

## **Pennsylvania Campgrounds Compete to Send Children with Cancer to Camp**

**East Stroudsburg, PA** — Campgrounds across Pennsylvania are helping children with cancer experience the joy and healing power of camp through the **“Compete for Kids!” fundraising campaign**, a partnership between the **Pennsylvania Campground Owners Association (PCOA)** and the **Care Camps Foundation**.

Held annually during **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September**, the campaign brings together campground owners and camping guests in a friendly competition to raise funds that send children with cancer and their families to specialized pediatric oncology camps.

Participating campgrounds host creative fundraising activities such as special events, raffles, and guest challenges while competing for bragging rights as the top fundraiser in Pennsylvania.

“Pennsylvania’s camping community is proud to support the Care Camps Foundation and its life-changing mission,” said **Jason Vaughan, executive director of the Pennsylvania Campground Owners Association**. “By partnering together, we’re helping raise vital funds to send children with cancer to specialized camps where they can find joy, healing and hope. It’s more than just camping — it’s creating unforgettable moments for kids who need them most.”

“The Compete for Kids campaign is a powerful example of the camping industry coming together to make a difference,” said **Jenna Berneck, development director of the Care Camps Foundation**. “Campgrounds across Pennsylvania are joining forces to raise critical funds that send kids with cancer to these magical camps — where they can experience joy, hope, healing and friendship in the great outdoors.”

During the **PCOA Annual Convention on December 10**, Berneck recognized the top Pennsylvania campgrounds participating in the Compete for Kids program.

### **2025 Top Fundraisers**

- **1st Place:** Driftstone Campground
- **2nd Place:** Mountain Vista Campground
- **3rd Place:** Starlite Camping Resort

Funds raised through the program help provide safe, medically supervised environments where children battling or recovering from cancer can simply be kids again—making friends, enjoying outdoor activities, and building confidence and hope.

In 2025 alone, **Care Camps Foundation awarded approximately \$2 million to more than 120 pediatric oncology camps across the United States and Canada, serving over 41,000 children with cancer and their families.**

PCOA and Care Camps Foundation will continue the **Compete for Kids campaign in September 2026**, inviting campgrounds across Pennsylvania to once again compete while raising funds to send children with cancer to camp.

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### **About Care Camps Foundation**

Care Camps Foundation is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to funding pediatric oncology camps across the United States and Canada. Its mission is to give joy, hope and the healing power of the outdoors to children with cancer and their families.

## **About the Pennsylvania Campground Owners Association**

The Pennsylvania Campground Owners Association (PCOA), established in 1963, represents privately owned campgrounds and RV parks across the Commonwealth. Through **PaCamping.com**, consumer publications and industry programs, PCOA promotes camping as an affordable family vacation while supporting Pennsylvania's outdoor recreation and tourism economy.

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