

# We are Family Extended

Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Nevada (Candlelighters) is the first and oldest non-profit organization in Nevada, serving children (from birth to 21 years old) and families coping with childhood cancer. Two families, each with a child in cancer treatment, founded Candlelighters in 1978, believing that families could find strength, knowledge, and comfort by banding together.

Today, 46 years later, that legacy continues by **providing emotional support**, **quality-of-life programs**, and **financial assistance** to help alleviate the struggles many families experience when their child is diagnosed with cancer. The ultimate outcome of the programs provided is to keep these families' lives intact—physically, financially, and emotionally.

Programming is provided in a variety of ways, including camp, creative arts, scholarships, Halloween Bash, holiday events, counseling, support groups, and much more. Families that participate in these activities are able to connect and form bonds with others experiencing this difficult journey. Candlelighters is committed to meeting the needs of these families and continue to do so while offering our love, care, encouragement, and understanding.



CandleLightersNV.org | 8375 W. Flamingo Rd, Ste 200, Las Vegas, NV 89147 P (702) 737-1919 | F (702)792-2780



#### Scholarships Survivor & Sibling

#### Applications accepted January 11th – February 24th

To be a resource for Candlelighters survivors and their siblings who are seeking opportunities to further their education after high school by offering financial assistance each school year for related costs including, but not limited to, tuition, books, educational supplies, and tools. Each applicant must complete an essay and video interview to be reviewed by the scholarship committee. The awards reception is held in April.

Candlelighters 2025 Partnership Opportunities

#### Camp Firefly

### YMCA Camp Whittle, Big Bear California | June 10th – June 14th

Our annual Camp Firefly is a 5-day, 4-night medically supervised camp for children, aged 9 to 17, who are battling or have battled childhood cancer, their siblings, and bereaved siblings. Camp provides a carefree environment where children participate in incredible adventures, laughter, fun, and create memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

### <u>Overnight Camp Firefly Jr.</u>

#### Las Vegas | August 2025

Our new local overnight medically supervised camp for children, aged 7 & 8, who are battling or have battled childhood cancer, their siblings, and bereaved siblings. A tailored camp experience for our younger kids a sense of community among those who understand exactly what they are going through, especially when others do not and to be transformed through lasting memories, life-long friendships, and the strength to cope with the challenges created by this terrible disease.



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### Teen Scene

### Various locations throughout Las Vegas | Monthly

A monthly program giving diagnosed teens, ages 13-18, an opportunity to meet others and share similar experiences. Teens are invited to participate in the group, where they will go out and participate in different activities allowing them the opportunity to share and express themselves amongst their peers while also having fun.

### Teen Sibs Groups

### Various locations throughout Las Vegas | Quarterly

A dedicated support network for teenagers who share the unique journey of having a sibling affected by childhood cancer. Navigating the challenges, emotions, and responsibilities that come with such an experience can be daunting, but in this safe and understanding environment, teen siblings find strength, support, and a community of peers who truly understand.

#### Day of Remembrance

#### Sunset Park | September 28th

A special opportunity for families who have lost a loved one to childhood cancer to gather together, seek support and connection with other angel families, and celebrate and honor the courageous children who fought cancer so bravely.

### Halloween Bash

### Location TBD | October 23rd

A spooktacular event for families whose diagnosed child or bereaved siblings aged 12 or under are invited to enjoy a fall festival with games, prizes, rides, dinner, and trick-or-treating in a safe environment.

### Superhero 5K

## Mountain's Edge Exploration Peak Park, Sept 27th

This is a fun-filled family event that brings the community together in support of local families battling childhood cancer. The event will host food, a kid's zone with an inflatable obstacle course and games, and superheroes in full costume.

Additionally, other partners also underwrite the cost of employees' registrations and participate as a corporate team!









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#### <u>Thanksgiving Meals</u> November 20th

To help offset the cost of this tradition, families whose diagnosed child is undergoing treatment are invited to participate in the Thanksgiving meal program. The program provides families with a gift card to purchase groceries for their traditional family meal based on the size of their family.

Candlelighters 2025 Partnership Opportunities

#### <u>Holiday Adopt-a-Family</u> December

The Adopt-A-Family Program has been created to help Candlelighters Families, whose focus is on their child's illness, enjoy the holiday season without any additional stress. When a family spends much of their time in the hospital or clinic with their child undergoing treatments, they are overwhelmed by the many copays for doctor visits, hospital stays, and prescriptions, or they lose their child to this disease, the holidays can be tough. Most families do not have the emotional or financial means to go shopping for gifts. Candlelighters matches generous "adopters" in the community to provide Christmas for a family.

### Additional Quality of Life Programs

### Various times throughout the year

Quality of Life Programs are designed to help alleviate the isolation many families feel, we provide familyfocused opportunities for parents, the diagnosed child, and siblings to connect with other families who understand their journey. These programs are offered in a fun community setting, giving the families a sense of normalcy during and after treatment while creating meaningful and lasting memories. Examples of additional quality of life programs are family **bunny hop**, **movie nights**, **creative expressions**, **birthday club corner**, **hospital craft corner**, **no more chemo parties**, **mother's day**, **father's day and teen baskets**.



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#### <u>Financial Assistance</u>

After a child is diagnosed with cancer and treatment begins, parents may face financial hardship due to increased costs of medical expenses and unpaid time off. If a family can demonstrate loss of income because of the child's treatment, they may be eligible for financial assistance.

Candlelighters 2025 Partnership Opportunities

*Housing Assistance:* To assist with rent mortgage and utility expenses to help families maintain a stable and safe living environment, especially within the first year of diagnosis.

*Co-pay Reimbursement:* Using a sliding fee scale, reimbursements are available for doctor visits, hospital visits, diagnostics, and prescription co-pays for the diagnosed child.

*Travel for Treatment:* When a child's course of treatment necessitates travel outside of the Las Vegas area, assistance with expenses such as airfare, gas cards, lodging, and meal reimbursement are available.

*Local Transportation:* Transportation to hospital and doctor visits can be arranged at no cost to families through Desert Cab. Please contact the Candlelighters office at least 24 hours prior to your appointment to make transportation arrangements.

*Bereavement Assistance:* When the unthinkable happens and a child passes away from cancer, assistance for funeral expenses are available.

### Volunteer Opportunities

### Throughout the Year

Volunteers are at the very core of Candlelighters, and their support allows us to offer many wonderful programs for families affected by childhood cancer. Volunteers help in many areas at Candlelighters. From office assistance to events, direct service with our kiddos and Camp Firefly. Most of the volunteer opportunities are for adults 18 years and older, although certain events are designed for younger volunteers and family participation. Certain events require screening, background checks, and trainings depending on volunteer responsibilities.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities or to get on our monthly volunteer newsletter please go to: <u>https://www.candlelightersnv.org/make-a-difference/volunteer/</u>

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORTING FAMILIES BATTLING CHILDHOOD CANCER

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