BJC hospitals rate with U.S. News
Barnes-Jewish leads again with ‘Honor Roll’ nod

Patient Diane Fisher is prepared for her dialysis treatment by her nurse Tina Smith, RN, center, and Dr. Tingting Li on Barnes-Jewish Hospital acute dialysis unit 14300. U.S. News & World Report ranked nephrology at BJH ninth in the nation. | Photo by Tim Mudrovic
by Jordan McLaren and Jennifer Irvin

BJC | Once again this year, BJC employees’ children came together for the annual Adventures in HealthCare Camp.

Camps were held July 10-14 at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, Christian Hospital, Missouri Baptist Medical Center and St. Louis Children’s Hospital. The campers spent the week exploring a variety of careers, touring multiple departments and participating in many interactive career-related activities.

Hosted by BJC School Outreach and Youth Development, Adventures in HealthCare Camp gives seventh- and eighth-graders a glimpse into what a future career might look like.

“Each year the camp is more of an adventure,” says Jennifer Irvin, BJC School Outreach and Youth Development school-community education partner. “I am amazed at how the coordinators for the individual camps manage to come up with such exciting career activities and coordinate presentations by professionals who are eager to share career tips.”

Fifty-two campers participated this year, with many of the children expressing an interest in a health care career by the last day of camp. (See below for several campers’ thoughts about the experience.)

“I have been involved with the Adventures in HealthCare Camp for quite a few years now and enjoy meeting the kids each year,” says Tanya Sisk, Christian Hospital camp coordinator.

“There are so many different personalities that each year is very different from the last.

“I can’t stress enough what a great opportunity this is for this age group,” Sisk adds. “Where else can you touch a spleen in a lab, go into a hyperbaric chamber, see X-rays of broken bones, learn about becoming a pharmacist, dress in scrubs, go into an ER and even see a machine that performs robotic-assisted surgeries? The campers also meet paramedics who show them the ins and outs of an ambulance.

“So, all in all, it’s a great learning experience — mixed with fun.”

Q: Have your career interests changed or been reinforced this week?
A: “I don’t know what I want to be yet, but I learned that there’s more than just doctors and nurses.”
— Emily Rust, Missouri Baptist Medical Center

Q: What is the most interesting thing you’ve learned this week?
A: “I learned about how many lives can be saved in one day.”
— Morgan Lynam, Missouri Baptist Medical Center

Q: What was your favorite activity at camp?
A: “I loved going to the OR and learning about how many professionals are involved in a surgery.”
— Emily Rust, Missouri Baptist Medical Center

See page 14 for more on Adventures in HealthCare Camp 2017.
On the last day of camp, participants from all four sites gathered at Washington University Medical Center for tours, presentations and activities. | Photo by Tim Mudrovic

De’Ja Thompson, daughter of Markeia Johnson, Northwest HealthCare coffee kiosk, gives the thumbs up from inside the hyperbaric chamber to Leah Goldacker, RN, clinical nurse manager of the Wound Care and Hyperbarics Center, left, who’s talking to De’Ja on the phone. Jim Sellers, CHT, safety director for the center, next to Leah, explains to students how the chamber works. | Photo by Bret Berigan

CH campers Nia Ballinger, left, and Kylie Murray enjoy experimenting with dry ice in the lab. | Photo by Tanya Sisk

— Lauren Douglas, Barnes-Jewish Hospital
— Kahli McCreary, Christian Hospital
— Sebastian Parke, Christian Hospital
— Jordan Valentine, St. Louis Children’s Hospital
— Raven Addison, St. Louis Children’s Hospital

Q: What was your favorite activity at camp?
A: “I liked the lab because we found out blood types.”
— Kahli McCreary, Christian Hospital

Q: Have your career interests changed or been reinforced this week?
A: “I want to be an RN in the OR.”
— Sebastian Parke, Christian Hospital

Q: What is the most interesting thing you’ve learned this week?
A: “I learned that they keep hospitals really cold to help slow the spread of disease.”
— Jordan Valentine, St. Louis Children’s Hospital

Q: What is the most interesting thing you’ve learned this week?
A: “I learned that your white blood cells are what stops your body from bleeding out.”
— Raven Addison, St. Louis Children’s Hospital
‘Each year the camp is more of an adventure’

Adventures in HealthCare Camp 2017 offers ‘a great learning experience — mixed with fun’

St. Louis Children’s Hospital camper Makena Mueller participates in an experiment to extract DNA from a strawberry. | Photo by Jordan McLaren

Camper Jeremiah Cooley participates in an activity in the CH lab. | Photo by Tanya Sisk

Respiratory students demonstrate the difference between healthy and diseased lungs to MBMC campers. | Photo by Betsy Mueth

Camper Jeremiah Cooley participates in an activity in the CH lab. | Photo by Tanya Sisk

MBMC campers show off their mock wounds, similar to those created during a disaster drill. | Photo by Betsy Mueth

Campers tour an operating room at Missouri Baptist Medical Center with OR education specialist Diana Beck, far left. | Photo by Betsy Mueth