

# WHO CAN COME TO CAMP?

Zajac Ranch for Children offers camp experiences to children age 7 to 17 with a variety of medical needs and disabilities including autism spectrum disorders, complex blood disorders, craniofacial differences, Down syndrome, epilepsy and other seizure disorders,

gastrointestinal conditions, organ transplants, spina bifida, Tourette syndrome, visual impairments, sickle cell disease, and muscular dystrophy, among others. Zajac Ranch also offers Young Adult Camps for 18-40 year olds with special medical needs.



Our goal is to never turn away a child due to medical

condition and we encourage you to contact us to discuss which camp would be best suited to your child's needs.

#### Register now at www.zajacranch.com/camps

"This year was the first year our boys really took note of the diversity of camp Zajac. They were astonished that kids in wheelchairs were able to try out the high ropes. It has taught them to focus on their abilities, building their confidence, and to understand that there are several different ways of completing a task and each individual can use the way that works best for them." – Mother of Mixed Medical Camp campers

### **HOW WE DO IT**

It is our goal to ensure all children with medical conditions, regardless of financial constraints, have the opportunity to attend Zajac Ranch for Children.

Our ten-week summer program costs more than \$770,000 and we continue to grow and succeed because of people like you. Throughout our community we have established partnerships with individuals, community groups, corporations and organisations who each year generously donate time, money and services to ensure we can continue to provide the Zajac Camper Allowance to all our campers.

Outside of summer camps, we also rent the Ranch facility to private groups and the revenues from these bookings go towards the **Zajac Camper Allowance** we offer to all our families.

#### COVID-19 PROTOCOL

To view updates on our COVID-19 Protocol, please visit our website at www.zajacranch.com/covid-19-update/.

#### CONTACT US

To receive more information about any of our camps or to support our fundraising initiatives please contact our Head Office at 604.739.0444 or email info@zajacranch.com. We look forward to talking to you.

www.zajacranch.com/camps



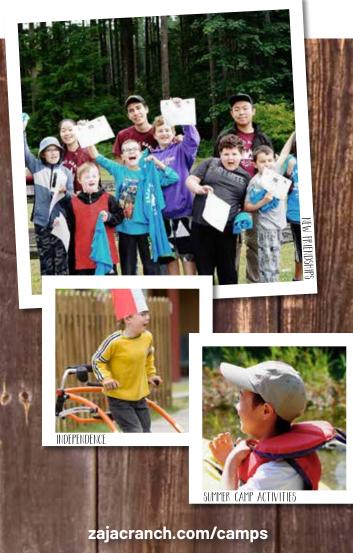


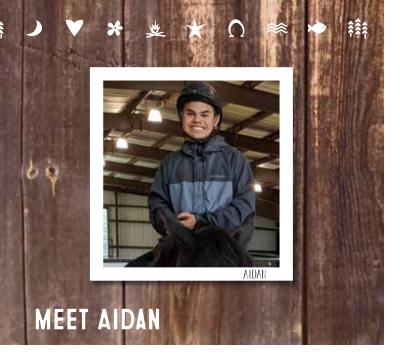






A place where every facility and activity is designed to be fully inclusive for children with medical conditions and disabilities.





Aidan has lived with developmental coordination disorder since early childhood. He struggles with speech apraxia, low cognitive ability and he demonstrates some characteristics found on the autism spectrum. Aidan cannot care for himself and requires supervision. Due to his many challenges, the ability to access extra-curricular opportunities is very limited for Aidan.

His parents were encouraged by the warm reception they received as a family and the direct connection that was made with Aidan upon his arrival.

"We immediately felt reassured due to the caring attitude of the camp counselor that our son was assigned to."

While at camp, Aidan gained a lot of confidence and he was comfortable being away from home for the 5 days. He was exposed to a number of new, fun experiences in a supportive and compassionate environment without the direct support or involvement of his parents or sibling. Aidan pursued his passion for animals and the outdoors while at Zajac Ranch. He especially loved being around the horses!

Aidan's parents left the Zajac Ranch with complete peace of mind – the warm reception and Aidan's response to this new environment was all they needed to feel comfortable in the knowledge that Aidan was going to have a joyous and adventure filled summer camp.

"We hope that Camp Zajac will provide an outlet for Aidan each summer; a time for him to look forward to and treasure. We would like Camp Zajac to become a tradition where he can continue to develop the relationships he formed and the familiarity with this special place."

**OUT HERE WE RAISE SPIRITS** 

Zajac Ranch provides camp experiences that empower children of all abilities to participate, foster lifelong skills and independence and create long-lasting friendships. When children and young adults come to Zajac Ranch we encourage campers to embrace the possibilities and experience the thrill of participating.

Parents have indicated that their child benefits from being around other campers with similar medical conditions. At Zajac Ranch we believe that it is very important for our campers to develop friendships, feel included and fully participate in the many activities we offer at camp.

Some favourite activities that allow campers to improve their skills are:

Swimming • Camp Fires • Arts and Crafts Horse Back Riding • Wall Climbing • The High Ropes Challenge Course • Canoeing • Archery

# THE OK CORRAL MEDICAL CENTRE

The OK Corral provides campers and parents with peace of mind. Our medical centre, led by our Nursing Director, is open 24 hours a day. Our team of volunteer doctors and nurses care for our campers' medical needs allowing all participants, including those with complex diagnoses to participate in all activities and have fun.

"All year long, I look forward to those weeks I get to spend volunteering at Zajac Ranch," says Rachel, a nursing volunteer. "As I hand out medications and treat injuries, I love hearing the campers' stories: of riding horses for the first time, making new friends, reaching new heights on the high ropes course, and more. The supportive environment at Zajac enables campers to have amazing new experiences and I am privileged to be a part of it."

## **OUR STAFF**

Our caring camp counsellors undertake extensive training prior to the start of our camp season so that they are fully aware of our camper's sensitivities, behavioural tendencies and chronic illnesses. We work with many partner organizations to ensure our counsellors receive training that is current and relevant to their role in providing exceptional care to all of our campers. At each camp session, our counsellor to camper ratio is a maximum of 1:3.

We are very excited about the team, complete with returning staff and brand new faces! Our counsellors have the attitude, skill set and the enthusiasm to be something bigger than ourselves. Our staff and volunteers understand the importance of what we do at the Zajac Ranch and they want to make a positive difference in the lives of our campers.

## **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Since 2004 we have welcomed over 5,000 children and young adults with chronic, life-threatening or debilitating conditions to Zajac Ranch's summer camps and have provided over \$6 million in camp subsidies through the **Zajac Camper Allowance**.

It is through year-round fundraising that we are able to offer this subsidy to our campers and reduce the cost of camp for families by at least 50%. For many campers, the outstanding cost of \$780 will be further subsidised through one of our medical partners. For those not eligible through our medical partners, but requiring additional financial assistance, a subsidy may be available through the Zajac Community Partner Program.

For more information please visit zajacranch.com

\*excluding those attending camp with support from the Autism Funding Unit



Muscular Dystrophy Camp Parent

- Aaron, Aidan's dad