

Subject: Mississippi Diabetes Awareness Camp Subcommittee Request for Assistance

Dear Lions Club Leaders:

The Diabetes Awareness committee has been working for a long time to establish a Diabetes Camp for teenagers. Unfortunately, the committee has not been able to secure any CAMPERS. That is the reason for this letter. The Committee needs your help!

Would you please check with your members to see if there are any teenagers with diabetes or pre-diabetes who would be interested in attending a weekend camp at the Camp Wilkes facility in Biloxi, MS.

The camp is scheduled to begin on Friday, May 31st (registration from 4-6 pm) and end on Sunday, June 2, at noon. The camp is for teens, 13-17 years old, with pre-diabetes or Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. The cost of the camp is \$25 per camper.

Camp Wilkes is a beautiful 89-acre facility on the Biloxi Bay shoreline. Ten of the acres are developed and the remaining 79 are heavily-wooded, with two miles of hiking trails and a primitive scout camping site.

The developed areas of the camp include:

- A large dining hall with commercially equipped kitchen
- Seven bunk houses
- Five covered pavilions with picnic tables and lights
- A 45' x 75' fenced in swimming pool
- 200' private fishing pier
- 1750 square foot meeting hall

The camp will provide a fun-filled weekend that encourages social support while learning healthy eating habits. The campers will learn ways to stay active and how to choose healthy, delicious foods.

Once they have registered, the camper will receive a separate letter, outlining what they need to bring, to get maximum benefit from the camp. As you can see, we have access to a beautiful, well-equipped facility, but without campers, it will not serve its intended purpose.

You can help make this a successful camp by getting the word out on what a great facility we have access to and how it can benefit our teenagers with diabetes, as they learn to cope with a very difficult disease.

Thanks for your assistance in fielding a successful diabetes awareness camp in 2019. If you have any questions, please call Harvey Nixon at 228-594-3638 or Gene Trussell at 662-574-7552.