

Off-Season
1301 Springdale Road
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JCC Camps
at Medford

When you're a kid, every summer matters

www.jcccampsatmedford.org



Camp Season
400 Tuckerton Road
Medford, NJ 08055
P: 609.654.5192
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Shalom JCC Camps at Medford Families,

Since its inception in 1942, the JCC Camps at Medford has lived and breathed the Jewish values upon which we are founded and has enriched the lives of tens of thousands of campers and staff. Along the way, we have created multi-generational camp families who proudly call these 120 acres home. To so many, camp is home for the summer.

At the forefront of our mission is ensuring the health and safety of our campers and staff. We know that children grow every summer at camp, but they can only do so in a safe environment.

After diligently reviewing New Jersey's phased approach to reopening and both the American Camp Association and Center for Disease Control's guidelines, some of which are still in draft form, **we have made the incredibly sad and difficult decision to not open the JCC Camps at Medford for Summer 2020.** We do not feel that opening JCC camps at Medford for summer 2020 is the right decision for our camp or our community.

Over the past two months, we have been working tirelessly to construct a physically distanced camp experience. As rumored guidelines and restrictions became a reality, and their impact on many things we take for granted, such as transportation, group gatherings, swimming, and so much more, it became clear that camp in 2020 could not be the place we have known and loved for close to 80 years. More importantly, we could not provide the safe environment your families deserve.

Parents, you trust us to care for your children summer after summer. For this, we are thankful. We do not take this responsibility lightly and we believe that by cancelling camp this summer we are taking care of your children.

Campers, we know this news is very sad. We are sad, too. Keep singing our camp song and keep your best memories of your home away from home close to your heart. You are our family; we love you and we look forward to connecting with you in other ways this summer.

Camp has an incredible positive impact on our campers' and staffs' mental, social, and emotional health. We recognize how desperately our children need camp this summer. Our countless hours spent on contingency planning, and building contingencies on those contingencies, was to avoid delivering this message. However, the safety and well-being of our beloved campers and staff is invaluable. You are all too important to us, and the risks associated with opening camp would go against the core Jewish value of *pikuach nefesh*, saving a life.

We understand the impact that this decision will make on your summer plans. We are committed to engaging our camp families this summer, through virtual activities and hopefully opportunities for your family to come to our Medford campus and experience camp together. We will share information about these offerings as soon as possible.

We know that there will have many questions about obtaining a tuition credit or refund. Please look out for an email from us and check our website in the coming days for further details.



The JCC Camps at Medford is a department of the Katz JCC and recognizes the generosity and support of the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey Annual Campaign and the Raymond & Gertrude Saltzman Foundation

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We are heartbroken that we will not see our campers smiling faces streaming off the buses, running on the fields, swimming in the pools, competing on the gaga courts or flying down the zipline. **The countdown to Summer 2021 starts TODAY, and we cannot wait to gather as a camp family once again, at our summer home - the JCC Camps at Medford.**

We love you, we miss you, and we will see you soon.

B'shalom,

Your Camp Team

Beth Segal, Sara Sideman, Jared Kaufman

Your Camp Executive Committee Team

Evan Zweben, Deborah W. Frey, Ellen Lowenberger



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