

# THE HOLE IN THE WALL GANG CAMP

## Our Purpose

The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp provides “a different kind of healing” to children with serious illnesses and their families through year-round programs celebrating the fun, friendship and spirit of childhood.

## Our Goal

To create ongoing Camp connections that build a joy-filled, inclusive community where children – and families in all the forms they come in – are not alone in their challenges and more than a diagnosis. All programming is intentionally designed to meet every individual’s unique needs and offered at no cost to families thanks to the generosity of others.

## Our Founder

A legendary actor and visionary philanthropist, Paul Newman founded The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in 1988 so children with serious illnesses could just be kids, and “raise a little hell” while experiencing diverse and transformational friendships that go hand-in-hand with Camp. Paul’s innovative spirit, creativity and playfulness remain at the heart of all Hole in the Wall programming. His legacy is carried on each year by the thousands of donors, volunteers, staff and other friends who have made his dream their own.

## Our Core Values

Our core values guide all activities and decision-making.

**Safety** - We keep physical and emotional safety at the heart of everything we do.

**Inclusion** - We celebrate the individuality of all and stand against intolerance of any kind as a community defined by compassion, respect and equity.

**Friendship** - We create lasting connections by mixing a little bit of mischief with plenty of love and laughter.

**Possibility** - We feel everyone inspired by Hole in the Wall should embrace the world of possibilities Camp has to offer.

**Gratitude** - We bring a grateful heart to every day and every opportunity we have to make a difference.

## Our Impact

Through overnight camp experiences supported by a significant, yet unobtrusive medical presence as well as off-site Family and Hospital Outreach programming, Hole in the Wall serves more than 20,000 children and family members annually throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

## Our Commitment to Diversity

In keeping with Camp’s Core Values, The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp fosters a community of purposeful inclusion through a commitment to diversity and equity.

## Stay Connected



a seriousfun camp

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[www.holeinthewallgang.org](http://www.holeinthewallgang.org)

## Camp Governance

**Board Chairman**  
Raymond Lamontagne

**Chief Executive Officer**  
James H. Canton

## Connecticut Location

### Summer Program

Held at the Camp's facility in Ashford, Connecticut, Camp's signature summer program consists of seven, weeklong sessions for seriously ill children aged 7-15, and one session for their siblings.

- Camp activities include horseback riding, archery, sports and recreation, swimming, boating, fishing, theater arts, music, tennis, miniature golf, arts and crafts, adventure and high-ropes, and woodworking.
- Camper diagnoses include cancer, sickle cell disease, hemophilia, HIV/AIDS, metabolic illnesses, and other rare diseases.
- Routine medical care provided includes medications (oral, G-tube, IV, shots, chemotherapy, IV factor), nutrition (special diets, G-tube, IV), respiratory care (including nebulizer treatments and supplemental oxygen), and central line care and dressing changes.
- Nearly 450 individuals volunteer each summer, with more than 4,000 volunteers over the course of each year.

## Family Outreach

### CampOut

CampOut brings the hopeful, playful spirit of Camp to current campers and their families right in their hometowns. The program helps the magic and connections of Camp continue throughout the year as a team of traveling specialists bring a van filled with camp-style activities, crafts and games to various locations throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic including camper homes, schools and other community venues.

### Parent & Caregiver Retreats

Parent & Caregiver Retreats extend the magic of Camp to camper parents and caregivers. Current camper families share their experiences with new families, creating a community of acceptance based on common understanding.

## Camp Finances

In Fiscal Year 2021, the most recent year for which board-approved financials are available, contributions to The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp totaled \$18.1 million, with expenses totaling \$12.8 million. Costs of funds raised based on IRS Form 990 for Fiscal Year 2021 was 13 cents on the dollar, exceeding the standards established by organizations that monitor the work of charities. One of Camp's most longstanding supporters, Newman's Own provides less than 1 percent of Camp's annual operating funds.

Thanks to a community of more than 20,000 donors, all of Camp's services are provided free of charge.

## Hero's Journey® Program

Located in the woods of Connecticut, the weeklong Hero's Journey program teaches self-reliance, positive communication and teamwork through wilderness first aid training and a variety of exciting challenges. The journey provides participants with opportunities to step outside comfort zones, discover more about themselves and become "the hero of their own story."

## Family Weekends

Running from August to May, weekend retreats continue the healing power of Camp beyond the summer months and create a memorable experience for the entire family.

## Hospital Outreach

The Hospital Outreach Program (HOP)™ brings the hopeful, playful spirit of Hole in the Wall to children and families in the hospital setting. Offering Slime Days, arts & crafts and other Camp-style activities at kids' bedsides and in playrooms, the program helps restore joy and laughter in a time of fear, stress and uncertainty. A team of more than 35 Hospital Outreach specialists work collaboratively with hospital staff in more than 40 locations to create experiences defined by fun activities and enduring friendships. The full-time program operates year-round throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, with regional offices in Boston, Central New England, New York/New Jersey and Philadelphia.

## FUNraisers

Camp's grassroots fundraising program, FUNraisers, is a community of Camp friends who get active for Camp by either participating in or creating an event to benefit Camp. FUNraisers are runners, party planners, lemonade stand entrepreneurs and more who support Camp's mission and growing programs. Learn more at

[holeinthewallgang.org/get-involved](http://holeinthewallgang.org/get-involved).

