



Naja Shriners

Making a Difference One Child at a Time



Shriners Children's is a network of 22 non-profit medical facilities across North America (United States, Canada, and Mexico). Children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients' ability to pay. Care for children is usually provided until age 18, although in some cases, it may be extended to age 21.

Please share this information with someone who may benefit.



www.NajaShriners.com

[www.Facebook.com/NajaShrine](https://www.facebook.com/NajaShrine)

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THE KIDS CAMPS of 2023!

So Much fun that you might have missed: fishing, ATV rides, movie night, the kids skit presentation, photography and many crafts and games. The kids all make new friends and reconnected with people they camped with before .

Coming in 2024 - Two Camps for you to sign up for:



The **PATHFINDER Camp** at Hidden lake, Hot Springs, June 15th. This is a one day camp from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sign up deadline is June 1st. Need to be at least 5 years old. Includes meals and snacks.

The **EXPLORER Camp** at Meeting the Needs camp, Keystone, July 19th to 21st. Must be at least 10 years old and have one accompanying parent. Begins on Friday afternoon and includes meals and snacks. Sign up deadline July 6th.



KIDS! Be the first to tell me you found the backwards fish, and I will send you a gift card surprise! E mail me at stephensspecialties@gmail.com.

MEET A SHRINER!



Casey Derflinger

In 1993 some fellow Masons encouraged Casey to become a Shriner. Now 30 years later, he still finds it very rewarding to help kids in need of the Shriners assistance. The fun and fellowship over the years has brought many friends that he

would have not met if he hadn't been part of the Shriner family.


Casey and his wife, Thea, have 3 children who all live in Rapid City and 9 grandkids. One of them is a Shrine Kid! Being a Shriner is in his family. His father was a Shriner and so is his brother, Wade. Moving forward with Naja Shriners, he would like to see membership grow so we can continue to do more for the kids.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Naja Shriners Kids Camp has partnered with the YMCA to provide Naja Shrine Patients the opportunity to receive swimming lessons. The classes are weekly for 6-week sessions. Currently only offered in the Rapid City YMCA. Age requirements for the lessons is dependent on the type of class being offered and is limited to Shrine Patients.



Testimonial by Raven Kaufman Owen and Kiera's Mom

 To try and explain the magic that happens at the Naja Shriners over-night camp is like trying to catch lightning in a bottle; there is just too much to express, and no single place to say it.

This was our second year in attendance, and one would have thought that all the fizzle and the wonder would have dissipated as, how do you possibly feel shock and awe when doing the same thing twice? One must never second guess the spanning reach of the Shriners- they know all the coolest people, places, and things!

I would like to say there was one thing that stood out more than another or that one event was more impactful than another but, that simply is not possible. Everything that is poured into everything is amazing from the accommodations; everything being 100% ADA accessible to the food- a perfect blend of kid favorites to adult savory every meal, snack and in between; everything carefully mapped and charted. The adventures: things kids like ours don't typically get to experience- ATV rides, fishing, horses, mines and more all on private land and with groups of people who are JUST LIKE US! There is no worrying about taking too long to navigate in a food line or worrying about can my kid hold their fishing pole or, can my kid keep the pace with all the other kids, or my kid loves to craft but can't keep focus long enough to finish it in one sitting. No being ashamed to say; "We need a time out just to regroup and rest for a bit." ... all simple and trivial sounding things but in OUR worlds... are pretty boat rocking when at events like this.

The Shriners have a way of pooling all of us together as individual families under one night sky with the simple idea of watching a movie together and then sending us off in the mid-day's light as one, giant, loving and collective family. We walk in separate... and walk, roll, stride and strut out... unified. We come away feeling like... we have some secret gem in our pockets that the rest of the world is somehow getting gipped in not having like us. We all come home feeling... proud to be families with unique challenges and grateful to be Shriner's patients and more so... honored to call one another- family.



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 7th Sip & Sale 9-3 Over 30 vendors present their wares for your shopping day . Have a Mimosa and find a treasure. Event is at the Shrine Center. For more information call Christina at 605-545-6682.

October 29th THE HAUNT WALK & Trunk or Treat!! At the Shrine center from 4-6. Come in costume, gather some treats, and get a small scare! If you would like to be a trunk in the lineup, call Lesa at 605-279-2945.

November 11th The MEAT FEST! The 4th annual Black Hills Meat Fest. This is the event that funds our Kids Camps. This year the event will be at THE BOX (next to the Watiki). Plan on attending and win yourself beef, pork, chicken, turkey, lamb or cheese! Doors open at 5:00 p.m.

November 18th Sip & Sale 9-3 Event is at the Shrine Center A repeat of the October event with even more!

December 2nd KIDS Christmas Party!! The Naja Shriners host an annual Christmas carnival. A cake walk, fish pond, and ring toss are just a few of the great activities the Naja Shrine patients and families get to play. There is also a free lunch and a visit from Santa!

