

MIAMI CAMP FOR VENTILATOR-ASSISTED CHILDREN IS UNIQUE

Each summer, children who are dependent on ventilators for assistance in breathing, have a door opened to a world that has been inaccessible to them. It happens at a week-long overnight camp, designed to bring ventilator-assisted children and their families together to share activities such as swimming, boating and group games. It is the only camp of its kind in the United States.

Started in 1986, the Camp is a program of the Miami Children's Hospital's Ventilator Assisted Children's Center (VACC), a short term facility committed to the idea of returning technology-dependent children to their homes and families, with the necessary equipment and home health



Daily activities include swimming, exercise, arts and crafts. Special events such as field trips to the Miami Seaquarium, Parrot Jungle are also part of the program.

training of family members or other professionals to sustain their medical needs.

The VACC Camp is co-sponsored by the American Lung

Respiratory Therapists

You care. Enough to keep up with the latest procedures and technologies. You entered your profession because it's more than just a job. It's a way to really make a difference. You're the best. And since MRMC is only as good as our people, that's exactly why we're looking for you. We are currently seeking two experienced, full time Respiratory Therapists to join our rapidly expanding department.

We are currently seeking Therapists to work eight hour shifts with no rotation and every other weekend off. Individuals with experience in critical care and open heart are preferred.

We provide an excellent salary and benefits program which includes a new \$500 bonus for every 1,040 hours worked on the 11p-7a night shift. And, Ocala gives you the best Florida has to offer, rolling green hills, a national forest, lakes and rivers. To find out more, please call or send your resume to: Katherine Miller, Employment Services Supervisor, Munroe Regional Medical Center, 131 S.W. 15th St., Dept. RCP/0889, Ocala, FL 32678, (904) 351-7273.

An Equal Opportunity Employer.



Hugs and smiles abound at the VACC Camp

CAMP...

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transportation costs to and from Miami.

The week is filled with special activities such as field trips to the Miami Seaquarium, the Science Museum, Parrot Jungle, or Miami's new Bayside Mall. Activities at the camps include swimming, exercise, fun in the playground, nature walks, a carnival, a talent show, a barbecue, shows by magicians and clowns, camp fires and storytelling.



Dr. Moises Simpson, Miami Children's Hospital VAC Center Director, examines one of the young patients.

The staff is headed by **Moises Simpson**, VAC Center Director, who is assisted by an associate pediatric pulmonologist, a pediatric nurse practitioner, a clinical social worker, registered nurses and respiratory therapists. Child life, music and rehabilitation therapists, patient educators, nutritionists and other specialists participate in or contribute to the program.

Due to special care taken by this multidisciplinary team, the children's safety is ensured at all times, and the families are able to engage in activities which are usually prohibited. Parents enjoy some time out on the town together while the children are occupied and cared for by the Camp staff. continued on page 18