

POSITIVE OUTCOMES IN YOUTH CAMPERS WITH HEMOPHILIA AND OTHER INHERITED BLEEDING DISORDERS

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Introduction

Camp Wannaklot (CW), a week-long residential summer camp, is the only camp in Georgia that provides children who have hemophilia or other inherited bleeding disorders the opportunity to enjoy a traditional camp experience.

CW is a partner camp of Camp Twin Lakes (CTL). The staff of CTL lead the activities and participate as cabin buddies with our campers. CTL offers training seminars during the camp off-season for CW volunteers and staff. As an ACA accredited camp, CTL has standards for every aspect of camp that every camp partner must meet.

During a fun-filled week, campers make new friends while developing the skills to manage their bleeding disorder in an environment that supports each child's unique medical and emotional needs.

Camp Wannaklot focuses on promoting the development of:

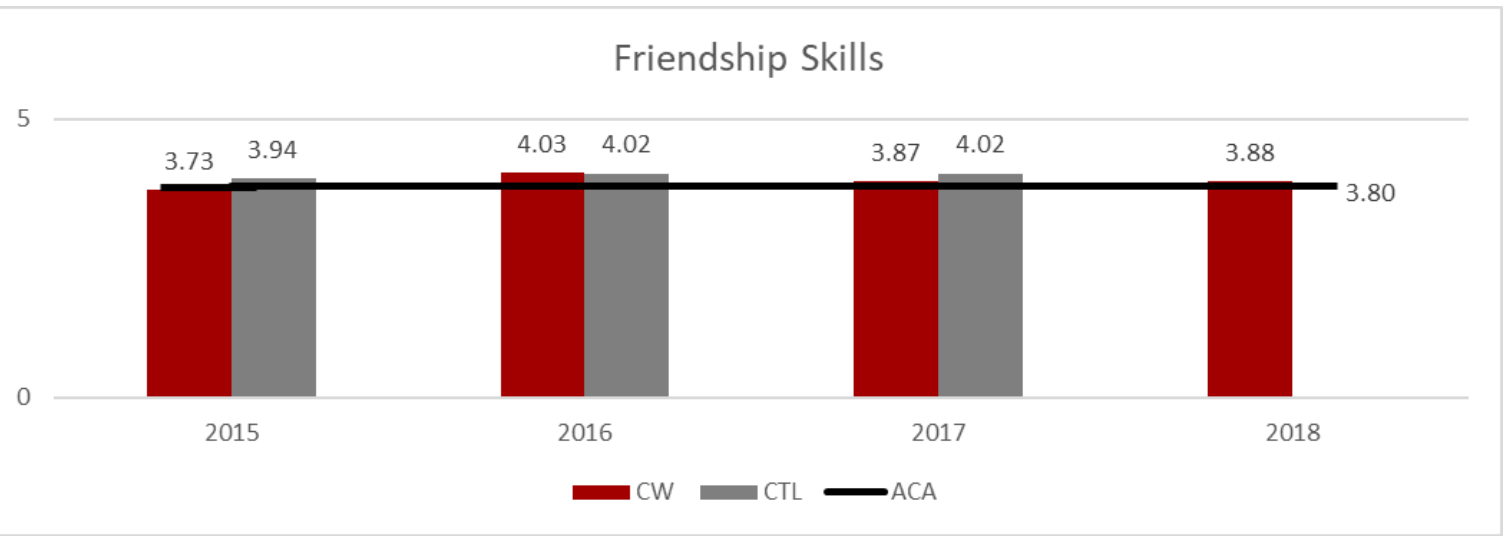
- . self-esteem
- . self-reliance
- . self-efficacy



Methods & Findings

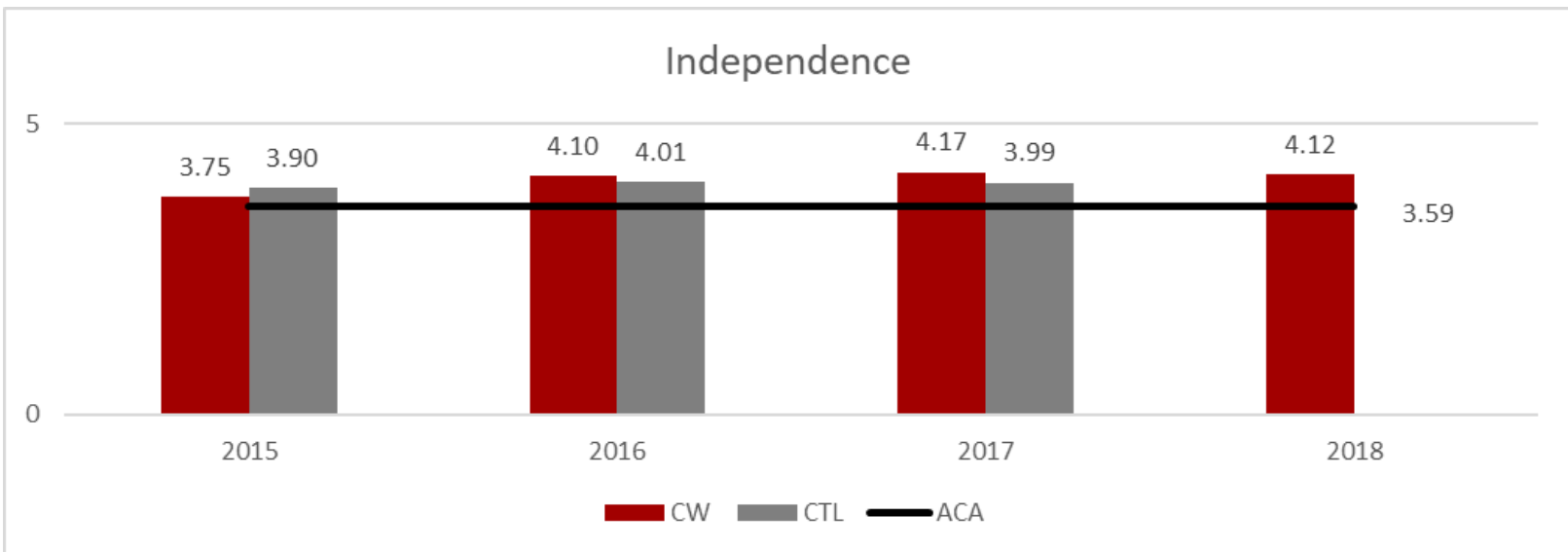
CTL campers, including CW participants, complete select subscales of the ACA Youth Outcomes Battery at the completion of each camp experience. Subscales included in this analysis include Friendship, Independence, and Responsibility. Data from CW participants from 2015 - 2018 were included in this analysis.

Friendship Scale CW participants scored above the ACA benchmark for the Friendship Scale for all years (2016-2018), except 2015. CW scores were relatively equal to the average scores of CTL participants in 2016 & were lower than the average of CTL scores in 2015.

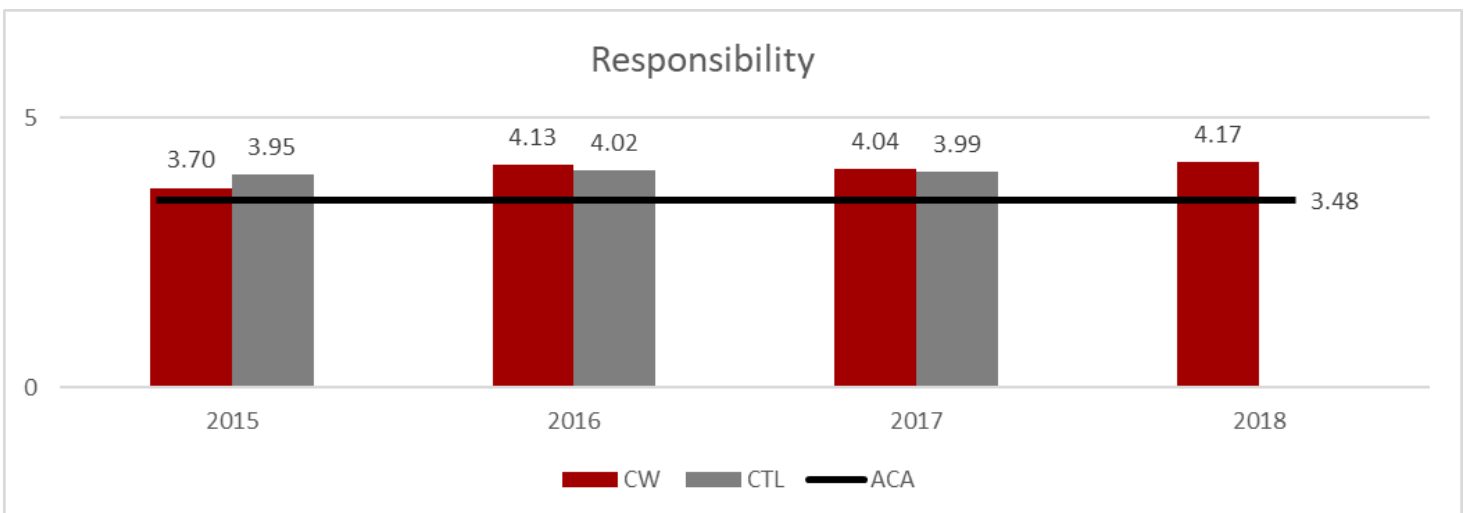


Independence Scale

CW participants scored above the ACA benchmark for the Independence Scale for all years. CW surpassed the average score of CTL participants in 2016 and 2017.



Responsibility Scale CW participants scored above the ACA benchmark for the Responsibility Scale for all years. CW scores were higher than the average of CTL participants in 2016 and 2017. The CW score was lower than the average of CTL participants in 2015.



Results were compared with average scores from our host camp facility, Camp Twin Lakes, and with ACA benchmark scores for Friendship Skills, Independence, and Responsibility.

We present evidence that Camp Wannaklot provides substantial benefits to youth with hemophilia or other inherited bleeding disorders. Results were compared against an average of all CTL camps and the ACA benchmarks and showed that CW campers surpassed the average scores of participants in all three scales evaluated.

Lessons Learned



Camper Centered:

Camp Wannaklot promotes the healthy development of youth and empowers them to manage their bleeding disorder.

Positive Youth Development:

In addition to learning how to manage their bleeding disorder, Camp Wannaklot campers are also provided with the building blocks to develop self-esteem, self-reliance, and healthy relationships.



Camp Twin Lakes
Where Challenges Become Triumphs

Standards:

Partnering with Camp Twin Lakes, an ACA accredited camp allows for the development of programming and goals that support the development of skills in youth.

Shared Goals:

Both the host campsite and the organization have shared goals and standards that can be evaluated using a validated measure which allows for monitoring and the development of a quality assurance process that leads to positive outcomes.