



Dear Family,

The mission of Hilton Head Heroes is to bring families with a child suffering from a life threatening illness to Hilton Head Island for a weeklong vacation. Eligible families are housed in the Hilton Head Hero House located in the Sea Pines Resort. We are a full 501©(3) organization governed by the Federal Government and subject to its rules and regulations. Volunteers donate countless hours to help make vacations possible for deserving families.

Enclosed is an application to apply for a Hilton Head Heroes vacation. We grant 50 vacation weeks annually with check-ins on Sunday afternoons at 4 pm and checkouts on Sunday mornings at 10am. Carefully review the materials in the package, particularly the guidelines to ensure that your family and child qualify for a Hero vacation. If you believe that your child meets the program criterion that is enclosed with this letter, please complete the seven pages of documents in their entirety to begin the admissions process, making sure the pages that require signatures and notary are completed in full. Remember to enclose a recent photo of your family with the application.

Once we receive the admissions packet and verify your information, your application will be submitted for approval. When approval occurs, you will be notified via email the date that you have been granted a Hero vacation. A working email address is required on your application. You will have seven days to agree to accept this date (via email or telephone). Your application and the adults on the vacation will be subject to a background check verifying your information and looking for felony convictions or criminal mischief towards children.

Please remember when applying for a Hero vacation that the summer months fill the quickest. Spring and fall are beautiful times on Hilton Head Island and outdoor activities are available year round. Please visit our website at [www.hhheroes.com](http://www.hhheroes.com) for photos of the accommodations provided at the Hero House. If you have further questions about the application process, please contact me at 843-422-6343.

Sincerely,

Lindy Russell  
Admissions Director



## Who Qualifies For A Hero Vacation?

1. A child between the ages of 2-16 who has been diagnosed with an illness that will shorten their life span. Congenital birth defects or chronic illnesses such as Cystic Fibrosis, Muscular Dystrophy and Down's syndrome are not included in our charter. However, these genetic diseases will be viewed on a case-to-case basis and vacations granted if other conditions exist medically. Transplant patients will be considered if they have been transplanted in the past 24 months or are having rejection problems.
2. A doctor must approve that the child is safe for travel by signing and having their signature witnessed on the Medical Acknowledgement form included in the Family Application Packet.
3. The family that without the financial assistance of Hilton Head Heroes would not be able to afford to travel to Hilton Head Island for a week-long vacation.
4. The person(s) accompanying the HERO child on the vacation have full legal custody of the HERO child as well the children accompanying them on the HERO vacation.
5. Single parents may be granted one other adult to accompany them on the trip. However if they have an adult child traveling with them (18 or older) this will be considered the additional adult. Vacations are for immediate family members only. Children not living in the household and/or their children are not part of the HERO vacation. HERO vacations are to include biological children or children living in the home. Grandparents will not be allowed to come on a HERO vacation unless they qualify as one of the two adults accompanying the HERO child.
6. A basic background check that will identify felony convictions or criminal mischief towards others will be performed on the parents/guardians of the HERO child. An additional form will be sent to you for release of this information.
7. Please note the HERO house is a non-smoking environment, no pets of any kind are allowed in the Hero House or on the grounds. Motorcycles and R.V. vehicles are also not allowed. One car is allowed per family. The Hero family must abide by the rules of the Sea Pines Resort.
8. All applicants must be a citizen of the United States of America, or have legally obtained status to reside in the country. Documentation available if requested.



## Hilton Head Hero Family Application 2017

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth/Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One: Caucasian African American American Indian Hispanic Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Information used for Grant solicitation only)

Treatment for condition or illness to date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not the biological parents of the Hero child, please state your relationship to the child:

Do You Have Legal Custody of the Hero Child? \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security number of Mother or Step Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security number of Father/Step Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Age of Siblings: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your doctor or oncologist for us to contact to verify your information:

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Name of Facility: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: ( required) \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Nurse or Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Lodging Dates Requested**

*Please list three choices. Vacations are granted for one week from Sunday to Sunday, with check-in at 4pm and checkout the following Sunday at 10am.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Summer months fill quickly; please make sure you list 3 choices).*

Do you require a wheelchair? **Yes / No** Crib: **Yes / No** Plastic Sheeting on Bed(s): **Yes / No**

List any concerns you may have for your Hero child's mobility during the trip:

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Does anyone in your family smoke cigarettes? **Yes / No**

**NOTE:** *Smoking is not allowed in the Hero House, Pool Patio, or Grounds.*

- *Pets of any kind are not allowed on a Hero vacation due to health regulations. Seeing eye dogs or therapy dogs can be kenneled and returned daily to the Hero child at the expense of the HERO family.*
- *RV'S and Motorcycles are not allowed in the Sea Pines Resort.*

Have you been to Hilton Head Island Before? **Yes / No** If yes when? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been granted a vacation from another organization within the past two years?  
**Yes / No**

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_



## Referral Form

*Please have your social worker/child care specialist/or primary doctor fill out this form for your family.*

Name of Social Worker: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Facility/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Facility/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact phone number and time to reach you: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: **(required)** \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Diagnosis: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Primary Doctor/Oncologist: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the treatment schedule of this patient: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Financial needs of the family: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please add additional information that might help us in the selection process. How might this vacation impact this family? ( use the back of form if needed).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Release of Liability

We the undersigned guardians of Hero Child, \_\_\_\_\_

Parents / Guardian Names: \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of granting and or being involved in a Hilton Head Hero Vacation for our child/guardian, and provision of funds, goods or services of said Hilton Head Hero Vacation do hereby voluntarily assume all risks of accident or damage to ourselves and/or the person or the property of ourselves or minor children including the Hilton Head Hero child, siblings or other minors on the vacation accompanying the signed adults on this form. We do release, discharge and indemnify Hilton Head Heroes, Inc. (a 501©3 Non-profit) a South Carolina nonprofit corporation, its employers, employees, agents, board members, volunteers or associates from any claim, liability, or demand of any kind for on account of personal injury or damage of any kind sustained as a result of carrying out said Hilton Head Hero Vacation.

### Existence of a Swimming Pool

The property at which I/we and the Hero child will reside during the vacation is One Spanish Moss in The Sea Pines Resort, contains a swimming pool. The existence of the pool on the said property may increase the risk of death or injury, increasing the risk of drowning or asphyxiation. I/we realize that the pool activities related may create additional risks during our Hilton Head Hero Vacation and assume all responsibilities for the care of the minor children as well as the Hero child that we bring on our Hero Vacation. We release, discharge and indemnify Hilton Head Heroes from any claim, liability or demand of any kind relating to the swimming pool and surrounding areas.

Signature of responsible parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Affix Notary Seal to this document



## Medical Acknowledgement

As the physician for: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
am familiar with the physical condition of the above named child. I am under the opinion that this child's illness is life threatening, or the quality of the child's life has been compromised. I am aware that this child and his/her family will be traveling to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina for a resort / beach vacation. In consideration of this Child's illness, I recommend approval of this vacation. I have supplied the family with the name of a doctor for emergency treatment and have explained the necessary care required for said child to participate in a Hilton Head Hero Vacation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Diagnosis of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address of Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

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Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number to verify Witness signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## Information Release Form

I / We \_\_\_\_\_

Hereby acknowledge and represent we are the parent(s) / guardian(s) of

\_\_\_\_\_

I /We have not been promised anything by employees of Hilton Head Heroes, nor have we been given any counsel with respect to the risk involved with the vacation and it's activities. We will rely upon advice received by our physician for authorization to participate in the Hilton Head Hero Vacation. We are aware of the dangers of travel, participating in activities and being in the Hilton Head Hero House. We release all liability for injury, theft, or loss of property to the Hilton Head Heroes Organization.

We authorize Hilton Head Heroes, agents, volunteers, employees, officers, board members, hired photographers or news agents to photograph, film or record interviews with the above named child/parent(s)/guardian(s) should the need arise. Photographs may be used on the website, [www.hhheroes.com](http://www.hhheroes.com), newspapers, magazine, advertising materials, television stations and other organizations that promote nonprofit organizations or generate the news to the general public. It is not necessary for Hilton Head heroes or any other organization to contact me / us prior to release of any of the above said information to the general public.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Notary: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Affix Seal to Document





## Release of Liability for Boat Excursions

Hilton Head heroes, Vagabond Cruise Lines, Palmetto Bay Water Sports and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island are pleased to be able to offer the Hero family a boat excursion of varying types. It is understood that the intent of this excursion is to provide a short cruise / jet ski / boat trip / dolphin cruise on the waters surrounding Hilton Head Island. The cruise will be provided either / both by Vagabond Cruise Lines, Palmetto Bay Water Sports or volunteer members of The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island. Vagabond Cruise Lines will use the S.S. Vagabond. Palmetto Bay Water Sports has jet skis for older children and their parents as well as day boats. The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island (a not for profit yacht club) will use their own watercraft. The volunteer members of Vagabond Cruise Lines, Palmetto Bay Water Sports and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island will provide sufficient life vests for the passengers and warrant that their watercraft(s) is in sea worthy condition. It is solely the discretion of Vagabond Cruise Lines, Palmetto Bay Water Sports, and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island to deny boarding / use of their watercraft. Use of the watercraft and boat rides are given free by the businesses and it is their sole discretion as to when / where / time of use. I / We the undersigned parents, children and or other guardians of children do hereby acknowledge that Hilton Head Heroes, Vagabond Cruise Line, Palmetto Bay Water Sports and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island will not be held responsible for any injury or illness that might occur during one of the mentioned cruises, boat trips or boat excursions. By signing this form, you will release liability, discharge and indemnify Hilton Head Heroes, Vagabond Cruise Lines, Palmetto Bay Waters Sports and The Yacht Club of Hilton Head Island, any claim, liability or demand of any kind for or on account of any personal injury or damage of any kind sustained as a result of one of the boat excursions.

I have read this liability release and fully understand that I/we have given up substantial rights by signing it and sign it freely and without any inducement.

Hero Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name / Ages of Other Children on Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Legal Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Notary: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Seal:



## Hilton Head Hero Child Questionnaire 2017

Hero Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ Sex: **M / F** Grade in school: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth? \_\_\_\_\_

Brothers (names and ages): \_\_\_\_\_

Sisters (names and ages): \_\_\_\_\_

Pets: \_\_\_\_\_

### Favorites

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Sports Team: \_\_\_\_\_ Team Player: \_\_\_\_\_

Movie \_\_\_\_\_ Book: \_\_\_\_\_ Candy: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_ Food: \_\_\_\_\_ Game: \_\_\_\_\_

Who is your HERO?: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you like the beach? \_\_\_\_ Can you Swim? \_\_\_\_\_ Fishing? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite thing to do on the beach? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your best moment in your life? \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you want us to know about you? \_\_\_\_\_

***Please include a photo of yourself and your family with your application.***