

A Message from your Chair, Abraham Dairi

In the summer of 2005, my mother was diagnosed with stage 4 Multiple Myeloma and given a prognosis of just 3 months to live. After a strong battle with the disease, she passed away one year later. It is in her memory and with her undying guidance that I am striving to exceed all expectations for the 10th Annual Camp Goodtimes Wine Auction.

Thousands of children are diagnosed with cancer each month. For them, childhood is forever changed. Their lives take a very serious turn as they are catapulted into adulthood, engaging in countless medical appointments, never-ending medications, and grueling treatments that have no guarantee of working. While it's true that Camp Goodtimes West will not directly provide the medical cure for their cancer, the love, laughter, and community of camp are irreplaceable to both the children who attend and their families. Camp fights to bring their childhood back, even if it is only for a short time.

I had the great honor of being a camp counselor this past summer. It was truly an experience that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I was witness to some amazing moments at camp. I watched Ella, a teenage visually impaired camper "travel to the moon" one day. Though her trip only took her into a walk-in freezer, Ella really believed she had made it to the moon. It took the collaboration of every camper and staff member to make this happen. Some of the most amazing experiences though, were the ones that were less obvious - Experiences like listening to the patients' siblings connecting about what they had gone through while their brother or sister had undergone treatment. Or when five campers in my cabin, sat outside together on the last night of camp, with tears in their eyes, talking about how they could not wait for camp in the year to come. It is these moments that make Camp Goodtimes truly magical.

This past summer, with your generosity and support, Camp Goodtimes West was able to serve 235 children and their families. This year, I urge you to join us on April 6th, 2013 at the Seattle Aquarium, in our quest to surpass the accommodations of 235 campers. Every dollar raised helps to ensure that camp remains magical for the many pediatric cancer patients, survivors, siblings, and families that it serves. Thank you all for your continued support and generosity and I look forward to seeing you next April.

Sincerely,

Abraham "Buzz" Dairi
Vice President, Sr. Relationship Manager - HSBC



Top: Abraham Dairi (second from left) at the 2012 American Cancer Society Hope Gala. The paddle raise from the event benefitted Camp Goodtimes West.

Below: Abraham "Buzz" Dairi (far right) with fellow camp counselors at the June 2012 Camp Goodtimes West.





My brain has been buzzing the last few weeks. I'm filled with the memories and moments that made up Camp Goodtimes 2012. The strength and integrity of these kids completely blows me away. In the face of the hardest struggle imaginable, they stand tall and strong, and at Camp Goodtimes this summer, they stood as one. They sang, they danced, and they willingly and joyously offered an arm or a hand to anyone who needed them. Some tears were shed too, but a friend was always right there to offer comfort. They sent out shock waves of love and compassion that are still circling the world. At camp we call it a SNOJ, or SuperNova of Joy! We even created a visual for that after sunset one night on the beach with the help of some glow sticks.

This summer, the kids of Camp Goodtimes kept that "glow" going all week long.



The girls of Cabin 9 showed everyone at camp "the love" (with the help of their pet flamingos).



Megan had a full head of hair this summer and turned that into a lion's mane with the help of a feather boa during the photography activity (funded by the desert dash at the Wine Auction).

Skyler wore his perma-grin with pride and relished every opportunity to play tricks on the staff.



Cambria loved riding the brand new bikes donated by an anonymous "bike fairy"!



It was impossible to look at Connor having fun and not have your heart just bubble over. He drank up every moment.



Brian didn't think twice about pushing his buddy Tanner through the obstacle course during our "Olympics". Kids help each other at camp because they just know it's the right thing to do.



The staff was incredible and always there to help keep the magic happening. Sometimes it was singing a song at the top of their lungs and at other times it was simply knowing just the right time to deliver a hug.



These remarkable kids and their families stare down the cancer monster daily. They yearn to make the most of everything single moment of their lives and Camp Goodtimes allows them to do just that. The kids understand the value of 'now'. They know how beautiful a moment can be if they just open up their hearts and pour themselves into it. I'm in awe of them and the staff too who give so selflessly.

How fitting that we started each week of camp by lighting the heart inspired by Grandpa Fred who helped form camp in 1984. We gathered together to become one and bask in the glow that watches over us all. This includes all the people that have ever been a part of camp by either participating or supporting the kids. This of course includes YOU too! This summer an extended family was created that you are now apart of as well (welcome to the family!).



From the bottom of my heart I thank you for your support. Because of you, magic was created at camp that will positively affect these kids for the rest of their lives, and they truly are deserving of that gift.

Cheers to a great summer and let's do it all again next year!

*-Paul “Mooselips” Dudley
Long time camp volunteer and overall “mascot” of Camp Goodtimes West*



For more information on getting involved with Camp Goodtimes West, please contact Camp Director Gus Peterson at gus.peterson@cancer.org or 206-674-4161.

For more information, please visit <http://goodtimeswineauction.org> or contact Lisa Meindl at 206-674-4162 or lisa.meindl@cancer.org

SAVE THE DATE!



**10th Annual
Camp Goodtimes Wine Auction**

**April 6, 2013
Seattle Aquarium**

Join us for an evening of wine tastings, auctions, and entertainment
in support of Camp Goodtimes West

We hope to see you there!



Check us out at

www.GoodTimesWineAuction.org

For more information on Camp, visit

www.CampGoodtimesWest.org

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