

The Story of Royal Family Kids' Camps

According to the National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, 1 out of 3 women and 1 out of 6 men experienced abuse, molestation, or neglect as a child. Of the over 3 million child abuse cases reported each year in the United States, 150,000 to 250,000 are physically abused, 90,000 to 150,000 are sexually abused, and tragically, 2,000 children die each year at the hands of their caregivers. One child dies every 4 hours. And the remainder are simply... sadly... neglected.



Royal Family Kids' Camps, Inc. (RFKC) was founded in Southern California in 1985 by Wayne and Diane Tesch as an innovative, nationwide network of faith-based, church-sponsored camps for abused children in the foster care system. Today, there are nearly 170 camps in 35 states and 8 countries. Partnering with local children's services agencies, camp volunteers create a week of positive memories for kids ages 7 to 11. The children who attend camp have endured neglect and abuse through no fault of their own. They have often been given no reason to feel good about themselves or to hope for the future.

The goal of RFKC is to show children that a positive experience with a loving adult role model is possible, that they can succeed because they have done so at camp, and to provide an "oasis" — a full week of relief — where the children can feel deeply loved and cared for, affirmed, and encouraged by truly caring adults.

How You Can Be Part of the Royal Family

Children in foster care hurt. Not only do they often carry terrible memories of abuse and abandonment, but they also face uncertain futures as they wait for others to make important decisions about their lives. One child from another RFKC camp wrote this:

I'm tired. Not work tired. Not school tired. Not sleep tired. Just tired!

I'm moving tired.

I'm tired of meeting people.

I'm tired of losing people I love.

I'm just foster care tired.

RFKC seeks to provide positive, lasting memories of a loving Christian environment for these hurting children in our community. You can help show God's love to these children by supporting RFKC in a variety of ways including:

- Praying for the campers, counselors and staff
- Donating needed supplies for activities centers, dress-up, sports, birthday party, etc.
- Making a tax-deductible donation to support or fully sponsor a child
- Assisting with camper registration at church
- Helping at the Everybody's Birthday Party at camp
- Volunteering at the Welcome Home Dinner at church
- Serving one week at camp as a counselor or support staff



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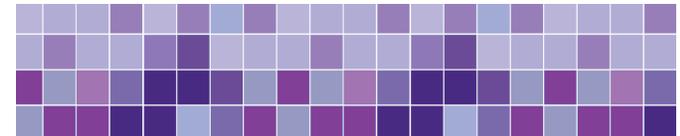
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April 2010

brochure design: AllyCalifornia@allycalifornia.com



Creating Positive Memories for Abused Kids



A Startling Reality

It happens more often than any of us want to believe. Each year, over 3 million American children are reported as abused — physically attacked, sexually molested, emotionally damaged, or severely neglected — often by the very people they have loved and



trusted the most. They are children like Jimmy — a 7-year-old who has known more of violent tempers and cruel comments than he

has of hugs, kind words, and loving encouragement. Royal Family Kids' Camps (RFKC) was created for children like Jimmy.

At Royal Family Kids' Camps, campers experience a week of love which allows them to realize that they are valuable to themselves, valuable to others, and valuable to God.



A Wonderful Opportunity

Royal Family Kids' Camps of Ventura is a residential camp in the serene mountains of Southern California where, for one full week, abused, abandoned, and neglected children from throughout Ventura County can experience wholesome affection, undivided attention, and unconditional love.

Activities include hiking, swimming, horseback riding, bug & lizard catching, bicycle riding, zip lining, skits, music, singing, campfires, star-gazing, Bible lessons, sports and other outdoor games, "Everybody's Birthday Party", and dozens of activity centers from making cookies and smoothies to rock painting to making bug cages to playing dress-up and having a tea party.

For the first time, many of these youngsters will know what it feels like to have a caring "family" as counselors and a surrogate "grandma and grandpa" shower them with encouragement, join them in all kinds of fun games, activities, and story time... and continually affirm them through compassionate care and love.

This kind of love and security is so new for many of these children that a week at Royal Family Kids' Camps is often a life-changing experience — one that can sustain them all year long.

When one counselor says "YES!" two campers start packing...

INTEREST CARD

I'm ready to say "YES!" and be a part of the Royal Family to help abused children.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

(Note: We will NOT sell or share your personal information with others)

Please add me to the RFKC e-mail list

I'll commit to praying for RFKC and the campers, counselors and staff

I'd like to join the RFKC prayer team

I'm interested in serving for a week at camp as a counselor or staff

I'd like to donate \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Ventura Missionary Church and note "RFKC" in the memo.

Other: _____



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