



# Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission

A Division of the Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Asa Hutchinson

Nathaniel Smith, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health

Terra Patrom, CRC, Executive Director, Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission

May 8, 2020

Greetings.

By now you've likely heard the news that Camp Aldersgate will not be holding its traditional Spina Bifida/Spinal Disorders Camp this summer. Though there will not be an in-person camp this year, we're relieved to let you know that Camp Aldersgate has designed a number of virtual online programs and at-home activities to help keep campers connected and engaged in the Camp Aldersgate experience. All of the materials for these activities will be provided to you at no cost.

Because this virtual camp will take place online and at the campers' own homes, there is no formal application or medical exam campers need to submit. Camp Aldersgate is working to contact the family of each camper that has attended in the past and asking them to submit answers to a short survey and express their interest in taking part in this remote camp experience. There is also no cap on the number of campers who are eligible to take part in these activities.

If your camper would like to take part in this opportunity to connect with friends new and old from across the state, whether they have attended camp in the past or not, please **contact Ian Shuttleworth, Camp Aldersgate's Program coordinator by phone at (501) 658—6413 or by email at [ishuttleworth@campaldersgate.net](mailto:ishuttleworth@campaldersgate.net)**. You can also **contact Ali Miller, Director of Programs, by phone at (479) 871-8901 or by email at [amiller@campaldersgate.net](mailto:amiller@campaldersgate.net)**.

Camp Aldersgate is preparing to send the first activity box at the beginning of the camp season. They'll send a second box scheduled to arrive at the beginning of the week of Camp. Both boxes will be absolutely full of fun items and activities for your camper, including their cabin T-shirt, Tribe pin, art and craft supplies, a schedule of the camp's online activities, and so much more. There are even instructions to turn the box itself into a bird feeder.

If you have not already been contacted by Camp Aldersgate, we encourage you to contact them as soon as you can so that there's no delay in delivering these materials to your camper. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Brad at (501) 683-1120 or send an email to [brad.caviness@arkansas.gov](mailto:brad.caviness@arkansas.gov).

We hope your camper can take full advantage of this opportunity to be socially connected while we all have to maintain a physical distance from each other.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bradley Caviness".

Bradley Caviness  
Camp Coordinator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terra Patrom".

Terra Patrom  
Executive Director

**Spina Bifida/Spinal Disorders Camp is sponsored by the Arkansas Spinal Cord Commission in cooperation with Med Camps of Arkansas and Camp Aldersgate.**