



YOUTH CAMP

Care for Campers

Overview of Camper Care at Youth Camp

1. Every incident with a camper is responded to immediately with prayer and care.
 - a. Campers must be prepared for responding with prayer by having exposure to Christian Science and an understanding of what turning to God in prayer means.
 - b. Camp staff provide basic first aid for campers.
 - c. Camp does not administer any type of medication, prescription or over-the-counter, to any camper. Campers should not bring any medications with them.
2. Christian Science practitioners provide specific Christian Science treatment to campers to find healing.
 - a. Campers should know what a Christian Science practitioner is and what s/he does and be willing to work with a Christian Science practitioner at camp. Having worked with a Christian Science practitioner in the past is not required.
3. Campers who require extended care or specific Christian Science nursing care are taken to the care facility, Highview. The Christian Science nurse provides immediate care.
 - a. A phone call is made to parents to alert them to the camper need, include them in the prayerful work being done, update them on practical care being given (e.g. cleaning of wounds, rest, etc.) and discuss appropriate next steps for care.
 - b. Communication with the parents continues until the situation is resolved.
4. If care beyond the Christian Science nurse is desired, the parents and Ranch Director will make necessary arrangements.
 - a. Campers may continue to be at camp and continue to seek healing, as long as no medication is required.
 - b. If a situation arises in which a parent would like to pursue an extended medical solution to a problem, the parents will work with the Ranch Director to determine appropriate steps for caring for the child outside camp.
5. In a life-threatening emergency, emergency medical care is provided (as required by the state of Colorado).

Additional Information on Camper Care

The summer camp experience at the A/U Ranches is focused on providing campers with an environment where Christian Science is lived and practiced in every aspect of our day. It is a natural and integral part of all camp activities. The A/U Ranches are a place where young people come to experience the “atmosphere conducive to the recognition of the practicality and effectiveness of Christian Science.”

Campers who attend the A/U Ranches participate in a wide variety of activities that include a prayerful and Christian Science focus. These include, but are not limited to, Christian Science Bible lesson study,

activity inspirationals, flag raising, daily gratitude, grace at meals, testimony meetings, inspirational talks from a Christian Science practitioner, Sunday School, hymn sings and access to an on-site Christian Science practitioner and Christian Science nurse. Beyond these organized aspects of camp are the impromptu interactions and sharing of Christian Science that happen between campers and staff.

We recognize every camper is in a unique place in their learning and understanding of Christian Science and their personal relationship to God. We expect campers will participate in these activities to learn more about their relationship to God and the staff

are prepared to work with each camper wherever they are in their understanding. The success of each camper's experience depends on their preparation for and buy-in to what happens at camp.

HANDLING SMALL INCIDENTS

Coming to camp is all about facing new experiences and challenges. These happen in every aspect of camp from cabin life, being away from home, learning to live with others, to new friendships, interactions with many new children and the specific activities we engage in on a daily basis.

In every instance, the first response to any challenge or incident with a camper is going to be turning to God in prayer. Camp staff are trained and prepared to work with campers applying Christian Science principles and to expect the situation to be resolved harmoniously. Examples of situations like this include if a child isn't feeling well, is scared about a new activity, is frustrated with another camper, is missing home or has a tumble or fall.

If additional help is required, each camp has a Christian Science practitioner, listed in the Christian Science Journal, who is available to talk with campers and to provide specific Christian Science treatment. Christian Science practitioners are available 24 hours a day and the services of the Christian Science practitioner are included as part of the camp experience. We see many healings every day through the work of the staff and the practitioners. These instances, which are resolved quickly and easily, occur on a daily basis and are what camp is all about.

At camp, we do not administer any type of medication, over-the-counter or prescription like aspirin, painkillers, medicated creams, cough syrup, cold medicine, etc. Campers should not bring any medications with them. We can consider an exception for campers who carry EpiPens or inhalers for emergency situations and would be allowed to self-administer, if an emergency arises. This would require a conversation with the Ranch Director prior to kids coming to camp. We address every challenge through prayer. Christian Science support will be provided and a call to a parent will be made immediately following an incident.

HANDLING LARGER INCIDENTS

When campers experience more significant or on-going challenges from illness or injury, the practitioner is always called first. Camp staff are trained in First Aid and provide whatever immediate physical care is needed. We have a Journal-listed Christian Science nurse on property who is available to provide practical care supporting healing through Christian Science treatment. The Christian Science nurse lives at Highview, our care facility, where we have a place to provide practical care (such as cleaning of wounds, etc.) that might be needed, as well as quiet spaces for campers to rest and work towards healing.

If a camper has a need that includes going to Highview for anything beyond a simple care and Band-Aids, the parents are called by either a camp director or the Christian Science nurse. This call is to alert the parents to what the camper is experiencing, to update them on the care that is being given, to include them in the prayerful work being done and to include them in the decision making going forward about the care for their child.

If care outside a Christian Science nurse is needed, the parents work with the Ranch Director to determine appropriate next steps. We are able to take campers to the emergency rooms for care like bones being set or wound management. According to state law, any situation that is life-threatening requires we provide traditional medical treatment through the emergency medical system.

If a situation arises in which a parent would like to pursue an extended medical solution to a problem, the parents will work with the Ranch Director to determine appropriate steps for caring for the child outside of camp.

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