**Eligibility and Applications**

Children between the ages of 7 - 15 who are on dialysis (hemo or peritoneal), are post-transplant, or with chronic kidney disease, are eligible to attend Frost Valley YMCA through our partnership with The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation. Children must be medically stable, Hep B Surface Antigen negative, and able to walk at least 200 yards unassisted. Children on peritoneal dialysis must be trained and able to perform CAPD with assistance from our staff. Transplant campers must be at least one-year post transplant.

Please let us know if your camper has any other special needs and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Scholarships for camp tuition are provided for every camper by The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation, with additional support from other local and national organizations.

For information and application materials, visit www.frostvalley.org/kidney

Email coordinator Maya Doyle at mdoyle@montefiore.org or call 718-655-1120

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**Ruth Gottscho Dialysis and Children’s Kidney Program**

Children’s Hospital at Montefiore Division of Pediatric Nephrology 111 East 210th Street, Bronx, NY 10467 TEL: 718-655-1120 WEB: montekids.org

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**Frost Valley YMCA**

2000 Frost Valley Road Claryville, NY 12725 TEL: 845-985-2291 WEB: frostvalley.org

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**The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation**

An affiliated fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey TEL: 201-833-8291 WEB: gottschokidney.org
ALL KIDS DESERVE CAMP.

About the Ruth Gottscho Dialysis Center & Children’s Kidney Program

Our program and summer dialysis center is based in the Guenther Family Wellness Center at Frost Valley YMCA. This unique facility provides a state-of-the-art space for hemodialysis and continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis (CAPD). This treatment is provided onsite at camp and for medical management of children with chronic kidney disease or kidney transplants. Children receive all necessary medical care under the careful supervision of the Ruth Gottscho Dialysis and Children’s Kidney Program, which is coordinated and staffed by the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore. During the sessions, close communication is maintained between our nursing and nephrology staff, parents, and home units.

Special attention is given to the individual medical and developmental needs of each child, and treatment schedules are arranged to allow for maximum participation in the active camp schedule. Back-up medical facilities are provided locally by Catskill Regional Medical Center and by The Children’s Hospital at Montefiore in coordination with campers’ home medical teams and facilities. 24-hour emergency services and an infirmary are provided at Frost Valley’s Wellness Center.

About the Camper Experience

In 1975, Frost Valley YMCA, in partnership with The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation and the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, established the nation’s first mainstream camp experience for children with kidney disease. Over 45 years later, Frost Valley has welcomed more than 1,800 kidney campers. Each child has the traditional sleepaway camp experience for 12 days, in villages with same-age peers, while gaining confidence and independence in what may be their first time away from home. Campers are able to meet other children with medical problems similar to their own and are able to be “teachers” to their counselors and healthy cabinmates. Most experience their disease as being in the background while being a kid takes over. They learn new skills and improve techniques for managing and coping with their medical condition. Parents are able to see their child make friends, gain independence, and have fun.

Most importantly, the children participate as fully as possible in all camp activities and meet a diverse group of campers and camp staff from around the country and around the world. Their fellow campers and counselors also have the chance to witness the challenges (and victories) of being a young person with kidney disease. Campers and staff alike create lasting memories and build friendships that last a lifetime.

This program brings children to camp who are:

- receiving hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis
- diagnosed with chronic kidney disease, or with kidney impairment due to chronic, congenital or rare disorders, such as FSGS, MPGN, Lupus, Cystinosis, aHUS, reflux, and many others
- kidney transplant recipients

About Frost Valley YMCA

Frost Valley YMCA is the premier year-round camping and retreat center in the heart of New York’s Catskill Mountains and a favorite choice for parents seeking an engaging, affordable summer camp experience for their children. Located on over 5,500 acres, Frost Valley’s camp offers one of the most breathtaking natural settings in the country surrounded by 250,000 acres of “forever wild” Forest Preserve.

Frost Valley offers a resident summer camp for children ages 7 to 15. On summer days, Frost Valley campers live in a special world where they experience journeys on every scale – from spending their first night away from home and bonding with new friends in their cabins – to bolder quests like mountain hikes and all-camp traditions and games.

Frost Valley, the first continuously running YMCA camp in America, has roots that reach back to 1885. Over a century later, we remain true to the Y mission and our commitment to bring children of all backgrounds and abilities together in our enriching, life-changing summer camp community.