

NEWS RELEASE

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YMCA of Greenville
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PRETTY PLACE STAR GAZERS - A CAMP FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DOWN SYNDROME SEPTEMBER 11 - 13

Greenville, SC -- YMCA Camp Greenville will host a very special Family Camp, September 11-13. For the sixth year, the Pretty Place Star Gazers Camp will be held for families of children with Down syndrome.

Once again, YMCA Camp Greenville is partnering with the Recreation District of Greenville County to provide ten to fifteen families from around the Upstate, a recreational getaway. Many volunteers are also a part of this retreat--allowing parents to participate in a "parent chat" and "parents' night out" while their children are safe with their volunteer "buddy." Past parent chat sessions have included financial planning, a doctor representing the Greenwood (SC) Genetics Center and round table discussions. Underwritten by the Bannon Foundation, families pay a minimal amount to reserve a cabin.

According to Susan Huter, Y Camp Greenville's Program Director, Star Gazer Camp "helps to build friendships among these families. They have a traditional camp experience of outdoor activities, including archery, camp crafts, camp fires in the evening, and a reflective time at Pretty Place on Sunday morning--activities with families they can be relaxed around. Some families come back year after year because it is a unique and rewarding experience for them."

For more information about this retreat or other specialty Family Camps, call Susan Huter at 864.836.3291, ext 106 or email shuter@ymcagreenville.org.

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