



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

OFFICE OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS, Tel: 305.673.7575

Melissa Berthier, melissaberthier@miamibeachfl.gov

Lissi Hernandez, lissihernandez@miamibeachfl.gov

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Miami Beach Fire Department Supports Nicklaus Children's Hospital on Annual Beach Day for Children with Special Needs

— The annual VACC Camp Beach Day returns to Miami Beach on **Tuesday, March 25** —

Miami Beach, FL — The Miami Beach Fire Department will join Nicklaus Children's Hospital on **Tuesday, March 25** in presenting the 39th annual Dr. Moises Simpson Ventilation Assisted Children's Center Camp (VACC Camp) at Nikki Beach starting at 10 a.m.

This heartwarming event provides a special beach experience for children and their families who rely on oxygen, tracheostomies and/or ventilators. Participants from around the country can swim, play games and connect with others in a supportive and inclusive environment.

As part of the event, Miami Beach firefighters will set up wheelchair-accessible paths along the sand to ensure that the children can safely reach the water. Special waterproof wheelchairs will also be available to allow the children to experience the ocean comfortably, while handheld ventilators will be used by participants who rely on respiratory support to breathe freely in the water. Medical personnel and volunteers from Nicklaus Children's Hospital will also be on-site to assist with any medical needs.

"Our firefighters are happy to volunteer each year, helping create special moments for the children and their families," said **Miami Beach Fire Chief Digna Abello**. "Their smiles remind us why we serve, and we're proud to be part of Nicklaus Children's Hospital's VACC Camp Beach Day."

Founded in 1986 by Dr. Simpson, VACC Camp became the first weeklong camp in the country designed for ventilation-assisted children and their families. Over a span of nearly four decades, the camp has welcomed more than 250 families from the United States and beyond with unforgettable experiences and a strong sense of community. The annual beach day remains a highlight of the camp, offering families a chance to relax, bond and make lasting memories.

WHAT: VACC Camp Beach Day

WHEN: Tuesday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Behind Nikki Beach, 1 Ocean Drive

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