



FAQs - Camp Hamwi

Overnight Camp

My camper falls within the 13-17 age range, what week of camp can they attend?

This year we are offering two weeks of Senior camp. Your camper can choose to attend Senior Week One (July 13th-19th), Senior Week Two (July 20th-26th), or both weeks.

My camper falls within the 7-12 age range, what week of camp can they attend?

Campers ages 7-12 can attend our day camp (June 2nd-June 6th) and/or our overnight Junior Week (July 27th-August 2nd). For questions on our day camps, please refer to the day camp FAQs.

Where is Camp Hamwi located?

Camp Hamwi is located at the Camp Mohaven camp grounds in Danville, Ohio. The address is 18744 Turkey Ridge Rd. Danville, OH 43014. You can also refer to the directions on the website.

What is the staff structure at Camp Hamwi?

Our staff consists of Endocrinology Attendings and Fellows from Nationwide Children's Hospital, Residents from Nationwide Children's, RNs and LPNs from a variety of medical institutions, dietetic students from a variety of universities and 2 counselors per cabin (each cabin holds up to 10 individuals). Approximately 64% of our staff in 2024 were living with Diabetes themselves.

If my camper chooses to attend both weeks of camp, what is Camp Hamwi's policy between the two weeks (the night of July 20th)*?

Campers participating in both weeks of Senior camp **must leave camp between weeks**. There will be check out on Saturday the 19th and check back in on Sunday the 20th.

My camper wants to attend both weeks, but travelling to camp and back on the weekend in between is inconvenient for our family. What options do we have?

For those campers who are attending both Senior weeks may:

- Carpool with another family or two that are also sending their camper for multiple weeks. You can choose to allow another family to check in/out your camper by selecting them as an alternate pickup person through your CampDoc registration.
- For those parents who still want to come pick up their child at Camp Mohaven we will have an expedited check-out/check-in line specifically for campers who will be returning Sunday so that we can get those families in and out quickly.

How does the Camp Shuttle/Transportation program work?

Based on need, Campers have the opportunity to use the Camp Shuttle program to be transported to and from Camp Hamwi. For an extra \$10 fee, families can drop their campers off at the LA Catering & Event Center at 670 Harmon Avenue, and Camp Hamwi staff/volunteers will check them in and transport them to camp. **Space is limited and spots will be prioritized based on need first.**

When camp ends, campers may also use the shuttle to transport back to Columbus. There are limited spaces for the Camp Shuttle program and we ask that you only use the program if you need it. The deadline to sign up for transportation is **June 15th, 2025** and you will be notified if transportation is available for your camper by **July 1st, 2025**.

Is there a recommended packing list/a list of items that aren't allowed at camp?

When you register for camp on CampDoc, you can find the packing lists in the “Welcome Information” section of your camper’s questionnaire.

Does my camper need to bring all their own medical supplies?

No, we provide meters, test strips, most insulins, syringes, alcohol swabs, cotton balls, and basic first aid equipment. If your camper is on a pump or CGM, they do need to bring any supplies that they need to get through the week (i.e. – infusion sets, reservoirs, etc.). If your camper is on an insulin that is not donated to camp, we will reach out to you on an individual basis to discuss.

What is the cell phone policy at Camp Hamwi?

Cell phones at Camp Hamwi are permitted **only for diabetes management purposes**, such as receiving CGM data. Phones may not be used for any other reason, including calls, texts, social media, games, or entertainment. Campers are expected to engage in the full camp experience, building friendships, participating in activities, and enjoying a break from screens.

We believe that summer camp is a unique opportunity for campers to foster independence, develop social skills, and fully immerse themselves in a supportive community. Excessive phone use disrupts this experience, making it harder for campers to connect with their peers and engage in camp activities.

Enforcement of the Cell Phone Policy

- If a camper is found using their phone for non-diabetes-related purposes, they will receive one warning.
- If phone use continues to be a persistent issue, camp staff will change the device password to limit access, ensuring the phone remains usable for CGM monitoring but preventing unauthorized usage.
- If the issue persists, the phone will be confiscated for the remainder of camp.

My camper uses a CGM, what is Camp Hamwi's policy on sharing mode and using CGMs?

Camp Hamwi fully supports and encourages the use of CGMs for diabetes management.

Why We Disable Dexcom Share Mode at Camp:

- **Parent Respite** – One of the greatest benefits of camp is providing parents with a well-deserved break. Our team of trained medical professionals will be actively monitoring campers' blood glucose levels 24/7, allowing parents to step back and trust that their child is in good hands.
- **Data Delays & Inaccuracies** – Cell service at camp can be unreliable, leading to delayed or inaccurate CGM readings being transmitted through the Share feature. This can cause unnecessary worry for parents while the medical team is already taking appropriate action.
- **Medical Team Oversight** – Our staff monitors all campers' blood sugars in real-time using CampViews, a software that allows us to remotely track CGM data. This ensures consistent, expert management of all CGM users throughout camp.
- **No Phone Calls or Voicemails Regarding Blood Sugar Levels** – We understand that parents may feel compelled to call if they see concerning numbers on their end. However, camp staff will not be answering or returning calls/voicemails regarding blood sugar levels. Instead, our medical team will assess and treat campers as needed and immediately disable the Share feature again.

Finger Stick Testing at Camp:

Although CGMs are valuable tools for diabetes management, there are situations where finger stick testing is still necessary:

- **Technology Can Fail** – Campers must be comfortable with manual blood sugar testing in case of sensor failure.
- **Activity & Heat Impact Readings** – CGMs can lag 10-15 minutes behind real-time blood sugar levels, especially during periods of increased activity or high temperatures. For safety, medical staff may require finger stick verification at times.

At night, CGM receivers and phones will be kept in a designated location within the cabin so staff can easily respond to alarms while ensuring campers get uninterrupted rest

Does Camp Hamwi do evening blood glucose checks?

Yes. Each evening between 12:00a and 12:30a, the cabin counselors check every person living with diabetes in the cabin (including staff), records their numbers and treats appropriately.

At about 1:00a two medical teams leave the med cabin, one for each side of camp, and follow up on all individuals whose numbers were out of range. Each medical team consists of at minimum one Doctor, one Nurse, and one Dietetic Student.

What is the typical structure of a week of overnight camp?

At Camp Hamwi, our overnight camp schedule is designed to provide a mix of structured activities, diabetes education, social bonding, and fun. Below is an overview of what a typical week looks like:

Senior Week(s) (Ages 13-17) - Senior Week begins on Sunday with camper check-in between 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM. Upon arrival, campers meet their cabinmates and counselors, get settled into their new environment, and create their personal activity schedule for the week. The evening concludes with a welcome evening program to set the tone for an exciting week ahead.

Monday through Thursday are structured as activity days. Each morning starts with a diabetes education session, where the content rotates daily. Following the session, campers participate in three activity periods where they engage in activities of their choosing, including canoeing/kayaking, hiking, arts and crafts, sports, fishing, horseback riding, and more. In the afternoon, campers enjoy Camper Choice, where they can pick between arts and crafts, the pool, sports, or rest and relaxation. Each evening features two themed programs related to the summer's camp theme, and one night is highlighted by the camp dance.

Friday is dedicated to all-camp games, where everyone comes together to participate in large-scale activities like Capture the Flag, Ships and Sailors, and Dr. Dodgeball. The day also includes an all-camp swim and ends with the end-of-week slideshow and a closing campfire. On Saturday, check-out takes place at 10:30 AM as campers say their goodbyes and head home.

Junior Week (Ages 7-12) - Junior Week follows a similar structure to Senior Week but with a few key differences:

- Sunday: Instead of choosing their own schedules, campers are given a guided tour of camp, and activity schedules are pre-assigned by cabin to ensure a balanced experience.
- Evening Programming: There is only one evening program per night due to an earlier lights-out time.
- Activity Restrictions: Canoeing and kayaking are only available for campers aged 10 and older.
- Rest Period: Campers under the age of 10 have a scheduled rest and relaxation period during the second activity period after lunch.

- Talent Show: Instead of a camp dance, Junior Week features a talent show where campers can showcase their skills and creativity.

Is financial aid available for my campers?

Yes. If your camper is in need of financial aid, you must fill out the “Scholarship” section of your questionnaire on CampDoc.

About a month before camp begins, a staff member will reach out to you individually to discuss financial aid options, but only if you filled out the “Scholarship” section.

Due to high demand, if your Senior camper is applying for financial aid, they are only guaranteed ONE full week of camp.

If space allows, and campers are registering for both weeks of Senior Week and applying for financial aid, they will be notified by June 1st, 2025 which week or weeks they are approved to attend.

When filling out the “Scholarship” section there is a space to select your preferred week if only able to attend one week.

When is my camper eligible to apply for the Counselor-in-Training program?

Campers can apply to the CIT program for the summer immediately before or the summer immediately after their Senior year of High School.

Is there a theme for the 2025 Camp Hamwi season?

Yes! Our theme for 2025 is SURVIVOR! We always encourage campers to bring themed outfits with them to camp!