Hello Campers, Parents, and Caregivers!

The State of Oregon and the Oregon Department of Health and Human Services (ODHS) have approved guidelines for holding overnight Camps in 2021.

On April 30th, we received approval from Oregon DHS to hold overnight camp programs at any of the state’s Risk Assessment Levels (Extreme, High, Moderate, and Low Risk levels).

**\*\*\* CAMP IS HAPPENING! \*\*\***

In order to operate at any risk level, there are additional regulations that must be followed this summer, outlined below under “**New Rules from ODHS**”. These rules are in addition to all State of Oregon Reopening Guidelines outlined in the Risk Assessment levels which include social distancing, food service regulations, and mask requirements.

Under “**Enrollment FAQ**” below, you’ll learn when and how enrollment will occur, payment due dates, and additional programming for those campers not selected this summer. Please read this document carefully before reaching out with any questions you might have.

**New Regulations from ODHS**

In order to receive approval for our ODHS Reopening Plan, MHKC had to restructure summer programming to meet all of the new rules and regulations. Though there were many small changes we had to make, below are those that directly impact campers, parents, and caregivers.

1. Group sizes will be 6 or 8 total people (staff and campers combined), depending on Clackamas County Risk Assessment level.
   1. In a normal summer, we typically have 20-22 people in each group (campers, counselors, and staff combined). New COVID-19 guidelines prevent this for the coming summer. In order to meet the new guidelines, group sizes will be 6 people when in Extreme, High, and Moderate Risk and 8 people when in Low Risk Assessment for Clackamas County.
2. In order to operate in High or Extreme Risk, 80% of MHKC staff members and volunteers must be vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine.
   1. From the preliminary data we have gathered, from summer staff and volunteers, MHKC projects to have well over 80% of staff and volunteers fully vaccinated by the beginning of Summer Camp Programs.
3. Campers will not be required to meet the 80% COVID-19 vaccination rate to operate in High or Extreme Risk.
   1. As a State of Oregon certified service provider, MHKC cannot require participants to be vaccinated in order to attend our overnight Summer Camp Programs. Due to this fact, we are not required to meet any minimum vaccination requirements for campers. In addition, we will not prioritize campers who have been vaccinated versus those who have not. Though we cannot require vaccinations and will not prioritize vaccinated campers, we do highly recommend that all campers who are able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine do so before attending one of our in-person programs.
4. Is there an update for Washington Families?
   1. We are still working to finalize details with Washington DSHS and how Oregon reopening plans coincide with Washington reopening plans. We have received approval from Oregon DHS that Washington campers can attend summer programs. Now it is just a matter of receiving approval for our reopening plan from Washington DSHS. While we work towards approval from Washington DSHS, we will be enrolling campers residing from the State of Washington, at the same time as campers from the State of Oregon. It is important to note, if Washington DSHS does not approve our reopening plan, State of Washington Campers may NOT be able to utilize service hours to pay for Camp. We will update you all as soon as we get the official word from Washington State DSHS.

**Enrollment FAQ**

Q: When will camper enrollment begin?

A: Camper enrollment will begin on May 11th and campers will continue to be enrolled throughout the spring and summer via a Rolling Enrollment. Campers will be selected at random for the Rolling Enrollment using a lottery system.

Q: What is Rolling Enrollment?

A: We will be enrolling the same number of campers as staff. This means that if we have 16 total group staff for a given week, we will be enrolling 16 total campers for that same week. These staff and campers will then be placed into groups of 6 or 8, depending on risk level. This will allow us to meet the guidelines set forth by ODHS and maintain the 1:1 supports many of our campers depend on. If we are able to hire additional staff for a given week, we will enroll additional campers that mirror the additional number of staff. We will do this for each week until we have reached the maximum capacity allowed in our ODHS Reopening Plan. Enrollment will continue throughout the spring and summer as spots become available.

Q: How will campers be randomly selected for enrollment?

A: Campers will be randomly assigned a number by an electronic randomizing (lottery) system. Campers will then be placed in weeks based on this randomly generated order. Because the order is randomly generated, the likelihood that your camper will be placed in their first or second choice is low. Campers will be placed in the next available spot for their age group.

Q: How many campers will be enrolled?

A: The answer is, we just don’t know right now. As many of you have heard, Portland State University is not holding in-person classes this summer, including the MHKC Capstone course. As a result, we will not have the 130 amazing PSU students we typically have. To fill the void, we are working hard to hire the additional staff needed to operate this summer. Because we just do not know how many staff we will have this summer, we are implementing our Rolling Enrollment System. As we hire more staff throughout the spring and summer, we will enroll additional campers.

Q: How will I know if I am enrolled or remaining on the Waitlist?

A: Campers who are enrolled in Camp will receive an Enrollment Letter with the dates for your Camp week, payment schedule, and paperwork due dates. Campers who are not enrolled will receive a different letter confirming that they are still on the Waitlist, at that time.

Q: When will the Enrollment Processing Fee (EPF), Activity Fee, and Tuition Payments be due?

A: The EPF and, if applicable, the Activity Fee will be due two weeks after you receive your enrollment letter. Additionally, your camper’s tuition is due one month after receiving your enrollment letter. Tuition payment plans are available upon request. EPF Waivers and Campership applications will be available starting May 11th and will be rolling as campers are enrolled.

Q: When are my camper’s required forms due?

A: All required camper paperwork is due on May 28th. All required forms can be found on your [CampInTouch](https://hoodkiwanis.campintouch.com/v2/login/login.aspx) account. Failure to complete your camper’s required forms by May 28th will result in your camper being placed back on the Waitlist and your spot will be given to another camper.

Q: What should I do if I am on the Waitlist?

A: We HIGHLY encourage all campers on the Waitlist, to complete all of their required forms by the paperwork due date (May 28th). As we move closer and closer to the beginning of Camp, we may have spots that become available with short notice. In these instances, we will only be able to select campers off of the Waitlist who have completed all of the necessary paperwork to attend Camp.

Q: If my camper is not selected, are there any other MHKC programs they can participate in?

A: YES! We understand how disappointing it will be for the campers who will not be attending Camp this summer and, to help lessen the blow, a brand new Camp-in-a-Box is available, at no charge, to every camper who has applied in 2021, as well as to those who applied in 2020! We will be sending out a Camp-in-a-Box order form in the coming days. Submit this form to receive your **FREE** 2021 Camp-in-a-Box! Though it’s not the same is attending Camp in-person, we hope it will provide you and your camper a little Camp magic at home!

In addition, we will continue our virtual programming throughout the summer. We will be posting the entire summer Virtual Programming Schedule in May with instructions to sign up!

We are so very excited to see campers at MHKC again but, as exciting as this news is, it also means there are many campers who will not be able to attend this summer. We will continue to look ahead and cannot wait for the day when we can see every camper’s smiling face at Camp again. We will be sure to notify you with any State of Oregon or ODHS updates to our Reopening Plan. This information can also be heard by watching our [MHKC 2021 Summer Camp Enrollment Update](https://youtu.be/ffGbSJLsPt8) video. If you have any questions after reading the above, please contact Operations Director, Allan Cushing, via email at [Allan@mhkc.org](mailto:Allan@mhkc.org). Have a wonderful week and stay safe out there!

-Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp