



THE BartonCenter

FOR DIABETES EDUCATION, INC.

Inspiring Children. Empowering Families.™



the barton *Spirit!* newsletter

FALL 2022

NEW MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

One exciting change at camp in 2022 is new and improved technology. This summer we introduced our new Electronic Medical Record system from CampViews. This medical record system allows health care staff and our On-Site Medical Providers to review blood glucose levels, insulin dosages, and additional information at the same time without having to share paper charts. Information can be input from anywhere with a wi-fi connection or cell phone data from the app or website. This summer health care team members carried iPads instead of paper charts



around during meals, snacks, and some activities to chart live in the system. The amount of paper was decreased significantly, as camp did not need paper blood glucose log sheets for all the campers. Families received an emailed PDF copy of the blood glucose levels.

Even staff members who are not technologically savvy were able to use the application with ease. Staff members and volunteers received a brief orientation on the system, were able to experiment with test campers, and everyone found the system user friendly and simple to use.

Throughout the 2021-2022 fall, winter, spring programs, volunteers were able to test out the electronic record but did not put it into full operation until the 2022 summer season. Before the start of the summer season, CampViews was able to make changes to their system, including color coding based on blood glucose level. Red boxes depicted low blood glucose levels, yellow boxes showed blood glucose levels above target, and green meant blood glucose levels were in range.

Each of our medical directors spent a week at camp and had an opportunity to use the electronic medical record for the first time to review blood glucose levels and make the necessary adjustments. According to one of our medical directors, “The EMR was an efficient and helpful way to ensure all members of the healthcare team had information on hand, at all times, regarding the campers’ insulin regimen, blood sugars, and any diabetic concerns.” One of our other medical directors was able to review blood glucose levels from the office to assist the on-site medical providers at the time.

Another medical director said, “The EMR definitely added benefits for the clinical care and safety of campers. For me, the best part about it was being able to access data from anywhere on camp instead of only in the paper chart and being able to clearly see data and treatments in a logbook format and write notes for the team. A major advance for camp!” And one director admitted, “I was an EMR skeptic before the summer. But, I found it simple to use and really appreciated the portability and accessibility of data, and that the data were clearly legible (no more deciphering individual handwriting!).”

The Barton Center continues to work toward connecting our registration and electronic medical record system to help with our check-in process — stay tuned.

LIONS LIGHT THE WAY

Several years ago, we gave away pins at the Lions conferences and visits that said “Lions Light the Way” to reflect all their help over the years. This past year, they came through again when Past District Governor Dawn Rice-Norton shared her idea of a teaching kitchen and rallied the five Massachusetts Lions Districts to make it happen. That they did! Several months later, Lions Clubs International Foundation awarded a grant for the new state-of-the-art kitchen at Clara Barton Camp. The improvements include new flooring, steamers, mixer, portable cooling salad bars, convection ovens, griddle, warmers, ovens, dishwasher, portable teaching carts, and many utensils and small appliances were included, as well as a new range hood and fire suppression system.



Dawn said, “Our Lions Clubs International Foundation has a catchphrase ‘Magnify the Good . . .’ LCIF grants allow Lions to do just that—the funds empower our ability to serve and to support our communities. I understand firsthand diabetes is a diagnosis the entire family must adjust to. The programs the Barton Center provides are just amazing, and I know this kitchen will become an amazing resource for the children and families looking for much needed services; and now for type 2 as well. The Lions of MD 33 are looking forward to the results of our collaborative effort!”

With the help of a great team that included Lions, staff, Chartwells, and other vendors, the kitchen was up and running for most of the summer. The kitchen will be a wonderful resource for those wanting to rent it and host cooking demonstrations focusing on general nutrition and healthy eating for both those living with type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Thank you, Lions!

PHOENIX GOLF KICKS OFF BARTON CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The weather was perfect for golf at the Phoenix Invitational Golf Tournament hosted by Mark Langevin, President and CEO of Phoenix Communications. The day had a special surprise planned when it was announced that the proceeds from this tournament would kick off the capital campaign for The Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc. to upgrade and replace the old cabins at Camp Joslin. Details of the



Golf Foursome (Left to Right): Dennis Guberski, Mark Fuller, Kevin Donahue, Chris Provo

campaign were announced to the crowd of this tournament by Mark Fuller, Treasurer at The Barton Center. Mark said, “The tournament was sold out, and I had the opportunity to speak to the group after golf. I reported to the crowd that a net result of \$40,000 was on its way to Barton, and it was a great way to begin the campaign.” The campaign includes the septic system which is currently being installed, removal of old cabins and plans for replacement with new cabins that will include bathrooms, heating, and fire suppression systems. If you are interested in learning more about this project or would like to make a donation specifically to this project, please contact Executive Director, Lynn Butler-Dinunno by emailing lynn.butler@bartoncenter.org.

CLARA BARTON CAMP & CAMP JOSLIN SUMMER FUN

This summer started with excitement and anticipation in the air. Campers, both returning and new, arrived at camp ready for fun in the sun and to reconnect with old friends. Upon the first night at camp, everyone joined around the large firepit for our opening campfire. Campers were introduced to the staff and had a chance to learn some new and old camp songs and get into the camp spirit for the week!

Every Monday gave new campers their first full day of camp and started off our week filled with special camp activities. Mondays are home to an old camp favorite game, Cities. Throughout the beginning of the day, campers were introduced to the rules of camp, some new songs, games, and heard rumblings about the game of Cities coming that evening. During Cities, cabin groups teamed up to try to find all the locations in order, all while strategically avoiding the “wolves” running around to halt their progress. In the end, one cabin would traverse the cities and avoid the wolves long enough to become victorious.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays this summer brought back two camp favorites. Tuesday night is dance night! All of camp got excited for our weekly dances, and each one offered a unique experience. Some weeks were done with a theme for the whole camp, including Disney dance and an ‘80s theme! Additionally, some weeks each cabin did a theme as well, with some being cowboys/cowgirls or even pirates. Everyone had a blast moving to the music and getting to show off their dance outfits for all of camp to see. On Wednesdays we had a cookout dinner! The menu included camp favorites of burgers, hot dogs, and s’mores for snack. During the cookout, campers got to hang out with their cabin and sit by a fire, share stories, and play some games like catch or cards. After eating dinner by the fire, the cabins would discuss life with diabetes and help each other learn new strategies or how to talk with friends about diabetes. Then, before heading to sleep for the night, campers ate s’mores they made over the fire for bedtime snack.



This year, since all of camp was based at Clara Barton Camp, Thursdays were our designated Camp Joslin days. After breakfast, all of camp would board a bus and head

over to Camp Joslin until just before dinner. Past Joslin campers were excited to get back to their second home, and CBC and new campers were excited to see what the other location had in store. At Camp Joslin, campers spent time using the climbing wall, boating on Putnam Pond, and playing a mix of wiffle ball on our wiffle ball fields, gaga, and kickball. Campers were also excited to use our new mini golf course and test their golf skills. The new golf course was made possible by funds raised by friends and family in honor of former camper Joe Kenney. Camp Joslin day also included a different lunch, as campers were given a picnic feel with sandwiches, salads, and the ability to eat lunch around the fields and at picnic tables, or within the dining hall if they wanted as well. After rotating through the various activities, it was time to head back to CBC for dinner and our evening activities.

Fridays were a regular camp day, filled with activities and, this year, plenty of sun! Days like Friday and the morning and early afternoons of the rest of the week were when campers got to participate in the activities that they chose on opening day, such as arts and crafts, nature walking, gaga, soccer, basketball, and so much more. Also, campers had an opportunity to enjoy activities with mixed age and gender groups, as well as activities with their cabin

specific groups. Every day, campers had the opportunity to swim in the pool and take part in specialized activities such as the high and low ropes courses, and alternating days of horseback and CrossFit!

We were able to successfully run five weeks of camp this summer. Unfortunately, COVID-19 once again impacted camp. On July 15th, we had to make extremely difficult phone calls to families to let them know that a difficult decision was made to close camp for the remainder of the summer. COVID hit camp at an alarming rate prior to closure with cases continuing to increase each day. We were struggling to keep our required camper to staff ratio. Additionally, campers at camp were nervous, staff were concerned, and we felt it best to stop the spread by closing camp for the safety of all. Safety is always at the forefront of every decision we make. This is the absolute last thing we wanted. We look forward to a full summer program next year!



Barton Day Camps

Our day camp programs were back in full operation this summer. Eager campers and staff returned to each of our three locations. We started off the summer in Greenwich, CT, at our Rainbow Club location with its lush lawn, playground, and huge stage. Worcester Day Camp brought us back to Clara Barton Camp, a stellar location for days filled with camp spirit and diabetes education alike. We concluded our day camp programs at our Long Island Day Camp in Old Westbury, NY, with its stunning schoolyard. The campers were elated to return to one of their favorite parts of past summers, while our staff members enjoyed being the positive role models that their counselors were to them as campers.

Many of the popular actives and less actives from past programs made their comeback this summer, much to the delight of the campers. Rocks, or capture-the-flag with multiple flags, was immensely popular with requests for it being reported to the program director daily. Doctor dodgeball and gaga, other tried-and-true camp classics made their return to the schedule, and the campers could not seem to get enough of these activities. When it came time to have a relaxing break, our less actives generally captivated the children's attention. They really enjoyed the arts and crafts less active, which included coloring, painting, and bracelet-making. Another familiar less active was card and board games, where the campers played classics such as Uno, Go-Fish, and Monopoly.



While all our day camp programs have similar programs and actives, such as Color Wars and gaga, there are some variations specific to their location. At Long Island and Rainbow Club, the staff treated the campers to a tried-and-true summertime classic: a slip and slide. At Rainbow Club, the campers had a

blast with the shaving cream fight as well as experimenting with STEM and making Oobleck! The pools at Long Island and Worcester Day Camp were consistently a big hit, with nearly every single camper choosing to cool down in the pool every day! At Rainbow Club, campers loved utilizing the playground area and the stage for skits.

Overall, day camp this year was a blast all around, and campers from each program had a unique and fun time connecting with new and old friends! As one staff member said, "Every day just gets better and better. We do things at camp you cannot do anywhere else. From diabetes chats to shaving cream fights, we are making lasting memories. By the time the week is over, no one wants it to end."



Vermont Overnight Camp

Picture this: a gorgeous camp located in northern Vermont where a group of children with type 1 diabetes spent a week fraternizing over fun activities! This scene describes our weeklong Vermont Camp program, which took place in the scenic South Hero area. While it had been several years since our Vermont program had been run due to COVID-19, our staff picked up on the traditions specific to this camp without missing a stride. The campers were overjoyed to return and, much to the pleasure of the program staff, some even stated that it was like they had never left!

Our time in Vermont was filled with actives and less actives for the campers to engage in. Gaga was immensely popular, as expected, and capture the flag was also requested to be played as much as possible. Ultimate frisbee and dodgeball both made several appearances throughout the week. General swim in the heated, saltwater pool was a daily occurrence. With a newly renovated arts and craft building, the campers spent several less actives painting,



making bracelets, and even customizing tee shirts. There was a barn filled with board games as well as ping pong, air hockey, foosball, and pool tables for the campers to play while staying out of the scorching sun during periods of intense heat.

Color Wars was an enormous success with the campers and staff being evenly split between the green and red teams while competing for the honor of being the Color Champions of Vermont for the summer. We had a talent show in the performance barn, where we saw talents on display from several campers and groups. There

was even a surprise guest appearance from Low Budget Short Film, a band comprised of staff members who tour and specialize in air instruments, who played camp favorites like "All Star" by Smash Mouth and "Wonderwall" by Oasis. There was the return of Tuesday dance night, which was held under the pavilion for all the campers to boogie to both old and new songs. On the last night of camp, everyone gathered around the outdoor firepit for our closing campfire ceremony. Overall, it was a wonderful week in Vermont, and we look forward to seeing campers again next summer.



ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE!
www.bartoncenter.org

PLEASE NOTE: Per our COVID-19 protocols, all campers and staff will be required to be **FULLY vaccinated prior to the start of camp.**

WINTER CAMP

December 26-30, 2022

Coed, Ages 6-16

Winter is no time to be hanging out inside. Not when there are so many unique and cool things to experience at this five-day program. We'll create works of art building snow sculptures and learn how to survive in the cold like arctic explorers. Need to warm up? We will head inside to try some tabletop ice hockey, indoor sock skating, and ice magic. Get a chance to try snowshoeing or cross-country skiing. No snow? No worries, we'll make some of our own!

Under the guidance of our health care team and professionals, breakout education sessions and discussions in a stress-free environment will be included but separated into two age groups:

Ages 6-12: Judgement-free zone where campers can talk about their own challenges with diabetes.

Ages 13-16: Teen talks will include topics such as college, drugs, sex, and alcohol for those with diabetes. Judgement-free zone where campers can talk about these difficult subjects as well as their own challenges with diabetes.

BARTON GOLD RUSH CAMP

January 20-22, 2023

Coed, Ages 6-16

You won't want to miss this Wild West program! Whether teaming up with staff for some Yee Haw shenanigans, panning for gold, a wheelbarrow race, or enjoying some old-fashioned western barbecue, we have wrangled up lots of fun along with some diabetes tips. We reckon y'all will have a hoot of a time!

WIZARDING WORLD OF CAMP

February 17-20, 2023

Coed, Ages 6-16

Get ready for a magical weekend at camp. You will be sorted into houses upon arrival as you spend your time at camp competing for the House Cup. Try your hand at potions, divinations, and more. Have a rousing game of Quidditch and even create some magic with your own wand designed at camp. This event will be full of house spirit, magical creatures, and more.

SPRINGTIME FAMILY/CAREGIVER CAMP

March 10-12, 2023

Coed, All Ages

Calling all families and caregivers! We know diabetes impacts the entire family. Attend as an entire family or send your child with aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbors, or others who are helping to care for your child in your home or theirs. This weekend will include education geared towards the beginner but also sessions for those more experienced in diabetes management. Hear from other families, staff who have diabetes, and trained professionals who will answer your questions. Optional games and fun for all ages from sports to cookie bake-offs.

COLOR WARS WEEKEND

April 14-16, 2023

Coed, Ages 6-16

Join us for a weekend of fun team competition—a camper favorite during the summer. Each camper will be given their team color before arriving so they can pack appropriate colored attire. Teams will meet Friday night to harness their team spirit and start creating their team cheers and strategy. Color Wars will continue throughout the weekend with many fun activities with a few shades of education splattered in. As the teams conclude activities on Sunday, each team will be presented with a special treat that will capture their overall team performance.

4th Annual Walk for Barton Walk, Fall Festival & Craft Fair

We held our 4th Annual Walk on October 22nd this year. We expanded the event this year to include a craft fair, petting zoo, pumpkin patch, and more. As always, people were excited to see Smiley and Woofster of the Worcester Red Sox. The event was a big hit, and we hope to grow the event even more next year!

Many thanks to all our sponsors:

Charlton Oil & Propane Company
 Tim Kenny and Family
 Jim Whiffen and Family

Cornerstone Bank
 Renaud HVAC & Controls
 Worldband

Also, thank you to Table Talk Pies for donating pies for the event, and thank you to Jerry's Famous Soft-Serve!

Highlights from the 2022 Walk, Fall Festival & Craft Fair



UPCOMING EVENT

Annual Auction

April 29, 2023

6 p.m.—10 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE to join us at the Penta Dining Hall at Camp Joslin in Charlton for our annual auction. The evening features silent & live auctions, appetizers, dinner and desserts. For more information, please call 508-987-2056, Ext. 2000 or email events@bartoncenter.org.



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The Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc.

P.O. Box 356, North Oxford, MA 01537

Phone: 508-987-2056 Fax: 508-987-2002

www.bartoncenter.org

Thomas Lowkes, Chair, Board of Trustees
 Lynn A. Butler-Dinunno, Executive Director