

DCV FAMILY CAMP 2022 EVALUATION RESULTS

WHAT IS FAMILY CAMP?

- Each year, Diabetes Camps Victoria (DCV) run camps for children living with type 1 Diabetes (T1D)
- Family camp 2022 was a 2-day/1-night camp for children aged 5-8 with an accompanying parent or guardian, and held in Nov 2022, after a hiatus during COVID-19
- Camps provide a safe environment with healthcare professionals where kids can learn, grow, and connect with others their age living with T1D



HOW WAS FAMILY CAMP EVALUATED?



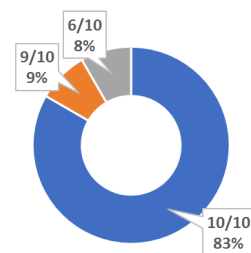
Post-camp survey (Distributed one week after camp and open for 2 weeks)

WHAT WERE THE FAMILY CAMP SUCCESSES?

Camp Reception

- High camp satisfaction from parent respondents
- Camp was an overall positive experience for children
- Provided parents with a platform to share and seek advice
- Staff/volunteers felt the camp and its activities were well run

**ALMOST 4/5 OF PARENTS SCORED 10/10 ON
LIKELINESS TO RECOMMEND SENIOR CAMP**



What parents said....

*'Great for confidence and realising
the child is not alone in this battle'*

*'It was also good for parents to hear others
share their same experiences, to get some
advice from the professionals and to have
confidence that my child was taken care of
when away from me'*

*'Race around the world, getting to know
you activities, the general loveliness of all
camp staff, benefits for parents from a
safe space to talk about diabetes'*

Camp Effectiveness

- 3/4 parent respondents felt their child gained what they hoped they would from attending Family Camp
- Social outcomes were frequently mentioned, along with various aspects of camper growth and development
- 1/2 parent respondents reported they had already observed their child use skills learnt at camp

Camper Outcomes...



Diabetes Management

- Learned new diabetes management skills/knowledge
- Gained confidence in diabetes management
- Normalised life with T1D



Social

- Connections with other T1D children and between parents/families
- Shared experiences with other families
- Lasting bonds/friendships



Life skills/Growth

- Campers gained general confidence
- Realised a T1D diagnosis does not limit their potential

Quotes from parents

... It's invaluable for her to make those connections & to feel that others understand what she goes through. It is the same for parents, it's very difficult for friends to understand no matter how hard they try. To be around people who truly understand enormously helps your mental health.'

To meet and see others who share her life journey and to see others doing what she does so she can feel more confident to do it herself.'

'Empowerment that he can do anything, diabetes is a part of him but it does not define him.'

The experience of staff and volunteers

- Staff/volunteers reported their own growth through interactions with T1D campers and learning more about T1D
- Staff/volunteers also reported camp being a fulfilling experience

Opportunity to give back

Social opportunities

Impact on staff/volunteers

Inspirational moments

Gained perspectives

WHAT ARE OUR OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE?

1

Having a longer camp was the most popular suggestion from parents and staff/volunteers. Some suggested this would give campers more time to bond.

2

Revise the delivery and range of activities. Ensure that activities better match the camper age group, and that there is a greater diversity of activities.

3

Consider the mixed feedback on the check-in/check-out processes and improve on some camp administration. For example, better signage and directions for parents from staff. And some better communication and preparation for volunteers.