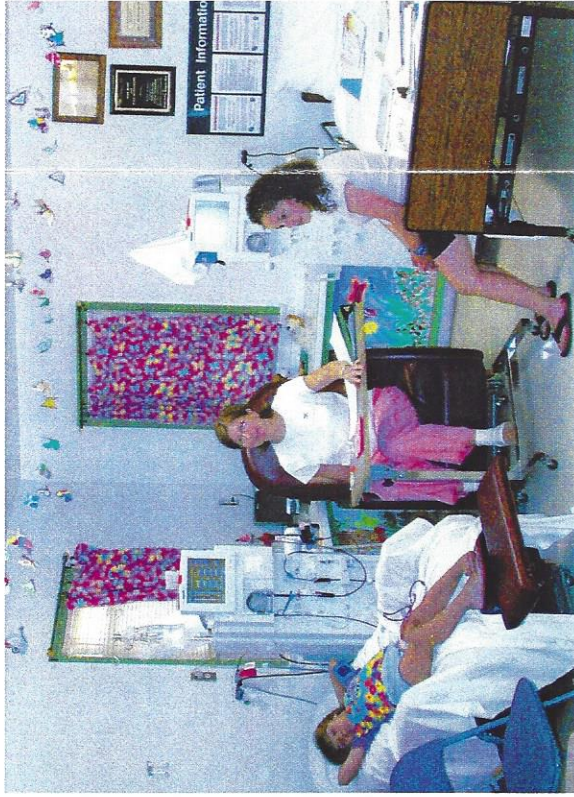


**C**hildren between the ages of 7 and 17 with kidney disease can enjoy summer camp in the heart of New York's Catskill Mountains thanks to the 30-year partnership of The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation, Frost Valley YMCA Camp, and Montefiore Medical Center.

The Ruth Gottscho Dialysis Center at the Frost Valley YMCA Camp in Claryville, N. Y., makes it possible for children with kidney disease to have a real camp experience. During their two-week stay they can receive dialysis treatments or other required medications, participate in all camp activities, and live in cabins with other campers.



The New Jersey-based Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation established the Dialysis Center at Frost Valley in 1975. The Foundation supports the Center's staff of doctors and nurses from The Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center in New York City. The Foundation also pays all

medical and camp expenses for kidney campers. To date, more than 1,200 children with kidney disease from across the U.S. have come to Frost Valley. For most, it's been a life-changing experience.

Camping at Frost Valley offers a variety of opportunities for children with kidney disease to interact with children who have no medical problems. The focus is less on their disease and more on meeting new friends, going swimming, enjoying arts and crafts and participating in many other camp activities. As a result, the children develop self-confidence and self-esteem.



**Above:** Campers receive treatments or medications at The Ruth Gottscho Dialysis Center.

**Right:** Fishing is a popular camp activity. **Top right:** Marshmallows always taste better roasted over a campfire.

## The Foundation

Ira and Eva Gottscho established The Ruth Gottscho Kidney Foundation shortly after their teenage daughter died of kidney disease in 1960. For several years, the Foundation helped purchase home dialysis machines and medications for needy families. When Medicare began paying for much of the treatment kidney patients needed, the Foundation focused its energies on finding a way to enable children with kidney disease to attend camp—a dream of Ruth's that was not possible during her lifetime. The Frost Valley YMCA enthusiastically joined with the Foundation to make this dream a reality.

## The Camp

Frost Valley YMCA Camp is recognized as one of the finest summer camps in the country. It's located on 6,000 acres of unspoiled wilderness less than two hours from New York City. There are 45 comfortable cabins, a modern dining facility, athletic courts, numerous playing fields, a 16-acre lake and a variety of indoor programs, including an arts center and a photography lab. The camp's counselors and administrative staff are known for their competence, professionalism and dedication.

