



The Krachinski Family

By Grace Horner

"I was just afraid to even attempt it as a single parent with four kids," Mandie confessed over our zoom interview.

The Krachinski family includes Mandie and her four kids; Liah (19), AnaGrayce (17), Koty (14), and Chayse (12). Koty struggles with autism, Chayse has spina bifida and they both have ADHD and processing disorder.

Mandie heard about Camp Attitude about six years ago. She was kind of worried about Koty because he doesn't like trying new things and is uncomfortable in new environments.

"Koty especially does not like new places and new things, all I could think of was oh, this is going to be way too tough," Mandie explained, but she decided to take a risk and give it a try.

Pulling into camp for the first time was a bit nerve racking, but every year after that, Koty and the rest of the family loved the greeting of all the enthusiastic buddies and core.

"Oh, it was great! The boys, even the girls, loved pulling in to camp and having people standing outside cheering," Mandie shared.

It was a great vacation for their whole family and a break from life. Being there and talking to other parents helped to cope with stress.

"It didn't matter if Koty had a little meltdown. Someone would take him off a little bit and give him a break," Mandie expressed. "The teenage girls could talk to and relate to other siblings that were there and feel like they weren't alone in this."

"I think my favorite part of camp was just watching both boys play and be accepted for who they were, right where they were at." ... "Koty would've never gotten on stage and performed (Thursday night Talent Show), but he got up with his buddy and did a song, so it was nice to see him have that confidence," she elaborated.

Mandie loved getting to see kids playing and getting to do things they wouldn't normally be able to do. Koty normally needs a routine and to know when everything is happening, but at camp, he went with his buddy at eight in the morning and just took off. By the end of the week, Mandie didn't feel like she needed to hover because the buddies could handle it.



Mission Statement: To communicate the Gospel and equip local Churches, and to serve people affected by disabilities. To provide a safe and positive experience for children and families to learn about the saving hope of Jesus Christ in a camping environment.