

Mitzvah Project

Dear Camp Shalom Families,

Mitzvah is the Hebrew word for "good deed". For many summers, Camp Shalom has given back to our local community through our Mitzvah Monday program. This summer we are grateful to have the opportunity to work with Jewish Adoption and Family Care Options (JAFCO) and receive support from the One World Davis Family Tolerance Project.

This summer, each camp group will be "adopting" a child from the JAFCO Children's Village, which is an emergency shelter and group homes complex. Our goal is to help at least 50 children this summer, and hopefully many more. Many of these children arrive at the shelter with no personal belongings and rely on donations to meet their basic needs, such as school supplies, clothes, and toiletries.

To support these children, each camp group will receive information about their adopted child, including their name and age. The group will then be responsible for creating a special care package with products that their child may need, as well as, providing a unique stuffed bear to send comfort to their child.

To facilitate these care packages, we will be hosting a series of collection drives throughout the summer, as outlined below. Even if your child is unable to attend camp during a designated collection week, any donations are greatly appreciated.

- Week 1 June 5- June 6: Backpacks
- Week 2 June 12- June 16: School Supplies
- Week 3 June 19- June 23: Toiletries
- Week 4 June 26- June 30: Gift Cards
- Week 5 July 3- July 7: Blankets
- Week 6 July 10- July 14: Books
- Week 7 July 17- July 21: Travel Games/ Activities
- Week 8 July 24- July 28: Camp Shalom Comfort Bear Making

As a community, we are fortunate to be a part of such an amazing camp experience. We also recognize the importance of giving back and touching the lives of those who may be in need. Through this project, we hope to instill the value of good deeds in our campers and provide them with a meaningful experience.

Thank you for your support and participation in this project.

Looking forward to camp, Summer Sweetall Director of Family and Youth Engagement & Camp Shalom