

Dear Kesem Family,

We wanted to kick off this next year and tell you a little bit about our plans for the next few months. We are planning on hosting a Friends and Family Day on **February 20th, 2021**. This is a community event between us as student leaders, community supporters, and potential Kesem families to meet one another, and inform our community and Kesem families about our Through + Beyond programs and services, with the most important being our plans for camp in summer 2021. We would highly encourage any families who are interested in getting involved with our programs and attending camp to come and join in on the fun. More details will be sent in the coming weeks, and if you or a family you know is interested in attending, please fill out our RSVP form [here](#)!

On **February 16th, 2021** camper applications will open. In order for families to apply, they can go to campkesem.org and click on the link, "Register A Camper." If any family does not have access to online resources, we would love to send them a paper copy of the application - please feel free to send our email to any families who are interested in connecting with our chapter

As a reminder here is a little bit about Camp Kesem:

Camp Kesem provides **FREE** support services and weeklong overnight summer camps for children ages 6-18 impacted by a parent or guardian's cancer. We are a new chapter at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. As we begin our first year as a chapter, we aim to serve at least 30 children this summer. However, our organization serves more than 12,000 children annually.

Not only does Kesem support children during the week of camp, but we provide year-round support to both the children and families impacted by cancer. This is through our "Through and Beyond" program, which includes: welcome packages, Friends and Family Days, birthday cards, care packages, and grief support. Camp is run by volunteer college students - we fundraise, find families to support, plan camp, and run the actual week of camp as well. All volunteer students are vetted and receive extensive training throughout the year. There are also registered nurses, mental health professionals, and a representative from the national organization present during camp. Currently, our scheduled camp date and location is to be determined.

We are still looking to connect with families who could benefit from Kesem's services. If you have any ideas about who may be interested, we would love to hear back from you and set up a meeting to discuss the matter further! We would also highly appreciate it if you could help spread the word about our new chapter to the local community.

For additional resources - you can find more about Camp Kesem on [our website](#), and in the attached [electronic brochure](#).

If you have any further questions, or you would like to learn more, please do not hesitate to reach us at this email anytime. We look forward to hearing back from you and working with you!

Kesem Love,

Palms + Pickles ☺