



Mountains 4 All & Ski 2 Freedom Foundation - Accessibility, Inclusivity, and Well-Being enriches the quality of life for children and adults with life-changing and life-limiting conditions through empowering year-round mountain experiences and activities



Winter 2018 - 2019

Accessible Family Ski Holiday in Les Gets (France) - Niemann Pick C Disease



Blair was born with Niemann Pick C Disease (a rare progressive genetic disorder - there is no known cure and mainly affects children.

His mother had contacted Catherine Cosby, Founder of Ski 2 Freedom Foundation, about a ski resort that would be accessible and offer the best adaptive ski guiding for Blair. As Blair has also been a liver transplant recipient, there had been talk about the family going to Anzere and participating in the

annual Tacker's Ski Camp - run by Liz Schick it is an International event dedicated to bringing together children who have been recipients of a transplant to find life-enhancing moments on the ski slopes. This was fully booked and so the family decided to come to Gstaad Saanenland (with the idea of the Algje family and Catherine going to Anzere for the day). Plans then changed and the Family decided to go to Les Gets in the Portes du Soleil (France).

The ESF Les Gets were extremely helpful about Blair's needs and quite happily accepted him into the Piu Piu Club (Sunday, the first day, was a great success!) He had ski lessons each morning and then was taken in the guided sit-ski (dual-ski) some afternoons so the whole family could ski together.



The Algie family stayed at the Nagano Hotel in Les Gets which is just across the road from the ski school and ski slopes so perfectly located.

Catherine went down to meet the Algie Family on the third day of their ski holiday. This winter Blair is the second child with NPC to ask for help from Ski 2 Freedom about empowering moments on the ski slopes. Both parents are skiers and share the same passion and spiritualism that the mountains give as Catherine.

Given the rarity of this condition and, understanding how much time spent together gathering memories and sharing precious moments is to families, both families have agreed to share their experiences in the hope that we can encourage others to share in the life-changing environment - snowflakes, laughter, tears - precious capsules of time that sadly, will undoubtedly, change in the forthcoming years but to be recharged and to absorb the clear air, oxygen and warm of the welcome and friendliness of those who live and work in this extraordinary environment, can only bring strength and resilience to meet what lies ahead.



“The day I visited Blair was ill and needed an emergency trip to the main hospital in the valley so a quick car trip but smiles all round on his last day in Les Gets! This is truly one remarkable family and young boy!” Catherine

#niemannpiccdisease #NPC #magic mountains #inclusiveandaccessibletourism #inclusiveandaccessibleski #accessibletravelwinter #skiingforall #mountains4all #winterwonderland #smiles #lesgets #esflesgets

To know more about NPC www.npuk.org/niemann-pick-disease/



For more information about how to support Mountains 4 All and Ski 2 Freedom or if you need advice please contact catherine.cosby@mountains4all.org

catherine.cosby@mountains4all.org

Tel: +41 764661417

www.mountains4all.org

Mountains 4 All - Numéro de Registre: CHE 390.697.072 Registered address: Moosfanggässli 7, CH-3783 Grund bei Gstaad, Switzerland