



## FROM THE CAMP SUPERVISOR



As we celebrate our 50th year as an organization, I cannot help but reflect on what an amazing organization the Diller Home has become. Even with facing the many challenges and tribulations due to the pandemic in our most recent seasons, we have

kept our continued mission intact.

We continue to strive to facilitate meaningful friendships, memories, and learning experiences to our campers. We have all been learning how to effectively pivot these last few years and if it was not for the board, staff, families and our beyond generous donors and community, the Helen Diller Home would not be the organization it is today.

I have been working for the Diller Home since 2009 and it has brought me so much joy seeing our campers grow up right in front of me. I have met wonderful children, their families, counselors and community members through this organization and cannot wait to continue to provide these experiences to children in the future. The Diller Home is truly a one of a kind place and has been for many, many years.

~ Emily O'Donnell, Camp Supervisor

*The Home is named in memory  
of island resident*

## HELEN L. DILLER

*for her dedication and contributions to the community. It stands as an example and inspiration of one person's dream, and the commitment of that community to keep a vision alive.*

If you know a visually impaired child who would like to spend a fun filled week at the beach, please contact us at:

PO Box 338  
Avalon, NJ 08202  
609-967-7285 (summer only)  
610-329-6133  
FAX 609-967-3117  
[emily@dillerblindhome.org](mailto:emily@dillerblindhome.org)  
[www.dillerblindhome.org](http://www.dillerblindhome.org)



It costs \$1,500 to sponsor one camper for a one week vacation at the Home. Support of the Home is provided by volunteerism, foundation grants, general donations, and community organizations. Key benefactors include Tim Kerr Charities, The Avalon Lions Club, The William G. and Helen C. Hoffman Foundation and Matthew Mullin Memorial Foundation. The Home is a NJ Lions International D16L supported project. Together, our benefactors make it possible for each camper to enjoy a summer at no cost to their family.

*The Home is registered as a New Jersey not-for-profit corporation under the name of Challenged Children's Charities Corp.*

**Donations and bequests are gratefully accepted.**



127 26<sup>th</sup> Street | Avalon, NJ 08202  
[www.dillerblindhome.org](http://www.dillerblindhome.org)



## ABOUT THE HOME

Celebrating 50 years in 2022! Since our first summer of operation in 1972, nearly 8,500 blind and visually impaired children ranging in age from 7-20 have enjoyed an opportunity to experience an all-expense paid week of summer camp and make lifelong friendships and memories. The Diller Home is located in a residential community, two blocks from the Atlantic Ocean and can accommodate 16 campers each week over the span of eight weeks each summer mid-June to mid-August where campers enjoy a variety of fun activities and for many, first experience of feeling sand between their toes or tasting saltwater on their lips.





## Celebrating 50 Years!

## ABOUT THE CAMP

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## GETTING INVOLVED

### CAMP FACILITIES

The three-story home received a complete interior renovation in 2014 and annually receives upgrades to maintain and preserve it. In 2019, the Diller Home installed laminate hardwood flooring and received new couches prior to the start of the season. It houses up to 16 children, 12 counselors and the director in semi-private rooms. The Home includes:

- An activity area equipped with a TV & DVD player
- Indoor and outdoor dining areas
- Expansive outdoor grounds with playground equipment and space for the campers to play.



### CAMP STAFF

The Home's summer sessions are supervised by a camp director and 12 paid and trained counselors. There is a staff-to-child ratio of 1-to-5. This is critical because individualized assistance and supervision are often required for activities and programs offered by The Home. The counselors each are screened with a criminal background check and attend a three-day orientation that covers first-aid and CPR training, orientation and mobility, and planning and procedures. The Home's staff is exceptionally committed to the organization's mission, program and campers.



### SCHOLARSHIP

The Helen L. Diller Scholarship Program was established in 2022 by the Challenged Children's Charity Corporation in association with The Helen L. Diller Vacation Home for Blind Children. As we celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> season as a nonprofit organization, we have a goal to expand how we serve our beloved campers. Not only do we provide children with visual impairments a weeklong vacation at the shore, but we are also now able to support them in their pursuit of higher education and training programs through our Scholarship Program. For more information, go to [dillerblindhome.org/scholarship](http://dillerblindhome.org/scholarship).

### CAMP ACTIVITIES

The Helen L. Diller Vacation Home for Blind Children offers a variety of engaging activities both on and off-site, weather permitting. In addition to spending time on the beach, our own van provides transportation for recreational adventures to places like Morey's Pier, the Yacht Clubs in Avalon and Stone Harbor for boat rides and to the Cape May County Park and Zoo. Campers are also exposed to community living through experiences such as dining at local restaurants and ice cream parlors, cultural events at Veterans Plaza and the Bay Atlantic Symphony concerts, lending audio books from the library and events at the Avalon Community Hall.

Dear Donor,

Thank you for sponsoring a week of summer camp at the Diller Home this summer. I look forward to coming to camp all year long. One of my favorite things to do at the Diller Home is go to the yacht club to ride the boats.

Sincerely,  
Naudia

An attentive staff helps each child feel at home and assists in writing to their families and the businesses that help make their vacations possible. This is a place to which children as well as counselors are eager to return for enjoyment and camaraderie.

The Home is always looking for help. Support for The Home is provided by volunteerism, foundation grants, general donations and community organizations. It is because of the generosity of individuals and institutions that the organization is able to serve numerous visually impaired children each summer.

### BAREFOOT BALL

An evening of cocktails, music and passed hors d'oeuvres, as well as a live and silent auction. This event is available for sponsorship as well as individual ticket sales and auction donations.



### TURKEY TROT

A 5K run and 1.5-mile walk to benefit The Home that takes place the day after Thanksgiving. Sponsorship is available for this event.



### CAMP SPONSORSHIPS

Opportunities are available to sponsor a camper and/or a camp activity for the summer season.

If you would like to learn more about how you can make monetary donations, donate auction items, sponsor one of our events, or volunteer, please contact Joanna Gorecke at [jgorecke@dillerblindhome.org](mailto:jgorecke@dillerblindhome.org).