

The Buzz

# **Embers of Hope Winter Burn Camp**

The Fire & Burn Foundation's most notable program is a 4-day winter camp for burn survivor children ages 5-17 in the San Bernardino Mountains. This camp is completely free to children who reside in our service area.

### Why is it important?

Embers of Hope winter camp provides a relaxed social setting offering burn-injured children the support and counseling needed to re-establish and enhance their self-esteem. Campers discover that they are not alone—that there are other children out there learning to live with burn injury. Our camp is a unique, positive experience for children where they can be themselves, share common ground with others and make new friends in a nurturing environment. Campers also get to do what kids do best – have fun!

Camp activities include overnight camping, arts and crafts, fun activities, snow-play and more. Campers begin to feel better about themselves and are better able to face their injuries with new coping skills and a renewed sense of self-esteem. Camp is a remarkable healing experience that helps transform burn victims into burn survivors.

### Is it safe?

The safety of each child attending Embers of Hope camp is paramount for the Fire & Burn Foundation. To ensure the safety of the campers; camp staff and counselors are carefully screened prior to being selected and then receive thorough training to prepare them for camp. The screening process includes fingerprinting and a background check, reference checks, and a panel interview with established camp staff. Many camp counselors and volunteers are off-duty firefighters and adult burn survivors, who are uniquely familiar with the challenges these children face. Additionally, busing to camp is provided by the Fire & Burn Foundation, using a reputable and licensed company. Prior to departure for camp, licensed health care professionals thoroughly review the camper's health history to ensure they are adequately prepared to handle each child's needs. Campers are each provided a health screening before boarding the bus to ensure the health and safety of all children attending camp. While at camp, nursing staff, provided by The Edward G. Hirschman Burn Center, at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, remain onsite at all times to ensure the safety and health of campers and staff. Licensed and trained social workers are also onsite at all times to provide mental health support for the children. All outings and activities are carefully selected to ensure they are appropriate and safe for the campers, while providing an educational, supportive, fun atmosphere for all in attendance.

### **Questions?**

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about our winter camp program. Please contact us at the office 909-580-6339, by cell 951-901-8293 or email kapodaca@fireandburn.org.

## Now Accepting Camp Applications!

Please visit our website at www.fireandburn.org and click on the Camper Information link under Burn Survivor Support. A downloadable application is now available. An online version is coming soon! The application deadline is January 1, 2015. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

# Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Working smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a fire. That was the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

The Fire & Burn Foundation, along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, is always working to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home and testing them monthly. This effort was emphasized during Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, 2014.

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire by half. Meanwhile, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. In a fire, seconds count. Roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign included the following smoke alarm messages:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

Local fire departments hosted activities during Fire Prevention Week to promote "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!" Through these educational, family-oriented activities, residents learned more about the importance of working smoke alarms and testing them monthly.

To learn more about smoke alarms and "Working Smoke Alarms Saves Lives", visit NFPA's Web site at www.firepreventionweek.org.

# **Our Website is Now Mobile & Tablet Friendly!**

Visit us today to see our upcoming events, learn more about survivor support programs, and download prevention education materials - www.fireandburn.org.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter to get all the latest news!

# We Want to Stay In Touch

Have you changed addresses? Phone numbers? eMail addresses? If so, please contact the Fire & Burn Foundation today at 909-580-6339 so we can update our records.