

GLHF'S CAMP KLOTTY PINE IMPROVES THE LIVES OF CHILDREN LIKE DANIEL, DON AND DESMOND



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Below is a story about one of our client families who, because of our programs, is able to safely navigate the challenges of living with a bleeding disorder. Please read how gifts to GLHF help improve daily life for children like Daniel, Don, and Desmond and hundreds of other individuals who manage bleeding disorders every day.

Attending GLHF's Camp Klotty Pine was the boys' first camp experience. Their mom Danielle told us that "they loved being outside, just hanging out, and meeting kids like themselves." She also noted multiple welcome changes as a result of camp—for these boys, their two other siblings, and herself! She described her role in the boys' hemophilia care as now being elevated to more like a supervisor. Before, "It was all on me," being accountable for each responsibility that comes with the every-other-day infusions of the boys' clotting factor. "It's taken the pressure off of me."

They now hold each other responsible for getting going in the morning without being asked, setting up supplies, mixing the meds, keeping their infusion calendars, and putting things away again. "I was doing everything for all three, now I only have to provide extra help to Desmond, who is the youngest of the three."

She thinks the boys now feel that there are fewer barriers for them. The oldest, Daniel, told his mom that at camp, "it was nice to be normal, to play and do whatever and not have to worry that you'd have to sit out because someone was worried about you getting hurt. There were no limits (on their participation)." From fire safety, to bow & arrow skills, to self-infusion skills, Danielle says that the boys are consistently displaying more confidence and independence in their daily lives. She shared that her biggest fear has been, "What if I break my hand, (then who will infuse the boys)?" Now that they're perfecting their skills, they're learning to help each other too, and don't have to be 'under mom's thumb' all the time. **"It makes me feel less stressed about them in the world."**

This family's story doesn't end here, these boys, their mom, and their siblings have more to learn, and rely on GLHF programs for the knowledge to manage their hemophilia today and through all stages of adulthood. On behalf of everyone at GLHF, thank you for the role you play in making our work a success for all our clients.

This story is from the 1st year of GLHF's Camp Klotty Pine. It demonstrates the impact that camp has had on the lives of many young people living with a bleeding disorder. Now going into its 3^d year, camp continues to be a tremendous success, with 30 children participating in 2015. For more information about Camp Klotty Pine, visit glhf.org.