

I have attended Horizon Summer Camp for over ten years. I love coming to camp and look forward to it every year! I enjoy trying new things, seeing old friends, and making new ones.

I am applying for the Horizon Hope Grant to help me with moving expenses to go from a nursing home to independent living. I currently live in a nursing home that is in a remote area where it can be difficult to get around. Additionally, the days, activities, and meals at my home are very structured. I have already applied and been accepted into independent living in a new area, where I will have better access to public transportation, freedom to go where I please, and the independence that goes with living on my own. The Horizon Hope Grant will help me to buy a hospital bed for my new apartment since the bed I use currently belongs to my nursing home. A hospital bed will make the unit accessible for me and make transferring in and out of my chair much easier.

Outside of camp, I practice Horizon's mission, of challenging myself, developing responsibility and growing through interacting and working together in many ways. Where I live, there are many people who have developmental and physical disabilities and can sometimes feel very emotional. I am a friend to every resident in my home regardless of ability, and I comfort others when they are upset. When I see other residents having an argument, I try to intervene to help work out a solution together. I take on these responsibilities and challenge myself because I like to help others and make their lives happier.

Since attending Horizon, I have contributed to the community by spreading the message about Horizon and recruiting people to come to camp. I have gotten 2 new campers to attend Horizon because I tell everyone how much I love it. I make sure to keep the spirit of Horizon Camp alive all year round by staying in touch with my Horizon family, being a good friend, and sharing in the good and bad times that life throws at us. At camp, I contribute to a fun and welcoming environment. I reach out to new people since I have been coming a long time and can help them with some of the challenges of being new. I like to have conversations with new people and encourage them to try new activities.

I am very excited for this next chapter in my life where I can be more independent and continue to help the Horizon community! Thank you for your consideration.