

Youth Rally 2015 & Beyond

Living Independently
for Tomorrow –
“You Are Not Alone”

“Rally” is the premier opportunity for young people with a range of Bladder and Bowel issues to ...



... learn ... receive ... grow ... adapt ...

have fun ... make friends ... be themselves

Youth Rally Committee (YRC), Inc.

- The sole purpose of the YRC is to provide the “**Youth Rally Experience**” to as many kids as possible.
- We are a non-profit 501c(3) organization
 - Incorporated in 2005
 - All donations are tax deductible
- All donations go directly to the **Youth Rally**
- No child is ever turned away for financial reasons



Rally Goals

- Networking
- Confidence-building
- Fun !

- **Education**
 - Medical Conditions
 - Self-esteem
 - Hygiene
 - Social Issues & Team Building
 - Making wise decisions as a teen
 - Preparing for High School & College



Who can attend?

Young people

Ages 11 – 17 with:

- Ostomy
- Continent procedures
- Bladder augmentation
- Incontinence
- Over 54 types of bowel or bladder dysfunctions



The Youth Rally has been successful thanks to the support from many sources...

Causes
Individual Donors
First-Giving
Social Networking Fund-raising
Hollister
Convatec
WOCN-Regions-Members
Coloplast
UOAA-Affiliates
Parents
Hasbro

The Youth Rally Staff...

- Program Director
- Medical Director
- CIT Directors
- Mentors
- WOC(ET) Nurses
- Special Counselors
- Registrar
- Photographer/
Videographer
- Transportation



- Counselors
 - Similar medical conditions
- Many are former Campers

An Inside Look at Youth Rally 2015

July 13th – 18th

University of Colorado, Boulder



The 2015 Youth Rally Marks Our 37th Year



- 140 Campers
- 17 Nurses
- 44 Counselors
- 10 Counselors-in-Training
- 12 Administrative Staff

Campers came from throughout the United States
Staff came from the United States, Canada & the UK

Several Staff Members
arrived on Thursday the week prior.....

Thursday -- Sunday



Dorm/Infrastructure Set-up

Counselor & Staff Orientation

✓ Preparing for the Campers ✓

Monday – Camper Arrival Day...

- Campers Arrive by Air & Car
- Get Settled into Dorm Rooms
- Yearbook Portrait
- Hand In or Make Door Signs
- Meet Individually with Rally Nurse
- Free Time To Get Acquainted
- Camper Orientation
- Campus Rules



Camper Arrivals...



Opening Night Theme was “Stache Bash Casino Fun”



Rally Tuesday --

Morning: Medical Education Session
Group Discussion Sessions

Afternoon: Free Time on Campus

Evening: Motivational Speaker
Ice Cream Social

Medical Education Session

- Medical Conditions
- Self-image
- Understanding



Group Discussions by Diagnosis...

- **Campers break into small groups**
 - Grouped by diagnosis
- **Counselors facilitate**
 - Join the group with their own diagnosis
 - Can relate to campers
- **Nurses lead groups**
 - Answer questions regarding conditions
 - Keep group in order and running smoothly

Group Discussions by Diagnosis & Management



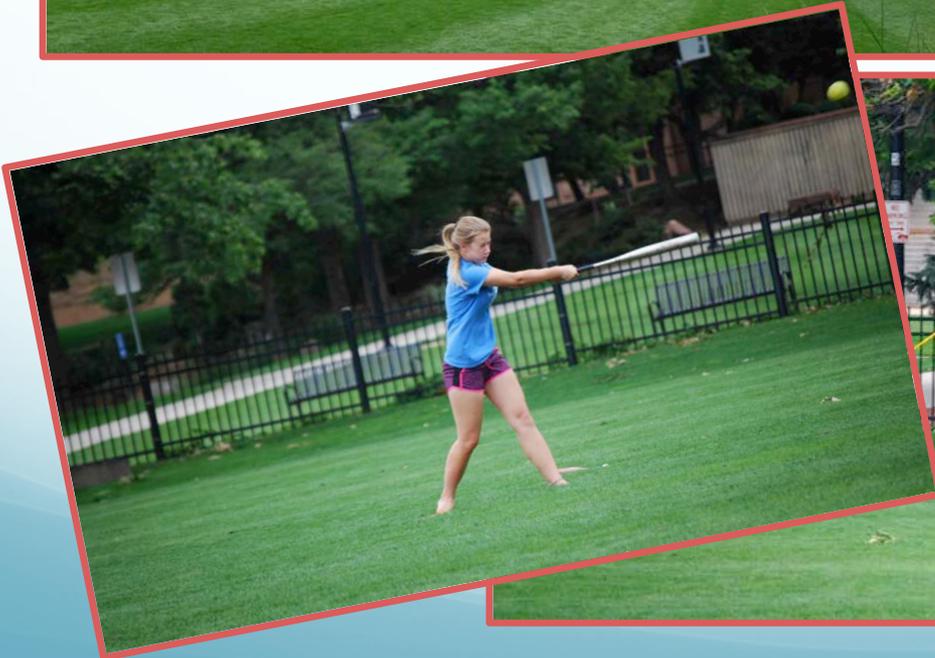
Rally Camper Diagnosis...

Youth Rally serves over 54 Diagnosis of Bowel & Bladder disorders

Here is a partial list:

- Anal Rectal Malformation
- Crohn's Disease
- Cloacal Exstrophy
- Spina Bifida
- Bladder Exstrophy
- Hirschsprung's Disease
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Neurogenic Bowel and/or Bladder
- Chronic Bowel Obstruction
- Alagille & Byler's Syndrome
- Post Urethral Valves
- GI Dysmotility
- Short Bowel Syndrome
- Polyposis Syndrome
- Duplicate Renal System
- Neurofibromatosis

Free Time Activities



Motivational Speaker Jen Bricker



Ice Cream Social !



Rally Wednesday --

Morning:

Fitness Center

Afternoon:

Self-esteem Sessions

Evening:

Laser Light Show

Speaker: Sean Ahrens,

Crohnology.com

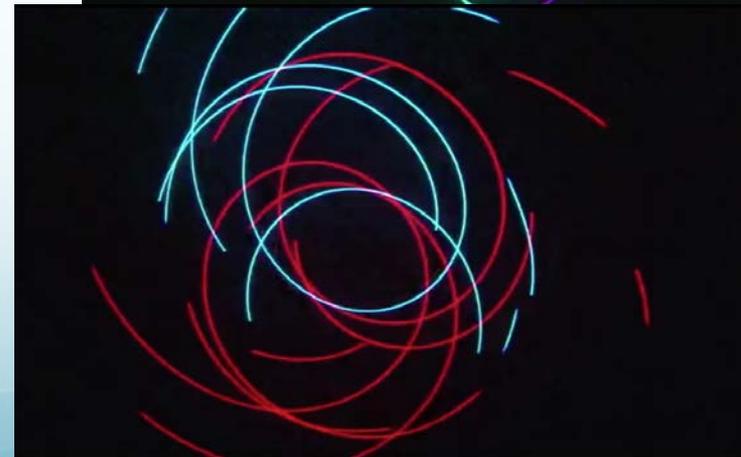
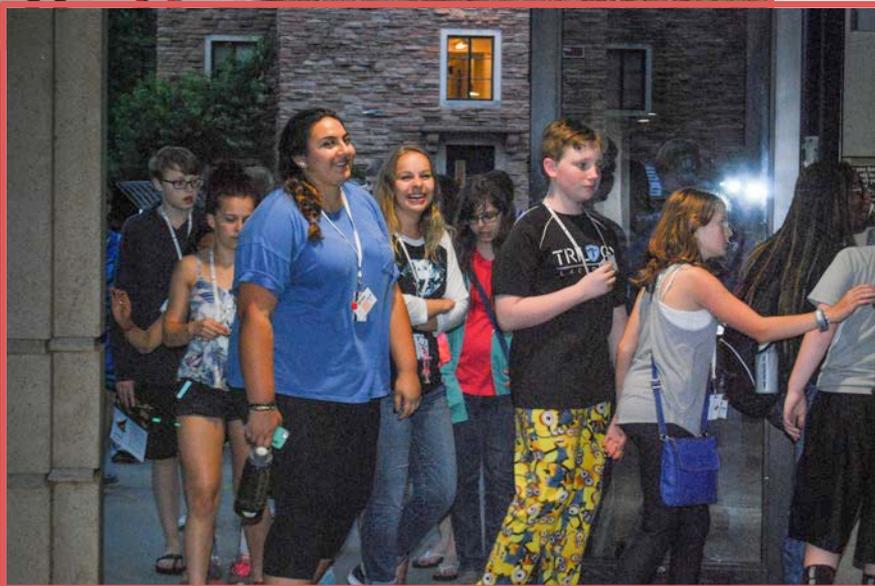
Fitness Morning...



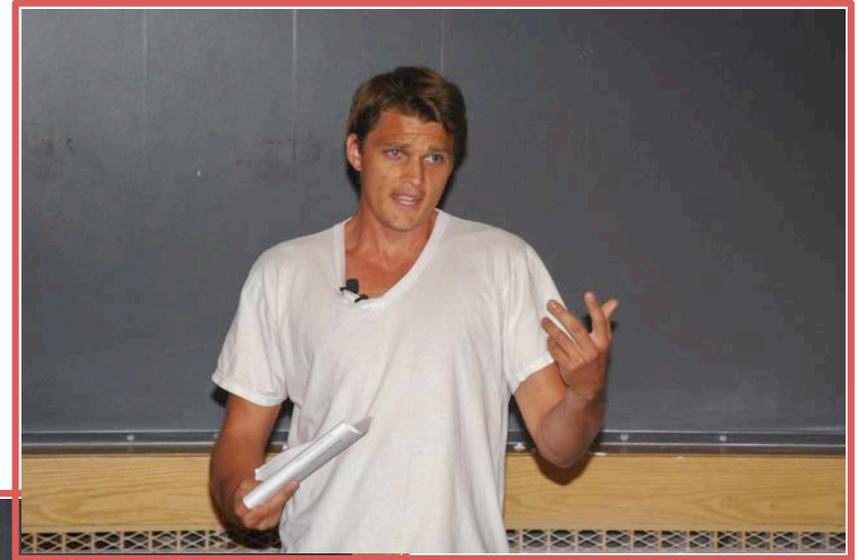
Self-Esteem Sessions



Fiske Laser Light Show!



Sean Ahrens, Crohnology.com



Rally Thursday

Field Trip to Elitch Gardens in Denver



Field Trip Elitch Gardens



Field Trip Elitch Gardens



Rally Friday --

Morning:

“Thank You” Notes and Evaluations
Camper Talent & Fashion Show

Afternoon:

Free Time & Beauty Shop

Evening:

Rally Dance and Graduation

“Thank You” Notes & Evaluations



Rally Has Talent & Style!



Rally Has Talent & Style!



Rally “Beauty Shop”



Rally Dance and Graduation



Rally Dance and Graduation



Saturday -- Departures



Until Next Year!



Feedback comes
in many ways...

**We receive letters, e-mails
and Facebook comments
from Campers and Parents
throughout the year....**

Feedback is Important...

The Youth Rally staff is continually updating our programs and approach so that we can remain responsive to Camper needs

Excerpted Facebook Comment from a new Camper...

“.....I had never flown alone before, or gone somewhere without knowing someone....
I cried a little on the plane ride there.
Once off the plane, I saw a Rally shirt
and was able to breathe a little.
The Counselor was there to lead the way.



As soon as I got on the bus...I saw the white "YOU ARE NOT ALONE" bracelets, I knew I was safe and going to have a good time. That one little thing just about made me cry.

The whole week helped me to become more confident and independent.

Thank you Rally! I can now say I am well. If one is not emotionally healthy, it's more difficult to be physically healthy. I hope to be a CIT this coming year..."

More Camper Comments...

“I had the time of my life at Rally... All the friends I met at Rally really helped me (emotionally)...I would never be so happy with myself until I went to Rally. Thank You to everyone!!”

“Rally is the best thing that ever happened to me with my medical things...It gave me the confidence to do what I want in life ... taught me that I can do more than I thought I could...”

“I just want to thank everyone for the time I had....it changed my life. I came back a whole different person. My mom couldn't believe the new me. I told her that I didn't care what people thought of me anymore. I am who I am, and I can't change that, and I wouldn't change it either. “



Parents' Comments...

“I did want to take a minute to thank you and the rest of the amazing staff at the Youth Rally. Since this was our first year joining the group, we did not know what to expect....I must tell you on behalf of my husband and myself a big “Wow!” goes out to all of you...”

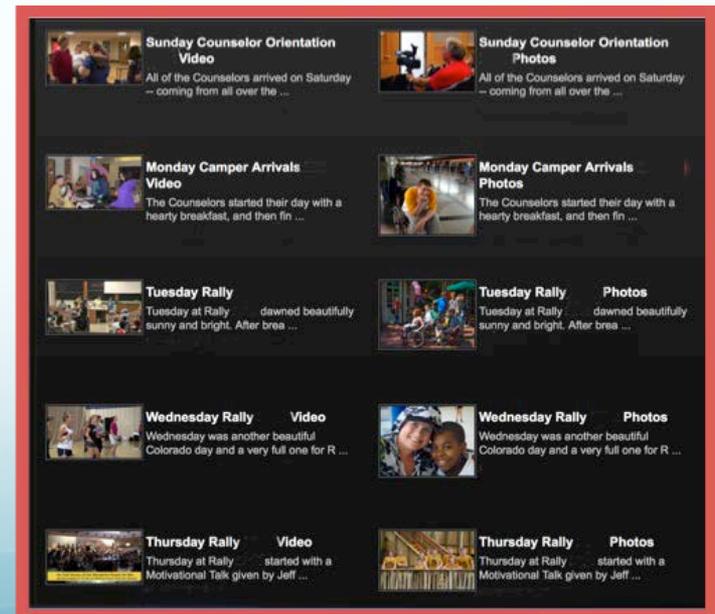
“Our daughter is having such a great time and I just want to thank you for that. I know how much hard work goes into Rally on your end. You really do make a difference -- not just the kids lives, but the parents as well. It's really hard for some of us to let go of our kids and "turn it over".

Feedback about how we stay in touch during Rally...

“It has only been 24 hours but I can see by the video, as well as the feeling in my soul, which says my son is in great hands with all of you. I look forward to tomorrow's video.”



“I forgot to thank you for the wonderful advantage you all supplied the parents with by letting us see what a good time the kids were having everyday...seeing our daughter having so much fun and smiling and laughing...I haven't been able to see that for a long time.”



Youth Rally 2016 will be in Seattle, Washington



University
of
Washington

July 25th - 30th
2016

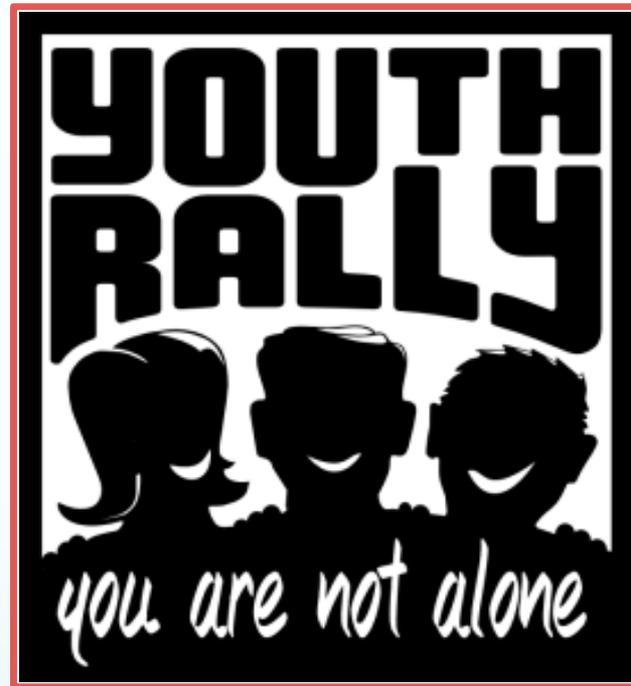
How You Can Help...

- Send your child
- Tell others about Youth Rally
- Sponsor an individual camper
- Direct donation --
 - Mail a check: Youth Rally Committee
949 Chestnut Oak Drive
St. Charles, MO 63303
 - Website PayPal: www.youthrally.org
 - Facebook Cause: http://apps.facebook.com/causes/12255?m=0a5478f4&recruiter_id=4771532



*You can make
a difference
in the life
of a child*

Our Web Address



www.youthrally.org

Thank You!

On behalf of
Campers,
Counselors
& Nurses

Questions?

