



CAMP TA-KUM-TA

Creating Special Times
Since 1984

PRESS RELEASE

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Camp Ta-Kum-Ta Launches First-Ever Virtual Summer Program

Camp is Home, Ta-Kum-Ta Magic in Progress

(SOUTH HERO, VT) – On Saturday, July 25th, 123 volunteers will gather on Zoom to conduct virtual team building and training in final preparation for Camp Ta-Kum-Ta’s signature summer program. This year, it includes a Camper Parade that will kick off Camp’s 36th year by delivering lawn signs that read “Camp is Home, Ta-Kum-Ta Magic in Progress” along with a bag filled with goodies to the front lawns of every camper’s home across Vermont and up-state New York. Volunteers with decorated cars will safely blow horns and sing songs from a distance as all the materials needed for Camp’s virtual program get delivered to the camper’s front lawns. Inside the Camp bags they will find specially designed Camp clothing, arts and craft kits, s’mores kits and much more - everything they need for a full week of interactive online programs being facilitated by our creative volunteers.

“This has truly been an outstanding experience” said Patrick Gallivan, Summer Camp Director. “The staff and dedicated volunteers have put together an exceptional virtual program that will be remembered for a lifetime. From a virtual tour/scavenger hunt filmed at camp, to singing, dancing and playing unique games, Camp’s magic is alive and well, and the connections we are making, even on a virtual platform, are indescribable.”

“This community has not let us down” said Dennis P. DePaul, Executive Director. “We are filled with gratitude that so many donors have continued to support our programs. Cancer doesn’t stop just because of a pandemic; our families need us and we are answering that call.”

In April, under the guidance of UVM Medical’s Pediatric Oncology unit, Camp Ta-Kum-Ta suspended all in-person programming due to the increased health risks of the population they serve. Through the exceptional efforts of the volunteers and staff, Camp Ta-Kum-Ta has learned how to serve their families during this time and beyond. With the work completed in the past 4 months, Camp now has an expanded platform to reach children in the hospital as well as provide additional opportunities in between their in-person programs. DePaul adds that “during the year several children withdraw from our in-person programs due to hospitalization or other medical concerns. They can now continue to participate. There are silver linings in every cloud – and at Camp Ta-Kum-Ta, we always find them and create a rainbow.”

Camp Ta-Kum-Ta provides year-round programs for children who have or have had cancer, and their families. For more information about our virtual program, contact Camp’s Executive Director Dennis P. DePaul at (802) 578-2275 or email at dennis@takumta.org.

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Camp Ta-Kum-Ta’s Social Media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/camptakumta	Instagram: @camptakumta
Twitter: @CampTaKumTa	Website: www.takumta.org