



Angel Flight WEST

FLIGHTS OF HOPE NEWS



Summer Camp Fundraiser

Every child has a place at summer camp.



DONATE TODAY TO HELP US FUND 200 CAMP MISSIONS




GIVE.ANGELFLIGHTWEST.ORG/CAMP2023

Year after year, our team has the privilege of witnessing the transformative power of summer camp season. We see the power these therapeutic programs have for young burn survivors, for children with life-threatening or life-altering illnesses, and for kids with a variety of needs and backgrounds. For many youngsters, camps are a summer sanctuary — a place where they can forget any troubles and make summer memories.

While our partners across the West are gearing up to welcome another season of campers, our mission operations team is busy arranging the flights. And to make it all happen, our volunteer pilots are eagerly signing up for these special missions for children of all ages. **Donate today to make a child's summer dreams come true.**



\$200

funds a one-way flight to camp for a child



\$400

funds a roundtrip flight to camp for a child



\$1,000

funds one-way flights to camp for five children

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

John Plueger
Mark Witcoff
M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
Aviation Tax Consultants
Leslie & Robert Zemeckis
Si Robin Foundation
Stephen Elop
Hans Fuegi
Bill & Pam Ayer
Eric & Becky Chadwick
CloudStore
Richard Conti & Shawn Klein
COPA
Ali & Dave Faddis
Dennis & Phyllis Washington
Foundation
Bob Knebel

Mark Merrill
Marks Family Foundation
Overair
Roundhouse Foundation
UP.Partners
The Wolper Organization
Air Care Alliance
Avion Law
Charis Foundation
Clay Lacy Foundation
Cirrus Aircraft
CUTTER AVIATION
Dassault Falcon Jet
Driven to Care/Discount Tire/
Halle Foundation
ECHO of Northrop Grumman
Flying Lady Winery



THE SMIDT FOUNDATION

MORRIS FOUNDATION



Bette Gardner & Michael Heil
Georgia Griffiths
William H. Hannon Foundation
JetAVIVA
JETHQ
Dale E Klapmeier
Hartzell Propeller & Joe Brown

Trevor Moody & Laura Hernon
NBAA
Pery Consulting Group
Randy Sherman
Textron Aviation
Geoff & Jill Wood



INSIDE

- Spotlight on Summer Camp Page 2
- A Peek at our Annual Report Page 3
- Summer Camp Fundraiser Back page

SUMMER CAMP SEASON AT AFW A FLIGHT TO CAMP KOREY

Each year, Angel Flight West arranges hundreds of donated flights to fly children to specialty summer camps. Pictured above, Kahlial of Portland, Oregon flies with Command Pilot Trevor Moody and Mission Assistant Dmitriy Nikonov to a Teen Leadership Retreat at Camp Korey in Mount Vernon, WA, an empowering, adaptive year-round program for children and their families living with life-altering medical conditions. Kahlial was born with Spondyloepiphyseal Dysplasia — a bone growth condition that affects the collagen and connective tissues in the bones, eyes and other parts of the body and results in short stature (dwarfism). Now 16, Kahlial has been attending Camp Korey since the age of six. “Being at camp is almost a complete escape from the daily hardships that people of short stature face,” he says. “I’m really grateful for my pilots, and I hope to fly to camp again this summer.”

When speaking of their flight together, Command Pilot Trevor Moody says, “Flying Kahlial to Camp Korey stood out as a very special mission amongst the many special missions I’ve had the chance to fly with Angel Flight West. It may have been Kahlial’s determination and confidence that was so evident when I spent time flying with him. It may also have been the love and devotion of his parents that was evident from my first communication with them. Kahlial had been to Camp Korey a few times before, but this trip was different and particularly important to him as he was now stepping up to a leadership camp where he would learn how to help younger kids navigate the challenges they are facing. I was honored to be able to help him achieve this new role.”

With tears in her eyes, Kahlial’s mom Lisa says, “I get sappy just thinking about how much these incredible organizations have meant to our son and our family. I can’t tell you how grateful we are for communities like Little People of America and programs like Camp Korey, and this particular camp experience would not have been possible without Angel Flight West.”



SIBLINGS FLY TO LIONS WILDERNESS DEAF CAMP MAKE A GIFT TO SPONSOR SPECIAL CAMP MISSIONS

A father of two small children, volunteer pilot Ori Zaltzman (pictured above) appreciates that his AFW missions can be tailored to fit his busy life. Last summer he flew young brothers, Jaxon and Jaden, to Lions Wilderness Deaf Camp — a haven where deaf and hard-of-hearing children learn outdoor skills and form invaluable friendships.

“I asked the passengers’ family if they wanted me to bring my puppy,” Ori said. “They were very excited. They have a dog that is deaf, too.”

Jaxon, Jaden, and their two other siblings Jalena and Janika have become pros at AFW air excursions, having collectively flown 49 times to and from their memorable summer camps. Jaxon, the oldest of the bunch, has flown to camp with our volunteer pilots since 2011 for a total of 19 flights. Recently, he started volunteering as a counselor. It’s a way, he says, to give back to the camps for what they’ve provided him over the years.

The flight with Jaxon and Jaden was just as meaningful for Ori. “I had never interacted with the deaf community before. It’s one thing to fly someone who has never been in a cockpit, but doing that with a deaf teenager was a great experience.”

Each summer, deaf children ages seven to 15 travel to two unique Lions Wilderness Deaf Camps in California, one in Grass Valley, the other in San Bernardino. In 2022, AFW volunteer pilots flew 22 missions to help young people get to these summer programs where they connect with peers, have fun, and find a deep sense of belonging. “Deaf camp is essential to our children as it’s their culture,” say parents Heidi and Nathan. “There are not many opportunities for deaf children to attend different summer camps or programs in their native language.”

We’re thrilled to see the siblings take off to another special summer to surpass 50 total camp flights. Scan the QR code to see more of their camp photos.



A PEEK AT OUR 2022 ANNUAL REPORT IMPACT NUMBERS AND OUR 2022 TOP FLYER

This year’s annual report shows Angel Flight West’s growth and impact, and highlights our volunteers, supporters, partners, passengers, and team members who make it all possible. Take a peek at the report below and scan the QR code or visit angelflightwest.org/annual-report/ to see our full year-in-review, including a letter from Executive Director Josh Olson and Board Chair Mark Wolper.



2,538

PEOPLE SERVED



4,600

MISSIONS FLOWN



1,383

EARTH ANGEL TRIPS

THE BOND BETWEEN PILOT AND PASSENGER



As a volunteer pilot with Angel Flight West (AFW) since 2014, Chris has flown 574 missions to help passengers travel to far-off care. In 2022, Chris was our top flyer, completing an incredible 78 flights.

Chris’ aviation journey began more than 10 years ago. “As soon as I earned my pilot certificate in 2012, I was completely seduced,” he says. Intrigued by the idea of charitable aviation, Chris soon signed up to volunteer for AFW. “This organization has given me the opportunity to help people in tangible ways,” he says. “It’s been very rewarding.”

The special relationships formed through his gifts of flight have been long lasting. He’s flown numerous passengers dozens – and some even hundreds – of times. One of those frequent flyers is Eileen from Atwater, Calif. Every Friday, Chris meets Eileen at her local airport to fly her to Merced for her appointments at San Carlos Medical Center. Since 2016, the duo has taken to the skies 230 times. “It’s a privilege to be involved in her life,” Chris says. “And our paths may have never crossed if not for Angel Flight West.”

Pictured above, Tiffany was another of Chris’ repeat passengers. Born with cystic fibrosis, Tiffany was a double-lung transplant recipient who bravely fought for and warmly embraced life. Over the past five years, Chris welcomed Tiffany onto his Diamond Star aircraft 45 times to get her to and from critical care. “Tiffany was relentless in her zest for life,” says Chris. “It was centering to spend time with her, and I truly enjoyed her friendship.”

Tiffany passed away a few months after their last flight together, but we’re humbled by the friendship the two formed in between their takeoffs and landings. “I’ll be telling people about Tiffany for the rest of my life,” he says.

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our passengers, Chris.