

FEBRUARY 27 **2025**



VICTORY JUNCTION 4500 ADAM'S WAY RANDLEMAN, NC 27317



Target aubience

ANYONE INTERESTED CAN ATTEND, BUT THE CONFERENCE IS DESIGNED FOR CHILD LIFE PROFESSIONALS, NURSES, & SOCIAL WORKERS

THE EVENT IS FREE TO ALL INDIVIDUALS AND INCLUDES: 3.75 CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS • LUNCH & SNACKS INTERACTIVE SESSIONS • INTENTIONAL NETWORKING **FUN CAMP EXPERIENCES**

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Register Here



Learning objectives

- Learners will list 3-5 ways Victory Junction adapts camp life for our amazing campers.
- Learners will apply new knowledge of Victory Junction Camp to refer colleagues to volunteer at Camp
- Participants will identify 3-5 diagnosis groups served at Camp to recruit their patient population to camp.
- Learners will identify 3-5 ways to minimize stress and burnout in the workplace

Victory Junction mission statement

The mission of the Victory Junction Gang is to enrich the lives of children with chronic medical conditions or serious illnesses by providing life-changing camping experiences that are exciting, fun and empowering, in a safe and medically sound environment.

TIME	ACTIVITY
9 -9:45 am	Check-in & Mingle
10 -10:45 am	Welcome/Opening with VJ Camper Admissions Team
	KEYNOTE: What Camp Has Taught Me about Life with Chronic Illness & Disability with Dr. Cara Haberman
12:15-1:00 pm	Lunch
1-1:30 pm	Optional Camp Tours
1:30 - 3 pm	Breakout Sessions (Child Life, Medical, & Social Work)
3:15 - 4 pm	Creating a Cycle of Inclusion with Jonathan Lemmon
4 - 5 pm	Camp Store Open & Optional Programming*

*Our VJ Camp Store will be open for shopping and we will have a few VJ Program Areas open if you would like to experience some extra camp fun!

PLEASE SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF EACH EDUCATIONAL SESSION.



continuing education sessions

You will have the opportunity to earn 3.75 continuing education credits through a combination of the following educational sessions.

Keynote - Dr. Cara Haberman [1.5 credits]

What Camp Has Taught Me about Life with Chronic Illness and Disability

Participants will gain insight into what daily life is like for children with disabilities or serious illness, as well as for their parents and their siblings. Participants will be able to identify common issues that affect these children and families such as healthcare bias, fragile child syndrome, and care-giver burnout.

Child Life Breakout - Angela Bryan [1.5 credits]

Being a Camp Champ is for YOU!

This session will focus on the benefits of camp experiences based on what research says about medical based camps for children, adolescents, and families. We will then take a look at what Victory Junction could offer to the families and children that you serve AND how you can help get them here! During this time, we will also form into small groups to discuss what barriers or challenges may keep Child Life teams from sharing the resources of camp with families in a meaningful way.

Medical Breakout – Lauren Hancock [1.5 credits]

Translating Camp Medicine Into the "Real" World

Participants will be exposed to the real world practical skills that can be learned while working at a medical specialty camp, including pediatric ADLs, gastronomy tubes and other medical equipment, and the art of finding creative solutions when faced with problems.

Social Work Breakout - Cindy Ehlers & Hayley Sink [1.5 credits]

Camp Gives Kids (and their families) a World of Good

This session will focus on the benefits of camp for children, adolescents and families from a Health plan perspective. We will explore how the things children and families learn at camp shape their lives and their perceptions of different abilities and how that impacts overall health and wellbeing of children and families. We will discuss ways that Victory junction provides a normalizing experience for both children and families. We will also explore how Victory Junction shapes the workforce and community relationships back at home after camp from our first hand experiences. We will have a couple of case studies to work in small groups to walk through the camper journey before, during and after camp.

DEI Session – Jonathan Lemmon [.75 credits]

Creating a Cycle of Inclusion

The work of DEI is not simply a task, but rather a culture that takes time and diligence to build and support. In this session, Jonathan will outline some successes that Victory Junction has experienced in this area over the past 5 years. Both successes and failures will be discussed as well as ways this work can be applied in any setting.

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PRESENTER BIOS

Dr. Cara Haberman

Dr. Cara Haberman works closely with the Victory Junction medical team as the (offsite) Medical Director. She has been volunteering and working at camp since 2008. She is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Wake Forest School of Medicine, where she works as a pediatric hospitalist. Dr Haberman loves caring for children with disabilities or complex medical conditions both when they are in the hospital and when they are out playing at camp.

Angela Bryan

Angela Bryan, M.Ed., CCLS currently works at Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center as a Trauma & Injury Prevention Coordinator. She worked at Victory Junction for seven years as the REACH Program Director, bringing the "magic of camp" into pediatric settings across NC, SC & VA. She has her Master's in Education & Bachelor's in Child & Family Studies, both from UNC-Charlotte ... Go Niners! She has been a Certified Child Life Specialist since 2006, 12 of those years were spent in a traditional inpatient/outpatient role in Charlotte, NC where she focused on working with pediatric hem/onc patients. Fun fact, she has over 17 years of medical camp experience! Her favorite camp tradition is NASCARnival night at VJ!

Lauren Hancock

Lauren Hancock, MSN, RN, CPNP-AC, CHPPN, is a highly experienced Pediatric Nurse Practitioner with a specialization in Pediatric Oncology and Palliative Care. She currently serves as the APP Manager and Nurse Practitioner for Pediatric Critical Care at INOVA L.J. Murphy Children's Hospital, where she provides family-centered care for critically ill children and collaborates with multidisciplinary teams on hospital-wide initiatives. With a clinical background spanning pediatric neuro-oncology, pediatric hospice, and critical care, Lauren has held roles at renowned institutions like Children's National Medical Center and Hospice of the Chesapeake. She is an advocate for advanced practice providers and plays an active role in education and clinical research. Lauren has contributed to publications and presentations on pediatric palliative care and neuro-oncology, including work with the Pediatric Brain Tumor Consortium. A passionate educator, she has taught at Emory University and the University of Pennsylvania, fostering the next generation of nurse practitioners.



PRESENTER BIOS

Cindy Ehlers

Cindy Ehlers, MS, LCMHC serves as the Chief Operations Officer for Trillium Health Resources a Medicaid Managed Care Organization that covers people with Behavioral Health or Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities. Trillium is a health plan that takes a local approach to providing fully integrated, high quality, and cost-effective services. Ms. Ehlers manages the plan operations for Medicaid programs and underinsured and uninsured individuals. Ms. Ehlers has spent her career focused on improving access to health and affordability through emerging analytics and innovative solutions. She leads several major components of Trillium overseeing the strategy and innovation for Trillium along with the Member Team, Care Management and Population Health Team, Network Team, Enterprise Training as well as her own portfolio of member and provider-focused projects. Trillium Health Resources is a national leader in innovation for behavioral health and IDD and the life-long supports needed by these populations.

Ms. Ehlers has worked in both the public and private sectors and has been a public servant for the past 32 years. She has developed many programs and services in behavioral health and intellectual and developmental disabilities in rural eastern North Carolina overcoming rural barriers and many health disparities in efforts to meet the service needs of the BH-IDD population.

Ms. Ehlers offers a unique perspective in her role as an Executive in the NC system, as she is both a parent and professional. Her career has been driven by her experiences working to improve healthcare for people of all walks of life. She has six children- several who have special needs; she was a therapeutic foster parent and is an adoptive parent. Cindy understands the system from the perspective of the MCO, from inside out, and as a parent of children with special healthcare needs from the outside in. Her lived experience is unique to find in healthcare at this level in an organization. Trillium is the only health plan in the state with a parent who has been a foster parent, adoptive parent and is the parent of children with IDD on the Executive team of the organization.



PRESENTER BIOS

Hayley Sink

Hayley K. Sink, MPA, serves as Director of Health Equity for Trillium Health Resources. Hayley focuses on leading the Health Equity Plan for Trillium to improve health and health disparities through innovation and partnerships rooted in evidence-based practices. Hayley is dedicated to leading transformational change for every community and individual across eastern North Carolina to reach their fullest potential through proven solutions informed by Trillium's Health Equity Council.

Previously, Hayley served as Executive Director of ACCESS of Wilmington, a regional nonprofit, where she was responsible for strategy implementation, management, and evaluation to build community for children, adults, and veterans with disabilities by eliminating barriers to health and wellness through adapted sports, recreation, and fitness. Most recently, she led communication, engagement, and outreach for Crosby Scholars Community Partnership focused on awareness, equity and access related to public education.

Jonathan Lemmon

The Chief Operating Officer (COO) began his career at Victory Junction in 2009. Jonathan graduated with his Bachelor's degree in Recreation Management & Psychology from Murray State University in December of 2008 and went on to obtain a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in 2014. His passion for camp and serving children with special needs has been the catalyst for his seasoned career here at Victory Junction. He began at Victory Junction as a program manager for the on-site team and slowly transitioned into developing the hospital outreach program (REACH). He continued as the Outreach Director for over six years, leading the team serving children in the hospitals of North & South Carolina. Jonathan now holds the position of Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Victory Junction where he provides leadership to all of the operations team, ensuring VJ's deliverable are anchored to safety and high standards all the while providing the most fun for the campers as possible.

