

► Who is this camper population?

- These campers have some form of cerebral palsy, which is a medical condition that affects their ability to move and/or speak (cerebral = brain, palsy = movement).
- These campers wear their diagnosis on the “outside”, meaning that they walk differently than their peers, talk differently than their peers, and may have a harder time remembering or processing than their peers.
- These campers might face physical limitations due to their cerebral palsy, which means they might need walkers, crutches or braces to help them walk, or maybe they just use a wheelchair for mobility.
- These campers might also have difficulty with speaking. Their speech might be slurred or slower, or they may speak in incomplete sentences because their brain has a hard time getting the right words out.
- These campers may also have a seizure diagnosis. Their seizures may be controlled by medications, or they might still have seizures.

► How do I support my camper?

- Embrace what your camper CAN do!!! It might not look the same as you and I would do it, but if they can be independent, we want to encourage that.
- You might need to help them with “ADL care” (activities of daily living). This might mean helping them get dressed in the morning, helping them put on braces, socks and shoes, or maybe helping them transfer from a bed to a wheelchair, or from a wheelchair to a toilet.



► How do I support my camper? (continued)

- Listen and help with communication. If you're not understanding your camper, stay patient! Ask them to repeat it, or use "yes" and "no" questions to clarify what they are trying to explain.
- If your camper has seizures, try to be within an arm's length of them at all times (especially at the waterpark). If they have a seizure, put them in a safe place, start a timer, and notify Medical. Medical will be on hand ASAP!
- If your camper has an emergency medication, it will be labelled with their name, unit color and cabin. Please keep this medication with them at all times!
- Watch for pressure injuries. Since our camper population uses devices like braces or wheelchairs, sometimes these devices can rub and cause bruising or injuries. If you notice a camper developing a blister under their braces, let the nurse know. We can help pad braces and prevent further injury.

► What are these campers like?

- They are cool kids who go to school like everyone else and are looking to make a friend.
- Some of these campers might have faced bullying in school because they are different from their peers.
- They have hopes, dreams, and goals like the rest of us!
- Some of them are in beauty pageants, play Fortnite, participate in church, or are planning on attending college.

