

THE HOLE IN THE WALL GANG CAMP

Our Purpose

The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp is dedicated to providing a “different kind of healing” to seriously ill children and their families throughout the Northeast, free of charge. It’s a community that celebrates the fun, friendship and spirit of childhood where every kid can “raise a little hell.”

Our Goal

To ensure that every child with a serious medical condition has the chance to experience the world of possibilities that camp has to offer. Through the generosity of others, The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp community provides this unique healing experience to kids in need and their families, including those who may not be able to come to Camp.

Our Founder

The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp was founded in 1988 by Paul Newman with one simple premise in mind, that every child, no matter their illness, could experience the transformational spirit and friendships that go hand in hand with camp.

Paul Newman, while a successful actor, was also a visionary with the heart of a child. His personality, playfulness and mischievousness are infused within every corner of Camp, from the pirate flag he raised on the tree house to the days he spent on the lake fishing with campers.

With unobtrusive expert medical care, it was Paul’s dream that Camp would provide seriously ill children with a fun-filled experience defined by compassion, laughter and acceptance.

Our Impact

Through summer sessions and family weekend programs at the Camp in Ashford, Connecticut, and year-round outreach to hospitals and clinics throughout the Northeast, the Camp serves more than 25,000 children and family members annually.

Our Core Values

Our core values are the principles that guide both strategic decisions and daily behavior rooted in the philosophy and vision of Camp’s founder.

- **Safety** – The care of children with serious illnesses is both a serious responsibility and a serious privilege. Physical and emotional safety is paramount in all we do.
- **Camaraderie** – We create a community that fosters friendship, inclusivity, a little bit of mischief and a whole lot of laughter.
- **Possibility** – All aspects of our community are designed to allow every individual inspired by Camp to believe that the impossible can be possible.
- **Appreciation** – We recognize the generosity and gratitude of others and intend to exemplify that in all our decisions and actions. We remain grateful for the original dream of our founder to pair good fortune with misfortune and we cherish the friendships we have with all inspired by Camp.

Camp Programs

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 anemia, hemophilia, HIV/AIDS, metabolic illnesses, and other blood 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.
- Approximately half of our campers come from low-income families.
- The racial make-up of our summer campers is: Caucasian: 49%, African-American: 42%, Latino: 7%, Asian: 2%.
- Nearly 450 individuals volunteer each summer, with more than 1,500 volunteers over the course of each year.

Hero’s Journey

Hero’s Journey is a seven-day, wilderness-based program designed to serve young adults coping with serious illness. Participants learn self-reliance, positive communication, teamwork and leadership by becoming an on-call search & rescue team in a simulated setting. They receive training in wilderness first aid and search techniques with a culminating mock rescue experience that is highly-realistic and motivating.

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 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, with regional offices in Boston, Central New England, New Jersey, New York City and Philadelphia.

Family Outreach

C.O.P.E. (Change of Pace Experience)

C.O.P.E. extends 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.

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 including camper homes, schools and other community venues.

Alumni

Named for one of Camp’s best-loved songs, the Stars in the Sky Society is open to former campers, counselors and volunteers age 18 and over. Its purpose is to rekindle old friendships and create opportunities for Camp alumni to participate in Camp’s future through a variety of alumni events.

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 www.holeinthewallgang.org/get-involved.

Camp Finances

In Fiscal Year 2015, the most recent year for which board-approved financials are available, contributions to The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp totaled \$14.9 million, with expenses totaling \$13.4 million. Costs of funds raised based on IRS Form 990 for Fiscal Year 2014 was 13 cents on the dollar, well 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% of Camp’s annual operating funds. Thanks to a community of more than 25,000 donors, all of Camp’s services are provided free of charge.

Camp Governance

Board Chairman

Raymond Lamontagne

Chief Executive Officer

James H. Canton

THE HOLE IN THE WALL GANG FUND

555 Long Wharf Drive, New Haven, CT 06511

Tel: (203) 772-0522 • Fax: (203) 782-1725

E-mail: info@holeinthewallgang.org

www.holeinthewallgang.org



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