



Dear Friend:

My child has applied to attend Camp Rising Sun, a summer camp operated by the Autism Programs at the Center for Development & Disability, University of New Mexico. This program offers an exciting opportunity for campers to engage with their peers in a typical camp environment that is structured to encourage and empower each individual, and meet the needs of persons on the Autism Spectrum. Campers participate in swimming, arts & crafts, ropes course activities, group campfires, outdoor games, music, martial arts, and other traditional camp activities. The Summer Camp Program is designed to promote and affirm the potential of each camper, and to give each of them an experience they will never forget, while offering respite to the family.

Camp Rising Sun began its summer camp program in 2006, and moved to its current facility, Manzano Mountain Retreat in 2011. Manzano Mountain Retreat is a beautiful facility outside of Torreon, NM. Camp Rising Sun is New Mexico's only summer residential camp for persons with an autism spectrum disorder and their peers.

This special program provides my child with an opportunity to enjoy a "typical" summer camp experience, which is not often afforded children on the autism spectrum. I am writing to please ask you to consider assisting with the camp fee (\$450.00, which is only a small portion of the actual cost). Any help you could provide for my child to attend this amazing program would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,