

Camp Courage & Camp Erin- St. Louis

What is *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*?

Camp Courage and Camp Erin- St. Louis are overnight camps serving children and teens who are grieving the death of someone significant. *Camp Courage* is a 5 day, 4 night camp for children ages 6-12 while *Camp Erin- St. Louis* is a 5 day, 4 night camp for teens ages 13-18. Both camps are a safe, comfortable, fun experience where grieving kids and teens can meet each other.

What is offered at *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*?

At *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*, there are times for free play, for group fun, and for quiet reflection. Some of the activities available at camp include:

- ♥ Fishing
- ♥ Hiking
- ♥ Archery
- ♥ Canoeing
- ♥ BB Gun shooting
- ♥ Arts & Crafts
- ♥ Dream catchers
- ♥ Trouble dolls
- ♥ Worry rockets
- ♥ Painting
- ♥ Drawing
- ♥ Spin art
- ♥ Volcano Building
- ♥ Friendship bracelets
- ♥ Bead work
- ♥ Pottery
- ♥ Clay work
- ♥ Brick painting
- ♥ Singing
- ♥ Dance
- ♥ Tie dying
- ♥ Wacky Olympics
- ♥ Camp fires
- ♥ Exercise Course
- ♥ Storytelling
- ♥ Pillow fights
- ♥ Kickball
- ♥ Basketball
- ♥ Volleyball
- ♥ Baseball
- ♥ Croquet
- ♥ Soccer
- ♥ Candle lighting ceremony
- ♥ Paddleboats
- ♥ Water play
- ♥ No-talent Contest
- ♥ Scavenger Hunt
- ♥ Challenge Course
- ♥ Parachute games
- ♥ Alpine Climbing Tower
- ♥ Nature
- ♥ Family Picnic
- ♥ Guest Entertainment (magician, owl caller, astronomer, karate demonstration with audience board breaking, musician, etc.)

When is *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*?

Camp Courage and Camp Erin- St. Louis are often in early June.

Where is *Camp Courage/Camp Erin-St. Louis* held?

Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis is held at Sunnyhill Adventures in Dittmer, MO.

How will campers get there?

The campers can get to and from camp by buses leased by Annie's Hope. The campers will meet at *Annie's Hope*, check-in, and load their belongings into the bus. The Campers will return to *Annie's Hope* after camp to be picked up by family or they will ride home with a family member who attends the family BBQ.

What are the sleeping arrangements at *Camp Courage/Camp Erin-St. Louis*?

The campers and counselors will be sleeping in a lodge or cabins. Each room holds 12-16 persons, in which four are counselors and 12 are campers. The campers are divided into rooms by age and sex. They are air-conditioned and have a bathroom inside the building.

What is the ratio of campers to counselors?

For every three to four campers, there is one counselor. All counselors must be at least 18 years of age or older. There are also 10-12 “helping hands” staff who help in arts and crafts, sporting events, hiking, fishing archery, etc.

What is the role of the cabin counselor?

Her/his most important role is to ensure the campers are safe, - physically and emotionally. They also are responsible for making sure each camper has the opportunity to try new things, master familiar skills, and share their grief.

What is the cost to attend *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*?

The full cost of *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis* per camper is \$500. Any donation to help with the expenses is greatly appreciated. No child or teen is turned away because he or she is unable to make a contribution. On-going, year round efforts are made to find as much funding as possible through grant requests, individual donation solicitations, corporate sponsorships, and fund raisers. All money raised goes toward providing Camper Sponsorships for the kids who need them. The amount of financial support decides how many campers may attend *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*.

Can I come to camp and visit?

On the last day of camp, families will be invited to attend a picnic, an award presentation, and a closing ceremony.

Will there be any medical staff on the campgrounds?

Yes. There will be a nurse at *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis* at all times and two Emergency Medical Technicians close by. First aid care is usually all that is needed. In the case of an emergency, the camper and nurse will be transported to an area hospital. Campers on scheduled medications are more than welcome to attend. The nurse will hold all medications and dispense them as instructed by the parent/guardian.

If there is an emergency at home, can a camper be reached?

Yes. You will be given a number of ways to contact the staff of *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis*. Depending on the emergency, a plan will be decided on how to share the information with the camper.

How can a child or teen enroll?

Call *Annie's Hope* and ask for a *Camp Courage/Camp Erin- St. Louis* camper enrollment form. A Pre-Camp Party is held a month before the start of Camp to have fun, share information, enroll campers and allow kids to meet each other and staff. Information such as, emergency numbers, medical insurance information, recent picture, and t-shirt size will be needed. Space is limited. Campers are admitted on a first come, first serve basis.

Annie's Hope and The Moyer Foundation

Annie's Hope has been chosen to collaborate with The Moyer Foundation and the St. Louis Cardinals to start *Camp Erin- St. Louis* in 2009. The Moyer Foundation was started by Jamie Moyer, the 2009 World Series Champion pitcher of the Philadelphia Phillies, and his wife Karen. In memory of a teenager named Erin, it is The Moyer Foundation's goal to start a *Camp Erin* in each Major League Baseball town. For more information on The Moyer Foundation please go to their website: www.moyerfoundation.org

For further information or questions, comments or concerns, please call *Annie's Hope* at 314-965-5015 (Office), 314-918-1438 (Fax), annieshopekids@aol.com (E-Mail Address), or www.annieshope.org (Web Site).