



# TESTIMONIALS

## 2023



Delivering the Healing Power of Horses  
One "Neigh" at a Time

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 @campcaseymi  @campcasey



## ABOUT CAMP CASEY

### WHO WE ARE

Camp Casey is a nonprofit organization that provides cost-free horseback riding programs to children with cancer, sickle cell disease, and other life-threatening illnesses. Camp Casey seeks to empower families and volunteers through its four programs that promote building bonds within families, communities, and those going through similar circumstances.

### ABOUT CASEY

Casey Foote was not much different from other 10-year-old girls. She loved the outdoors, had an active imagination and adored animals. Unlike most children though, Casey was battling bone and brain cancer and died just after her 12th birthday.

During the last few years of her life, Casey was introduced to a horse farm where she spent many afternoons grooming and riding her favorite horse. Even as chemotherapy, surgeries and the emotional weight of cancer kept Casey physically weak, she never let her illness get in the way of bonding with horses and friends. Connecting with horses allowed Casey to be a kid again and kept her and her family strong during their difficult fight.

Watching Casey interact with horses was therapeutic for her family as well. When Casey was at the barn, they were able to witness an instant transformation as her hospital gown was replaced with boots and breeches. Casey would have loved for other children and their families to experience the joy that horses once gave her. We are proud to keep Casey's legacy alive and enable children, like Casey, to apply the strength gained from our program to their fight against cancer.



**Thank you for your interest in furthering Camp Casey's mission! Please enjoy the following testimonials from our campers, volunteers, seasonal staff, and community partners of 2023.**

- Camp Casey Team



## WHAT WE DO

### PROGRAMS

**Horsey House Calls:** We deliver camp to the homes of children who are often too sick to attend summer camp. We stay for the afternoon to provide:

- A horse grooming & safety lesson
- Individual rides
- Team building games
- A craft project
- Hand-made horse treats
- A pizza party

**Cowboy Camp Outs:** We provide all-inclusive weekend getaways for the whole family. Surrounded by others going through similar circumstances, families enjoy:

- Private, luxurious family cabins
- Campfires (and s'mores!)
- Hayrides
- Trail rides
- Indoor & outdoor water parks
- Peaceful, unplugged atmosphere

**Lone Star Getaways:** We send families to privately-owned vacation properties for a cost-free, weekend getaway.

**Outlaw Outings:** We retain relationships with previously-served families by inviting them to one-day recreational activities throughout the year.

### WHAT ELSE WE WERE UP TO

**2023 Golden Spurs Breakfast:** We invited our supporters to the Rust Belt Market in Ferndale, Michigan to learn about Camp Casey and how to get involved.

We are thrilled to announce the 2023 Golden Spurs Breakfast raised over **\$13,500** for Camp Casey's 2024 programs. WHOA!!

**2023 Gold Rush Gala:** We gathered 200 of our greatest supporters for a night of glitz, glam, and giving back at the Garden Theater in Detroit in honor of Childhood Cancer and Sickle Cell Awareness Month.

We are grateful to announce that the 2023 Gold Rush Gala raised over **\$118,000** for Camp Casey's 2024 programs. YEEHAW!!



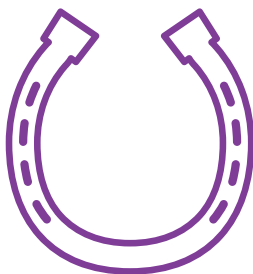
### SAVE THE DATE!

**2024 Gold Rush Gala:** Camp Casey's annual fundraiser will take place on **Friday, September 27, 2024** at the **Garden Theater** in Detroit, Michigan. Mark your calendars and help us make it a night to remember!

# Camper Testimonials

The staff and the experience was **AWESOME!** My kids and I enjoyed ourselves and wish it never ended!

- Dasia, mother of 5-year old Callie, diagnosed with sickle cell disease from Wayne, Michigan



We cannot say enough how much of an incredible day Camp Casey provided to our daughter. From start to finish, the team and volunteers truly made the Horsey House Call the most fun and easy experience for us. No matter how many times I offered to help, they insisted that they had it under control, and they sure did! The smiles on the kids faces, the way they were kept busy and having fun the entire time, the horse rides, the grooming lesson, crafting, and so on. **AMAZING AMAZING AMAZING.** The most special day. Thank you a million!!!!

- Dema, mother of 3-year old Marcella, diagnosed with beta-thalassemia major from Fraser, Michigan

# Camper Testimonials

Our Horsey House Call was amazing! We all had a great time! Our daughter was **surprised and full of joy!**

All the volunteers were wonderful, super nice and helpful! Boots was a gentle and fun horse!! We can't thank you all enough!!

- Sue, mother of 5-year old Scarlett, diagnosed with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia from Warren, Michigan



Thank you very much, she needed this day to **brighten her smile again.** She is a gem and totally deserves all the good we can give her with help and love from all of you!



- Lillian, mother of 12-year old Chloe, diagnosed with cytoma tumor, cerebral palsy, and seizure disorder from Clinton Township, Michigan

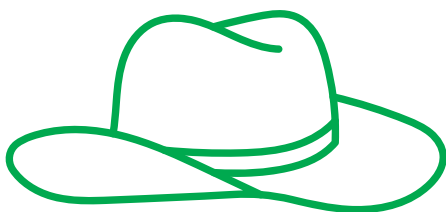


# Camper Testimonials

Liam had the most fantastic 4th birthday. Thank you to everyone who was able to come celebrate with us, extra big thank you to Camp Casey, you guys are super amazing. **We are so grateful for you all!**



- Brittany, mother of 4-year old Liam, diagnosed with T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia from Westland, Michigan



Immanuel doesn't wake up too often with a smile. He was sleeping in the bedroom next to the street when the horse trailer arrived. He woke to the sound of the horse neighing. He said with a big smile, **"Hey, there's a horse outside!"** Riding a horse was something he wanted to do while he was in the midst of his darkest days in the hospital.

- John, father of 16-year old Immanuel, diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia from Oak Park, Michigan

# Camper Testimonials

Everything about Camp Casey's Horsey House Call brightened our day! The staff and volunteers were kind and professional, and the horse herself gentle and sweet! They brought crafts, games, goody bags via the Bottomless Toy Chest, and pizza— **our daughter loved it all.** My favorite part was when our daughter took a second ride on Pennie—she looked so comfortable and excited. Their generosity is such a blessing.

– Bridgette, mother of 3-year old Adeline, diagnosed with neuroblastoma from Hillsdale, Michigan

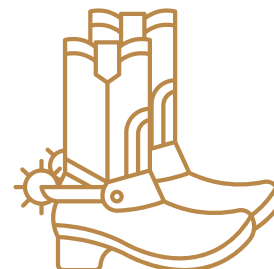


Thank you, Camp Casey!! Pennie and all the wonderful volunteers made Adeline's birthday so special. We are very thankful for such an **amazing day.**



**Always In Love With Addie**

Medical & Health · 5 out of 5 · 445 followers



# Camper Testimonials



The entire Camp Casey team were an **amazing group of caring people!**

Thank you ever so much for such an amazing experience for Elowyn and all that were there!



- Cheryl, family member of 4-year old Elowyn, diagnosed with DIPG from Harrison Township, Michigan



Thank you Camp Casey for the most amazing Horsey House Call. These kids had the best night and Boots was such a sweet horse. These are memories we will cherish forever. Elowyn didn't want to stop riding and she kissed Boots after her last ride. **This entire experience for our family was soul food** - watching all our kids shine with pure joy together. Thank you to the entire crew who made this night possible for our family.



- April, mother of 4-year old Elowyn, diagnosed with DIPG from Harrison Township, Michigan



# Camper Testimonials



Our family getaway was a breath of fresh air. Creating these **special memories** was something we will never forget.

We are thankful beyond measure for such a special blessing.

- Crystal, mother of 3-year old Amariah, diagnosed with moyamoya disease from East China, Michigan



**The best part of today!** Camp Casey came by today and gave Rachel a wish beyond all wishes! A horse at our house and friends to share the moments with.

Thank you again Camp Casey!! Appreciate all that you do. Thank you to your organization and all the volunteers that made today so special!



- Steve, father of 12-year old Rachel, diagnosed with cystic fibrosis from Southfield, Michigan



# Camper Testimonials

We had the most amazing time at Great Wolf Lodge. My daughter was able to **forget about daily treatments** for a little and just have so much fun at the water park.

- Jessica, mother to 9-year-old Sophia diagnosed with cystic fibrosis from St. Clair, Michigan



My family enjoyed our getaway to Mackinac Island. The kids absolutely loved it and we created **great memories**. Thank you camp Casey and to all the donors for giving us this wonderful getaway.

- Joanne, mother of 4-year old Jenna, diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia from Troy, Michigan

# Camper Testimonials

We had an amazing time and made so many great memories! We made new friends, like a sweet girl who has HLHS like Elijah! I did so many things I've not done or been too afraid to do in YEARS, we all **gained confidence.**

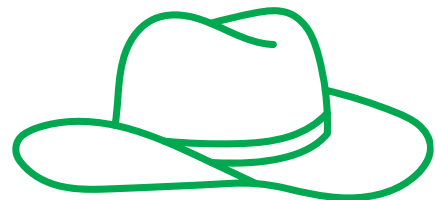


- Becky, mother of 17-year old Elijah, diagnosed with hypoplastic left heart syndrome from Fenton, Michigan



Thank you all so much. It meant the world to Junie and all of us to **come together with families with like conditions** and also to be able to enjoy a beautiful weekend in nature.

- Jacob Sr., father to 4-year-old Jacob diagnosed with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia from Ludington, Michigan



# Camper Testimonials

The experience was **truly amazing**, it felt great to meet with the families and hear their stories, and to have my kids experience the outdoors.

- Sabrina, mother of 4-year old Star, diagnosed with Wilms Tumor from Chicago, Illinois



It meant a lot to us to **meet other families outside of the hospital** setting who are going through similar experiences as we are. The weekend was not rushed and we were able to spend time together, relaxing. We are so appreciative of Camp Casey covering our lodging and meals. We cannot recommend Camp Casey enough!

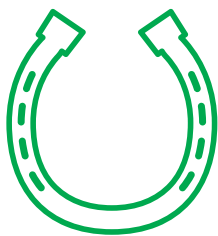
- Aly, mother of 5-year old Cailen diagnosed with embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma from Fruitport Michigan

# Seasonal Staff Testimonials

Everytime I volunteer with Camp Casey, **my heart grows bigger.**

Their mission and program is so unique, and it's incredible to witness the healing power of horses in action. The smiles and "Yeehaws!" say it all!

- Kirsten Adgate, Activity Leader and Volunteer



At the suggestion of dear friend, I signed up as a volunteer for Camp Casey a couple years ago. She explained that volunteering is a way to give yourself a break, while still helping others. Initially, I thought I would just be lending a helping hand as a side walker. But as it turns out, going on these Horsey House Calls has been **just as therapeutic for me** as it is for the families we serve.

That's the thing about doing this work, the house call experience "elevates" everyone involved; the infirmed children, the parents, the siblings, the extended family & friends, the neighbors, the community, the horses and the horse owners. Definitely time well spent!

- Amelia Watson, Ranch Hand and Volunteer

# Volunteer Testimonials



I could go on and on about how **truly wonderful** this organization is. They show up and show love in BIG ways! ❤️

- Anonymous Volunteer



I am so honored to be one of the many volunteers who helped bring Scarlett and her family such joy!

**Camp Casey is amazing.**

They are always looking for volunteers and future families to host!



- Maria Haigh, Photographer and Volunteer



# Volunteer Testimonials

Camp Casey is such a **wonderful and meaningful** organization. It's really amazing to see how they serve and bring happiness to so many in the community during difficult times.

- Deepa Pinkney, Volunteer



It's hard to find a team of people who works harder and loves bigger than the crew at Camp Casey. They show up and serve families who are in the thick of the unimaginable. Childhood cancer shouldn't be a part of any family story, but when it is, Camp Casey is there to show support through fun, community, and a space for families to make positive memories. **They're gold!**

- Emily Vaughn, Volunteer

# Volunteer Testimonials

I love volunteering for this organization. The joy they bring to sick children, their families and friends is **amazing to experience.**

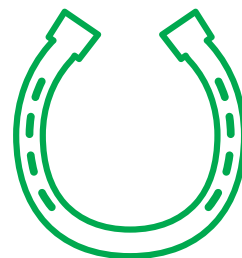
- Anonymous Volunteer



I was **overjoyed** to volunteer for this worthwhile organization!  
Thank YOU!



- Kimberly Hackney, Volunteer



# Community Testimonials



You guys are so amazing!  
Start to finish so wonderful  
at what you do. **The kids  
had the best time!**



- Wendi Henning, Program Manager  
Gilda's Club Metro Detroit



Camp Casey is a wonderful  
charity operating here in  
Michigan, bringing children with  
debilitating illnesses and  
diseases some fun, hope, and  
horses! The **love and dedication**

Molly has for her work is  
palpable; it is inspiring to see  
the childrens' faces light up at a  
Horsey House Call and go riding.  
Keep it up Camp Casey!!

- Rachel Siegel, Donor



# Community Testimonials

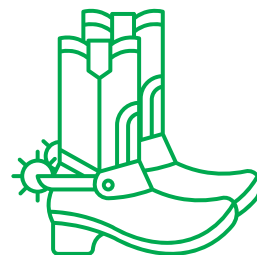
Camp Casey is a non-profit led by passionate leaders who care about the cause, it's constituents, and the community overall. Servant leadership is hard to come by and this organization seems to have them all. Camp Casey continues to be a **beacon of light** in the lives of children and families that are experiencing dismal, dark times. Thank you for all the work that you do to support those needing a bit of TLC during these trying times.

- Shenise Foote, Board Member



Camp Casey does amazing and important work in the community. It is ran by the best people with the **biggest hearts**. Always striving to do more and impact more people.

- Anonymous Donor



# Community Testimonials

I've been supporting and following Camp Casey for over 8 years now and love everything they do for sick kids and **bringing so much joy** and awareness thanks to the horse programs they provide each year.

- Adam Green, Board Member



Molly Resser is a passionate leader who has grown this grassroots organization into a pillar within the community serving kids who are battling cancer. Molly and the Camp Casey staff focus on running a **supportive and inclusive** organization. They are fiscally responsible and dedicated to the families they serve.

- Paul Fenner, Board Member

# Hero Horse Testimonials



NEEEIIIIGGHH!!!

I love my job!

- Miss Pennie, Hero Horse

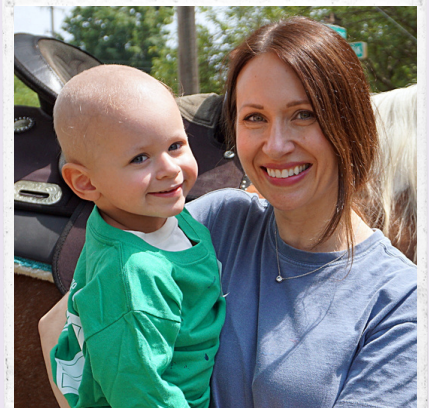
My favorite part  
is the treats!

- Boots, Hero Horse





# Horsey House Calls





# Cowboy Camp Out





## Outlaw Outing





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