



BACKGROUND

History

Founded at Stanford University in 2000, Kesem has been a beacon of hope for families impacted by cancer. Kesem is a nationwide non-profit organization that is driven by dedicated college students who are determined to make a difference in the lives of children through and after their parent's cancer. Our primary program, Camp Kesem, offers free summer camp to children who have been affected by parents with cancer.

Mission

Over 5 million children are affected by a parent's cancer, our mission is to ensure that those children are never alone. We are committed to providing a safe and loving space for children impacted by a parent's cancer. At Camp Kesem, we are dedicated to helping children not only through but after their parent's cancer. We aim to provide a foundation for these children that helps them to build confidence, improve communication skills and enhance their attitude and outlook on life.

Camp Kesem at Long Beach State

A program of Kesem, Camp Kesem runs and operates over 100 free-of-charge summer camps all over the country for children from ages 6 to 18 who have been impacted by a parent's cancer. Our program aims to offer a safe place for children that offers support not only from mentors but from peers that share in the same experiences.

Camp Kesem was founded at Long Beach State in 2018 and aspires to provide free Camp Kesem services to the children impacted by a parent's in the Long Beach Community.

Our Counselors

At Camp Kesem, our counselors and staff are composed of highly trained and dedicated volunteer college students. These student leaders are carefully chosen through a competitive interview process and are provided with thorough and extensive training before camp. About 80% of our counselors have been impacted by a family member with cancer, so they can better understand and help our campers.

Events

Since all of our fun and fantastic camp services are absolutely free for all of our families, we rely on donations and community fundraising to run our camp. At Long

Beach State we host numerous fundraising events, both large and small, throughout the year to help support and fund our incredible camp. This year we are hosting our first annual fundraising gala "Make the Magic" on May 8th. We will be hosting a cocktail hour, dinner, and desert to raise money to support the Long Beach families of Camp Kesem.

For more information about Camp Kesem and our services, or if you would like to donate, please visit <https://www.campkesem.org>. To contact our Long Beach State chapter please email longbeachstate@campkesem.org or call (605)956-2646.