



February 9, 2022

**Youth Rally
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To our extended network of Friends & Family,

Earlier this week we made the unanimous decision to host the 2022 Youth Rally in the virtual space. Simply put, healthcare infrastructure is in crisis and we must take the responsible road to optimize the safety of our participants, many of them medically and/or physically fragile.

While concerns with relation to the pandemic are ongoing, we are prepared to host a camp in this space that has become the new normal. What we struggle to prepare for is the uncertainties related to vaccine availability, air travel volatility and related health risks, health care systems (and first responders) on diversion and with chronic staffing shortages, and the overall ability to safely respond to the day-to-day medical/physical needs that our participants – campers and volunteers alike – face in a “normal” year at camp.

While the virtual space is not ideal for those who have had the opportunity to experience Rally in-person, we must remember there are many who have never experienced Rally at all. We are calling on all previous participants to help spread our mission and consider joining us virtually in July – if not for your own benefit than for that of the young person who has never met another someone “like me”.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, I hope you will join us again this July and help be the light that helps others see.

With love and good courage,

Emily Mallar
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Yes. There *IS* a camp for that.
www.YouthRally.org