



Greetings Camp Celiac Family,

It is with great disappointment that we write to inform you that Camp Celiac has been canceled for summer 2021. We thank everyone who was willing to support us and comply with the additional regulations we outlined in January. Unfortunately, the challenges we are currently facing make it impossible for us to conduct camp.

As you may already know our partner and host, Camp Aldersgate, has recently made the decision not to hold any of their overnight camps this summer. We have always relied on their expertise and in-depth knowledge of ACA (American Camping Association) guidelines to help inform and guide decisions we make for Camp Celiac. After discussions with Camp Aldersgate, we quickly realized that many of the challenges that prompted their closure were similar to our own.

In a year that we would need an abundance of additional volunteers, we have found ourselves with fewer than ever. We very much appreciate those of you who were willing to volunteer this summer and completely understand the various reasons which made it impossible for others to commit this year. In addition to staffing, the current COVID safety guidelines from the CDC and the State of Rhode Island for the facilities and activities presented insurmountable challenges. The daily logistical hurdles required to comply with these regulations were simply too numerous and cumbersome for which to plan around.

We have come to this decision early enough that we have incurred fewer operational costs and therefore are in a position to refund part of the "non-refundable COVID fee." Everyone will be refunded the \$680 registration fee along with \$40 of the COVID fee. This refund process will begin as soon as possible but does take time, we thank you in advance for your patience.

We do recognize that there are other summer camps that will be open this year. As you know, our camp is unique in many ways. Not only do all of our campers have Celiac, but many also have a number of other auto-immune disorders as well as health conditions making it extremely difficult to safely hold a sleep-away camp.

Camp Celiac as an organization is stronger than ever and we look forward to seeing you in 2022. Please continue to stay safe and have a wonderful summer, we will miss you!

Anne-Marie, Laura & Big Mike  
Co-Directors, Camp Celiac