to ask
9. I have learned to be patient and to give yourself the time to relax
10. You can still act like a kid even though you are an adult and it's ok to pretend and believe