



## At A Glance

Special Love, Inc. is a private, nonprofit who for **40 years has provided a strong, nurturing environment for children with cancer and their families** through its *free* camps and get-away weekends run throughout the year, as well as emergency financial assistance, educational scholarships and virtual programs.

Children who benefit from Special Love's programs range in age from 7-17, and young survivors from ages 18-25.

Since its inception in 1983, children and families have come from the Washington metropolitan area, as well as from Mid-Atlantic area hospitals and from across the country through partnerships with the National Cancer Institute.

Week-long camps: *Camp Fantastic* welcomes more than 100 pediatric cancer patients each year, allowing them to “just be kids” and not a patient, and *BRASS Camp* offers a retreat for the siblings of patients, as well as bereaved siblings, and some much needed “me time.”

Throughout the year, Special Love hosts a variety of *weekend camps and adventure programs*, which provide both respite and adventure experiences to patients, survivors, siblings, and parents. We also host a special weekend getaway for parents, offering them the respite they need to share and support one another in a small group setting.

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, Special Love developed and launched *VOICE* (Virtual Online In-home Camp Experiences) to continue its mission of providing a community of support for the children and their families. *VOICE* programs reach children across the country and the Atlantic Ocean, and in the isolation of hospital rooms.

In addition to the camp and weekend getaways, Special Love offers *emergency financial assistance* for families in need of help by paying utility bills, mortgage and/or rent, car payments or repairs, and sadly, to assist in laying a child to rest.

Each year, Special Love provides **educational scholarships** to young cancer survivors and siblings who have participated in Special Love’s programs to assist with books, housing, and tuition. Our recipients have endured challenges and heartache during their treatments and have moved on with their lives by exhibiting great courage and strength. All have determined not to let cancer define them, or limit their futures.