



[www.champcamp.org](http://www.champcamp.org)

CHAMP  
Camp

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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20  
25

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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## JAMIE MITCHELL

Can you believe we celebrated 35 years of camp this year? We welcomed two new campers this year and 16 new counselors. Once again, we were blessed to have so many of our counselors return - 44 to be exact! Their experience ranged from second-year counselors to veterans returning for their 32nd year!

Our celebration included special meals, a carnival style food truck to provide snacks during our dance, a beautiful blanket for our campers to take home and a birthday party that brought together alumni campers and founders who join us for cupcakes-in-a-jar and our first-ever Counselor Canoe Race! The cabins were challenged to build oars using materials provided - and most held up pretty well!



This year we proudly graduated two campers. While we are always sad to see our friends leave, we are excited for the new adventures ahead of them confident that the skills they gained at camp will help them succeed wherever life takes them next.

The Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball was a wonderful evening for all who attended. Our keynote speakers, the Eads family, shared what camp has meant to their family. The silent auction, bourbon pull, wine pull, live auction and fund-a-cause once again showed that we truly have the most generous supporters an organization could ask for. We are humbled by your continued support.

The success from the last three years has allowed us to expand our vision for what we can offer our campers and families. We have developed a Steering Committee who will focus on camp improvements and activities we can provide throughout the year to extend more opportunities for our campers and families to spend time together and provide support for each other.

We are already planning for our 36<sup>th</sup> year of camp. In 2026, we will have six cabins with a goal of serving 30 campers. We are actively recruiting additional nurses, respiratory therapists and other medical professionals to ensure a safe and supportive environment as we grow.

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on everything that is happening at CHAMP Camp!

In the Spirit of Camp,

5

DAYS OF FUN!



24

CAMPERS



64

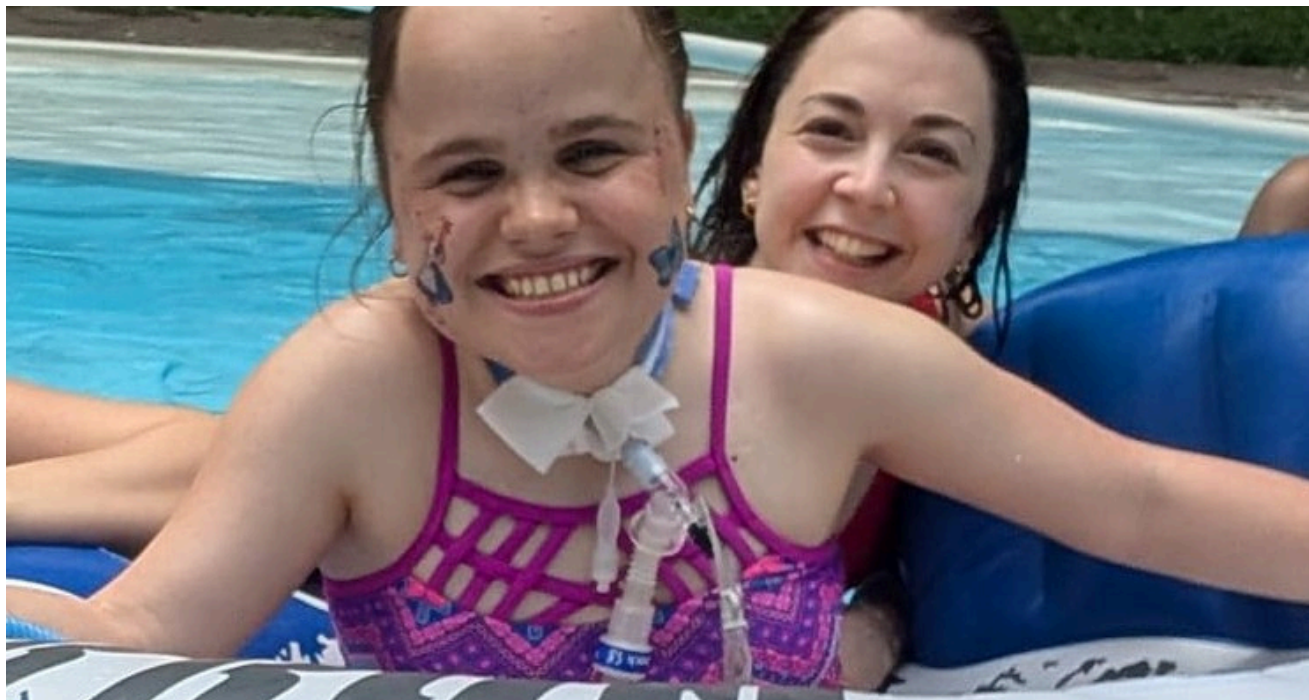
COUNSELORS



Picture above, left to right:  
Marissa Stopski, Lead Respiratory Therapist  
Ryanne Conrad, Lead Nurse  
Jamie Mitchell, Executive Director  
Emily Miller, Camp Director  
Tanty Angulo, Camp Physician  
Heather Muston, Camp Physician  
Kristina Watkins, Program Director

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# FINDING OUR PLACE UNDER THE SUN



## MISSION



CHAMP Camp provides a summer camp experience for children and adolescents with tracheostomies and those who require technological respiratory assistance. Our campers enjoy and fully participate in outdoor summer camp activities including swimming, canoeing and climbing that encourage independence, confidence, and self-esteem to create memories that last a lifetime.

## PHILOSOPHY



CHAMP Camp is not only a physical place, but a community where children who are technologically-assisted experience the wonder, beauty and challenge of the outdoors. It is a community where campers and counselors think of each other first; giving and receiving from each other; and supporting and respecting each other in our feelings and experiences.

It is a community where health care professionals become counselors, modeling their love of the experience; allowing kids to be kids; and making medical arrangements as to not compromise the adventure and enjoyment of camp.

It is a community rich with personal expression, individual diversity, and opportunities to grow and succeed physically, intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and socially, and "discover one's place in the sun."



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Rick Adams  
President  
Deloitte Services LLP



Toby Hahn  
Vice President  
RealTruck



Dr. Heather Muston  
Secretary  
Riley Children's Hospital



Keely Spangle  
Treasurer  
Deloitte Tax LLP

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



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Riley Children's Hospital



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Eli Lilly & Co.



Todd Clevenger  
Hamilton County Auditor



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Quarles



Eric Huebner  
Certus



Dan Lappin  
Lappin 180



Kelly Stahly  
Tendercare Home Health



Kristina Watkins  
University of Indianapolis

The board of directors of CHAMP Camp is comprised of passionate and caring individuals with a diverse skill set to meet the organizational needs. Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, every other month. An annual meeting is held in January to approve the annual budget, elect new officers and set the goals and objectives based on our three-year strategic plan. Board members serve a term of three years and may serve no more than three consecutive terms. Officers of the executive committee serve for two years. Transitions off the board are staggered to ensure that a historical perspective remains as we add new members. After one year away from the board, past members may request to be considered to be a part of the board if their skill set would complement the current board.

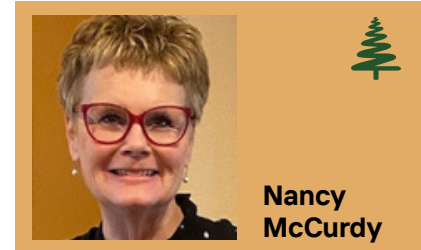


# HISTORY OF CHAMP CAMP

CHAMP Camp, Inc. began in early 1991, born from the vision of David Carter, a hospital administrator with a background in respiratory therapy, and Nancy McCurdy, a child life specialist. They sought to create a summer overnight camping experience for children with tracheostomies and those requiring ventilator or technological assistance. Working closely with children in hospital settings, many of whom had quadriplegia, David and Nancy recognized the need to provide opportunities for these young people to fully experience and enjoy life beyond their medical challenges.

Due to the medical fragility and around-the-clock care required by children living on ventilators, traditional camp programs were not an option. Determined to make the outdoors accessible to these potential campers, David and Nancy discovered that only a few camps in the country served this unique population. In May 1991, a Steering Committee was formed to bring their dream to life.

With the strong logistical support of Lifelines Children's Rehabilitation Hospital, once located in central Indiana, and financial gifts from individuals and several businesses in the community, a weekend pilot program was launched at Camp Isanogel in Muncie, Indiana, in August 1991. The inaugural camp was filled with unforgettable and exciting experiences. In 1992, the camp moved to Bradford Woods in Martinsville, Indiana, and by 1993, CHAMP Camp found a new home at Recreation Unlimited in Ashley, Ohio, just north of Columbus. Over time, the camp grew steadily, welcoming campers from 13 states.



In the summer of 1998, CHAMP Camp expanded its offerings to include enrichment experiences tailored to the evolving needs of adolescents. By 2011, the camp returned to Bradford Woods, bringing it back to its Indiana roots.

The program has evolved remarkably over the years. Activities now include canoeing, climbing a 50-foot alpine tower, fishing, swimming, creative arts, recreational games, outdoor living skills, pontoon boating, zip lining and exploring the camp's extraordinary treehouse. Thanks to our dedicated volunteer staff - composed primarily of healthcare professionals - all activities and equipment are carefully adapted to ensure full camper participation. CHAMP Camp truly embodies a "can-do" spirit.

CHAMP Camp was officially incorporated on August 23, 1991, and is a recognized nonprofit with 501(c)(3) status, allowing for tax-deductible donations. The camp is funded through the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundation grants, and special events, including the annual Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball.

We look forward to continuing to add to our rich history during our 36<sup>th</sup> year of camp in June of 2026!

# THE HIGHLIGHTS

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## 35 YEARS OF CAMP

We can't believe we celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> year of camp in 2025! Over the past three and a half decades, CHAMP Camp has experienced many changes. We graduated multiple campers, moved locations several times and survived a pandemic that required us to hold camp virtually in 2020 and 2021. While we weren't sure how strong our return would be, the CHAMP Camp spirit came back stronger than ever in 2022!

To mark this milestone, we added several special touches to our celebration. Our commemorative T-shirt featured a "Once Upon a Time" theme that represented camp throughout the years. Cabins fully embraced the fantasy with dragons, princesses and plenty of whimsy.

Our ever-popular dance became an even bigger hit with the addition of a carnival style food truck. We are so grateful for Shaggy's Concessions who were able to adapt to our crazy weather conditions and still provide delicious treats and drinks!

We invited our founders, Dave Carter and Nancy McCurdy, along with alumni campers to join us for a birthday party at the lake. We wore party hats, enjoyed Qdoba and cupcakes-in-a-jar, and reminisced about the years with a banner portraying all of our camp T-shirts throughout the years.

We can't wait to see what the next 35 years bring!

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## COUNSELORS AND CANOES

No birthday celebration would be complete without the first annual (maybe last annual?) counselor canoe race! Cabins were challenged to create their own canoe oars using pool noodles, duct tape, and whatever natural materials they could find nearby. The creativity on display, including one clever decoy oar, made it clear this would be a race for the ages!

Two counselors were selected to represent each cabin, and the competitive energy was evident from the beginning as canoes leapt from the start line. The race quickly turned into an epic showdown between our two boys' cabins, Raymond and Elm as they sprinted to the turn around point and headed for the finish line.

It looked like Elm would take the win, but a challenge from Raymond resulted in Elm's disqualification missing the turn around. Walnut and Beech put up a strong fight, but unfortunately Oak ended up in the lake!





# THE HIGHLIGHTS, CONT'D

## BUBBLES...

Our counselors are always finding creative new ways to bring even more fun to our week of camp. This year, our longtime friend, Dr. Chuck, donated large inflatable bubbles. That got the creative juices flowing! One of our cabins took it upon themselves to figure out how to safely put a camper inside the bubble and float them in the pool! We knew it would be fun, but we didn't anticipate how life-changing and emotional it would be as well. Our friend TJ shared that he always wondered what people were looking at when they put their faces in the water. While inside the bubble, he was finally able to experience it for himself, putting his face "in" the water and see what he had been curious about for so long.



## SILVER SNEAKER BENEFIT BALL

Once again, we were blown away by the generosity of our guests! Their support makes it possible for us to continue providing this incredible experience for our amazing population of campers! Matt Standridge, WTHR, emceed the evening. Our bourbon pull, wine pull, silent auction and blinky ring chances were a great kick-off to the night. Guests then enjoyed a delicious dinner, followed by the presentation of our annual awards. Bev Kramer, a 27-year counselor, received the Silver Sneaker award for her loyal support of camp. Brian Christopher, a counselor, donor, and promoter of camp was honored with the Heart and Sole award, given in memory of Darrell Gossett for outstanding efforts in support of our organization. The Eads family touched everyone's hearts with their presentation on the impact that CHAMP Camp has had on their sibling campers, Paxton and Irene. The night ended with a lively auction led by Darin Lawson and energetic dancing with DJ SLMBR! We are grateful to all who attended, including the many campers and counselors who joined the celebration.

Mark your calendars for September 19, 2026, and join us for another unforgettable evening of fun and community.





# THE BOTTOM LINE

It is our goal to be as transparent as possible with our financial information (without boring you with too many details!).

If you have questions regarding our financial information, please reach out directly to Jamie Mitchell at 317.679.1860 or [admin@champcamp.org](mailto:admin@champcamp.org). You can also view our 990 form at <https://www.guidestar.org/>.

## DONATIONS

**76%**

Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball  
Bourbon and Wine Pull  
Blink Rings  
Silent and Live Auction  
Donations

**13%**

Individual Donations  
Memorial Donations  
Charlie Demetris  
Adam Minich

**11%**

Adopt-a-Camper  
Camp Store Revenue  
Corporate Donations  
Foundation Donations  
Investment Income

## EXPENSES

**33%**

### Camp Direct

Camp Shirts and Bracelets  
Camp Store Items  
Criminal Background Checks  
Insurance  
Medical Supplies  
On-line Application Platform  
Other Camp Needs  
Programming Supplies  
Rental of Bradford Woods  
Special Activities

**35%**

### Operations, Support and Non-Direct Camp Expenses

Accounting Fees  
- QuickBooks/Tax Prep  
American Camp Assoc. Membership  
Insurance  
- Board and Workers Comp  
Marketing/Promotion  
Office Rental (Storage)  
Payroll - Salary, Taxes and Fees  
Utilities  
- Telephone, fax, online storage  
Website Maintenance

**32%**

### Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball

Auction Platform  
Auction Supplies  
Awards  
Credit Card Fees  
Hotel Rooms for Keynote  
Meal  
Photography  
Printing and Postage  
Rental of Ritz Charles  
Speakers

## 2026

### CHAMP Camp 2026

Adding an additional cabin  
5 additional campers  
12 additional counselors  
Additional lodging for displaced  
Camp Central staff  
Increased costs for t-shirts,  
food, and program  
supplies

Anticipated increase in  
camp expense:

**20%**

### Opportunities outside of the week of camp:

One in the Spring  
One in the Fall/Winter  
Campers and potential new  
campers will be invited to  
participate based on the activity  
and needs.

#### Goals:

1. Offer our campers the chance to increase peer social opportunities
2. Offer our families the chance to spend time together and develop support system

Anticipated increase in  
non-direct camp expense:

**50%**

### Other needs:

**Office Space:** We continue to look for a space to call home for the CHAMP Camp office and storage. Ideally, we would like to be in the Carmel, Westfield, or other Northern Indianapolis areas.

**Intern:** We would love to offer someone the opportunity to intern for camp. We can always use the extra hands and feel like it is a great experience for anyone with a desire to be in the not-for-profit world or recreation therapy.

If you can help with either, contact Jamie at [admin@champcamp.org](mailto:admin@champcamp.org)

Anticipated increase in  
operations and support expense:

**10%**

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# SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM OUR FRIENDS...



## TAYLA

### **Glitter, Tiaras, and a Smile that will Brighten Your Day! written by Amy Beal, Tayla's Awesome Mom!**

A few months before Tayla turned five she had major surgery on her neck and was placed in a halo. She was scheduled to have inpatient rehabilitation, which is when Dr. Chuck came to evaluate her. He was so fun and enthusiastic, Tayla instantly connected with him. Dr. Chuck told us about CHAMP Camp and encouraged us to come check it out that summer.

We made the 2 1/2 hour trip to camp, and Tayla was hooked! She had never been around other kids like her and seeing all the fun they were having filled her with excitement. As soon as we left, we basically started the counting down the days until the next summer!

CHAMP Camp is always the highlight of Tayla's year. During her first year at camp the counselors sprayed her hair pink. You could still see pink at Christmas, and Tayla loved it. The counselors were extremely apologetic and worried that it wouldn't wash out. Little did they know that it would start a tradition. Almost every summer before CHAMP camp we color Tayla's hair pink! Camp lets her show off how ornery and adventurous she can be. She embraces her inner dare devil while doing things like zipline, alpine tower climbing, and even going up in a hot air balloon. Tayla loves the freedom to be independent and on her own at camp.

For our family, this time is just as meaningful. Camp is the only time when we are not providing overnight care for Tayla. It allows us to truly recharge and one-on-one time with her siblings, doing activities that are not always accessible to her, while knowing Tayla is safe, supported, and having the time of her life.





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# SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM OUR FRIENDS...



## Mallory Mankin

### From the East to the Midwest, we Love Mallory Best!

I first learned about CHAMP Camp while attending a Purdue Timmy Global Health meeting where Dr. Chuck was speaking. Another member had attended the year before and highly recommended it, but I was unable to apply that summer due to scheduling conflicts.

The following semester, I joined Engineering Projects in Community Service worked on a team partnered with Bradford Woods to help design an accessible treehouse for their camps. When CHAMP Camp was mentioned again, I knew it was time to listen, and I applied to be a counselor that summer as a pre-med student. I had an amazing week and loved how hands-on I was able to be with campers in the cabins.

CHAMP Camp has brought so much joy to my summers and made me a better Physician Assistant to my patients during the rest of the year. It is rewarding to help provide some of the same core childhood memories to these special kids that I made attending summer camps. My time at CHAMP Camp also helped me stand out during clinical rotations, as I was already comfortable with feeding tubes, trachs, and complex medical care, experiences many students don't receive until they enter the field.

Now, as a provider, I try not to put any limits on my patients as CHAMP Camp has expanded my perspective of what is possible. Instead, I listen to each person's goals and find safe, creative ways to help them achieve what matters most to them. I've become a better communicator and have learned how to fully utilize each of the talents and unique roles of all the allied healthcare professionals.

Seeing the treehouse design finally come to life reminded me how thankful I am that CHAMP camp came into my life all those years ago. No matter the role I've held or the cabin I've been assigned, there has been a sense of belonging that keeps calling me back, even after moving away to New York!



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# SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM OUR FRIENDS, CONT'D



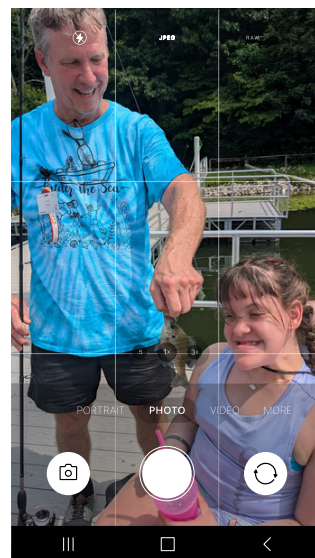
## Eric Huebner From Event Guest to Board Member

In 2022, my good friend Toby Hahn invited me to attend the Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball. I was immediately inspired and deeply moved by the experience, and I knew I had to get more involved. I joined the board in 2023. That summer I was able to attend camp as a visitor and what I saw completely changed my perspective on what is possible.

Watching the campers' faces light up with pure joy as they zip lined, swam, canoed, and laughed with friends, despite the tracheostomies and respiratory support many of them rely on, was nothing short of amazing. The incredible positive energy from the staff only added to this life changing experience.

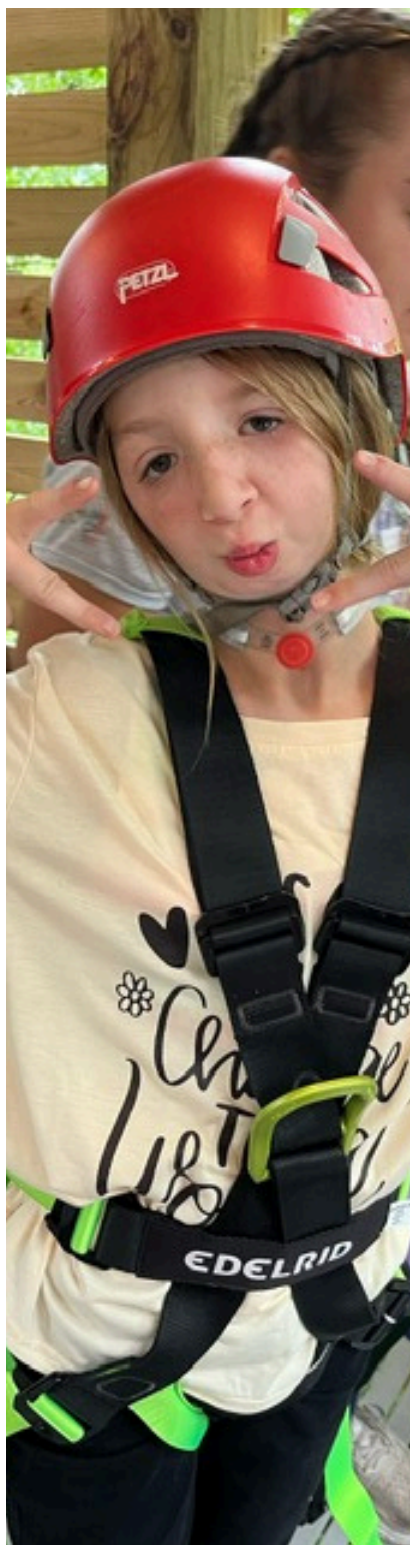
CHAMP Camp creates a space where kids who are often defined by their medical needs simply get to be kids, and truly, there is nothing else like it in the world. The fact that some of these parents have never been away from their kids until the week of camp hit even harder as a parent myself.

We often take for granted the simple things in life and this week reminds us that life is really challenging for some families. Joining the board has given me the privilege of helping sustain and grow this transformative experience each year, and I am simply grateful to play a small part in the happiness, confidence, and independence it gives these incredible campers





# SOME PERSPECTIVE FROM OUR FRIENDS, CONT'D



## Tim and Cara Donahue

### Friends who Support Our Dreams to Make Adventure Happen

The Donahue family has always loved zip-lining, so when my wife and I learned about CHAMP Camp's fundraising efforts to build zip lines at Bradford Woods for kids with tracheostomies, it immediately caught our attention. It seemed a little crazy at the time, but CHAMP Camp pulled it off.!

As our love, appreciation, and support for CHAMP Camp grew over time, we came to realize that it isn't just a gift to an amazing group of kids with trachs, it's also a gift to their parents. We have no doubt that caring for a child with a trach is a round-the-clock responsibility, so we love that parents are given this week to rest and recharge their batteries. They most certainly deserve it.



Thank you, CHAMP Camp!



Thank you for helping  
us to soar,  
Donahue Family!



# THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR MISSION IN 2025



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Mike Lee



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**Ryan Woolard**

**Andy and Bridget Young**

**Kevin and Lindsay Zimmerman**

## **CORPORATE DONORS, FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS**

**Advocates for Catholic  
Education/Org.**

**Altr'd State - Stand Out for Good**



# THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR MISSION IN 2025



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Charities Aid Foundations America  
Debra Ladendorf Charitable Fund  
Fans of Brian Christopher  
Glenn and Desiree Wegryn  
Charitable Fund  
Harding Family Foundation  
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SWAT Paddles  
Tendercare Home Health Services  
The Heritage Group  
The Ladendorf Family  
Todd and Sue Clevenger  
Watermark Group

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Colored Threads  
Connections Chiropractic and  
Wellness Clinic  
Conner Prarie  
Coopers Hawk  
Daniela Bianchi  
DJ SLMBR  
Dormie  
Dr. Heather Muston  
Dr. Ted Brauer  
Dragon Fly Salon  
Eric Huebner  
Evelyn Hazel Miller Foundation  
Fishers Event Center  
Fishers Health Connections  
Flix Brewhouse  
Fore the Girls  
Fred Baldwin  
Hamilton County Parks  
Department  
HandleBar & Hangar Support  
Harley Davidson  
Hawthorne Golf Club  
Holiday World Splashin' Safari  
Indiana Pacers  
Indiana Pacers  
Indianapolis Indians  
Indianapolis Raquet Club  
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra  
Indy Ignite  
Jason Richarz  
Jay Duerr

Jeff and Cathy Macke  
Jeff Grantham  
Jersey Mikes  
Kim Bertke  
Kyle Krol  
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Maddie Schade  
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Matt and Jenna Derado  
Matt Barth  
Michelle Dudash  
Mike Roop  
Moyer Jewelers  
Newfields  
Newfields  
Old 55 Distillery  
Omni Hotel  
Pacers Entertainment  
Pampered Chef - Tonya Carr  
Payback Foundation  
Pinheads  
Portillo's  
PRP Wine International  
Radiance by Rhianna  
Robin Waggoner  
Rose Ink  
Royal Pin Entertainment  
Shake Shack  
Shelly Hardwick  
SpiceKick - Michelle Dudash  
Storm Weathered Records  
SWAT Paddles  
Tanty Angulo  
The Confident Co.  
The Sagamore Club  
Tito's Vodka  
Wells Family





# THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR MISSION IN 2025



## **CHAMP Camp COUNSELORS**

**Asia Aden**  
**Sydney Anderson**  
**Lauren Anderson**  
**Santiago Angulo**  
**Dr. Francisco Parker Angulo**  
**Marina Baskhron**  
**Lilly Boring**  
**Kimberly Buschmeier**  
**Anny Busick**  
**Nick Cedillo**  
**Samantha Climie**  
**Karrie Coddington**  
**Ryanne Conrad**  
**Claire Cramer**  
**Hailee Danks**  
**Chuck Dietzen**  
**Faith Emmons**  
**Paige Flick**  
**Chloe Fraley**  
**Abigail Frey**  
**Elizabeth Gomez**  
**Michelle Hardwick**  
**Corinne Heban**

**Sean Hines**  
**Maren Johnson**  
**Kaitlyn Kirby**  
**Jessica Klipsch**  
**Audrey Knoper**  
**Bev Kramer**  
**Cassie Lefke**  
**Keith Light**  
**Brad Locke**  
**Mallory Mankin**  
**Adam McCall**  
**Emma McGurn**  
**Reagan Mckinniss**  
**Chris Mead**  
**Rhianna Michaels**  
**Sierra Mickey**  
**Emily Miller**  
**Grayson Miner**  
**Bridget Mitchell**  
**Carlos Morales**  
**Aliya Moss**  
**Dr. Heather Muston**  
**Joey Newsom**  
**Carla O'Brien**

**Dave Powell**  
**Marissa Prough**  
**Elaine Quirke**  
**Jamie Redden**  
**Emily Reger**  
**Kristen Roth**  
**Alyssa Sichrovsky**  
**Kathryn Siliko**  
**Lacey Snell**  
**Dominic Stein**  
**Shania Stewart**  
**Kayleigh Stockhoff**  
**Hannah Stoll**  
**Brianna Stoll**  
**Marissa Stopski**  
**Paige Sutter**  
**Miranda Ticker**  
**Kristina Watkins**  
**Alicia Weaver**  
**Kamryn Weeks**  
**Tracy Wheeler**  
**Jack Willeman**  
**Joanna Ziarko**  
**Heather Zimmerman**

## UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN...

We were saddened by the passing of two beloved members of our camp family.

Adam Minich attended camp from 1993-2005. He often visited after he graduated and always made us laugh. He was always willing to help support camp however he could.

Charlie Demetris joined us in 2009 and graduated in 2019. She is remembered for her beautiful smile, easy laugh and love of arts and crafts!

Adam and Charlie will be honored at CHAMP Camp 2026 through a moment of silence at the memory garden at Bradford Woods.

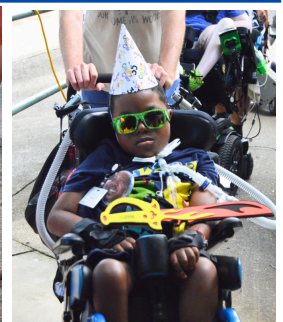
Thank you to everyone who made a donation in memory of these sweet friends. We are humbled by your generosity.







*24 campers had an amazing week and brought joy to everyone around them!*





# Cabin Life...



Beech



Oak



Walnut



Elm



Raymond



# SAVE THE DATE

January 1: Applications went live for campers and counselors

March 1: All applications due

June 13: Counselors arrive at CHAMP Camp

June 14: Campers arrive and we kick-off the  
**BEST WEEK OF THE YEAR**

June 16: Visitor Day at Camp  
10:30am - noon  
2:30pm - 4:30pm

September 19: Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball  
Ritz Charles, Carmel  
6:00pm



## PHONE

317.679.1860



## EMAIL

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## WEBSITE

www.champcamp.org



## ADDRESS

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Suite 18-357  
Carmel, IN 46033



# UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN...

At the end of each night during camp, we gather in a circle, hold hands and sing this song..

Goodnight,  
Sleep tight,  
and pleasant dreams to you.

Here's a wish  
and a prayer  
that all your dreams come true.

And now,  
'til we meet again...  
adios  
au revoir,  
auf wiedersehen.

Good Night!

