



OUR PROGRAM

Located on beautiful Stave Lake, Mission, Zajac Ranch for Children, is one of a few camps in BC that welcomes all individuals between the ages of 7 to 40 living with serious illnesses and disabilities.

Our programs are customized by a highly trained and supportive staff and all camp activities are uniquely adapted to ensure that **every camper can participate**. We welcome campers with physical and cognitive limitations including medical diagnoses such as Down Syndrome, Muscular Dystrophy, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, and more. We offer a variety of **Summer Camps** and encourage you to contact us to discuss which session would be best suited for your child's needs.

Our brand-new **Respite Weekend Camps**, beginning February 2025, are the first of its kind in British Columbia and is based off of similar programs that are offered by camps in other provinces.

During the COVID-19 pandemic we launched our Family Camps as a way to safely continue offering our programs amidst the government public health restrictions. These programs became a massive success as they allowed the families of our campers to also experience the joys of summer camp! During the Family Day weekend in February 2025, we are excited to bring this program back with our new **Family Day Weekend Camp**.



HOW WE DO IT

It is our goal to ensure all children with medical conditions, regardless of financial constraints, have the opportunity to attend Zajac Ranch for Children.

Our ten-week summer program costs more than \$800,000 and we continue to grow and succeed because of people like you. Throughout our community we have established partnerships with individuals, community groups, corporations and organizations who each year generously donate time, money and services to ensure we can continue to provide the Zajac Camper Allowance to all our campers.

Outside of summer camps, we also rent the Ranch facility to private groups and the revenues from these bookings go towards the Zajac Campership Allowance Program we offer to all our families.

"This year was the first year our boys really took note of the diversity of camp Zajac. They were astonished that kids in wheelchairs were able to try out the high ropes. It has taught them to focus on their abilities, building their confidence, and to understand that there are several different ways of completing a task and each individual can use the way that works best for them."
– Mother of Mixed Medical camper's

CONTACT US

To receive more information about any of our camps or to support our fundraising initiatives please contact:

☎ 604-739-0444

☎ info@zajacranch.com



20 years of providing transformative and inclusive camp experiences for children and young adults living with serious illnesses & disabilities.

REGISTER NOW AT
WWW.ZAJACRANCH.COM/SCHEDULE



A place where every facility and activity is designed to be fully inclusive for children with medical conditions and disabilities.

MEET JORDAN



The fact that Jordan is non-verbal hasn't stopped him from expressing in his own way how life-changing it was for him to attend Zajac Ranch. Jordan lives with a neurological disorder called lissencephaly, as well as cerebral palsy and epilepsy. Because of these diagnoses, he requires 1:1 support and is often denied the participation in certain activities children his age normally have access to – except when he is at Zajac Ranch.

Georgia, Jordan's caregiver who attended Zajac Ranch with him, was in awe of the welcoming, inclusive and empowering community they both encountered at camp. The impact Zajac Ranch made on Jordan left Georgia advocating for him to attend a second week, which he did. Both times, Jordan was welcomed with open arms! Every activity was adapted so he could participate and there seemed to be no limits to what he could do – a welcome change to the barriers and limitations he encounters at home day in and day out. Jordan experienced everything to the fullest and enjoyed himself with no reservations. During Jordan's time at camp, he was able to dance with his peers under the lights of the disco ball, go on the sky net, and swim every day of camp!

When Jordan got back home, he was, in his parent's words, "bursting with new communication noises and gestures." This has given his parents hope in the fact that Jordan "can actually have fun while being safe and well cared for with his peers." Both weeks that Jordan was at camp allowed his family to also get some respite while resting assured that he was receiving excellent care.

Georgia addresses prospective parents by assuring them that "the staff and the nurses there are absolutely wonderful, they do everything in their power to make sure your child has a wonderful time – adapting as they go so every activity can be tried by everyone who would like to give it a go. Your child will honestly have a great time, I don't doubt it one bit." Jordan's parents are certain that partaking in everything Zajac Ranch has to offer has been a highlight of Jordan's life. They can't wait for him to go back in upcoming years and keep experiencing the joy of participating.

OUT HERE WE RAISE SPIRITS

Zajac Ranch provides camp experiences that empower children of all abilities to participate, foster lifelong skills gain independence and create long-lasting friendships. When children and young adults come to Zajac Ranch we encourage campers to embrace the possibilities and experience the thrill of participating.

Parents have indicated that their child benefits from being around other campers with similar medical conditions. At Zajac Ranch we believe that it is very important for our campers to develop friendships, feel included, and fully participate in the many activities we offer at camp.

Some favourite activities that allow campers to improve their skills are:

- Swimming
- Camp Fires
- Arts and Crafts
- Horse Back Riding
- Wall Climbing
- High/Low Ropes
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Archery



THE OK CORRAL MEDICAL CENTRE

The OK Corral provides campers and parents with peace of mind. Our medical centre, led by our Nursing Director, is open 24 hours a day. Our team of volunteer nurses care for our campers' medical needs allowing all participants, including those with complex diagnoses to participate in all activities and have fun.

"All year long, I look forward to those weeks I get to spend volunteering at Zajac Ranch," says Rachel, a nursing volunteer. "As I hand out medications and treat injuries, I love hearing the campers' stories: of riding horses for the first time, making new friends, reaching new heights on the high ropes course, and more. The supportive environment at Zajac enables campers to have amazing new experiences and I am privileged to be a part of it."

OUR STAFF

Our caring camp counsellors undertake extensive training prior to the start of our camp season, so that they are fully aware of our camper's sensitivities, behavioural tendencies and chronic illnesses. We work with many partner organizations to ensure our counsellors receive training that is current and relevant to their role in providing exceptional care to all of our campers.

At each camp session, our counsellor to camper ratio is a maximum of 1:3. We are very excited about the team, complete with returning staff and brand new faces! Our counsellors have the attitude, skill set and the enthusiasm to be something bigger than ourselves. Our staff and volunteers understand the importance of what we do at the Zajac Ranch and they want to make a positive difference in the lives of our campers.

