Where Do We Grow From Here?

Another record breaking summer is in the history books – but the laughter and energy still lingers from the 878 children whose feet treaded happily upon the warm soil of Holiday Home Camp. Yes, you read that number correctly – 878 children (720 in our traditional camp program and an additional 158 children in our partner outreach programs) received the gift of a fresh air summer camp experience thanks to the generosity of our donors such as you provide. That’s a six year attendance growth of 104%! And 720 regular session campers equals 100% occupancy! There were zero vacant beds at camp this year! These are records that are hard to beat!

So where do we go from here? Better yet, where do we GROW from here? How can this organization – which in the past six years has seen double digit growth in attendance, fundraising, staff retention and volunteers – maintain this strong pace and continue to strive and improve more deserving young lives?

How about going CAMPing… by CAMPaigning… Capital Campaigning, that is.

In May, our Board of Directors unanimously approved our 12 Million Fresh Air Campaign that will expand camp programming and facilities and grow our endowment so that we can continue to serve more children and improve more lives. These are our primary “Timbers of Support”: Our Commitment to Serve Disadvantaged Youth, Our Commitment to Sustainability through Strong Management, Our Commitment to our Flagship Property and Our Commitment to the Cultivation of Tradition and Relationships. These four Timbers of Support were developed as part of our larger Five Year Strategic Plan. This is the LGFAA’s first capital campaign in almost 15 years and we feel confident that our position of strength along with our talented and committed leadership will help make this campaign a huge success.

But this campaign is not simply about building more cabins so that we have more beds for more children. Rather, our plan is to continue to build upon the culture of excellence that defines Holiday Home Camp. We will continue to strive to do our best and work hard at camp and in school to be our best. Steve Jobs once said, ‘Where there is a will there is a way’ and while we indeed serve a population of disadvantaged children who don’t often see excellence modeled for them, Holiday Home Camp is a place where they are exposed to an environment where excellence is expected. Our philosophy is that our position of strength along with our talented and committed leadership will help make this campaign a huge success. It’s not too late to make an impact of this year’s programming!

Steve Jobs once said, “Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren’t used to an environment where excellence is expected.” In the past five years we have been raising the bar in every expert of our organization. We have shifted from having “Excellence” as a goal to having “Excellence” as an expectation. Our expectation of quality continues to measure our many successes. And while we indeed serve a population of disadvantaged children who don’t often see excellence modeled for them, Holiday Home Camp’s expectation of excellence has inspired these kids to do their best and work hard and in school to be their best selves and earn the opportunity to return to HHC this coming summer.

Your generous donations and continued support, year after year, are an endorsement of our measured success, our belief in building on our excellence and that together we can continue to improve lives with the fundamental inspiration of fresh air. We are so humbled and grateful for this immense support.

Dear Supporters,

Many of you have received a hand-written thank you note from a camper in the final weeks of summer. Each year we like to take this special opportunity to reach out to Holiday Home Camp, and as one of their week’s art projects, many write heartfelt thank you notes our to our community of support.

Here, to all of you who receive this newsletter, is one from a teen camper named Asia who has been coming to Holiday Home Camp since 2015.

With your donations, you make is possible for me and other kids around my age to have fun summers. I am also a part of the ELITE Teens program that meets monthly year-round. I appreciate what you do for the camp because you impact so many lives and make it possible for me through the process. Through-out the years of being a camper and an ELITE I have personally grown so much. When I found out that camp was run by donations and grants it made me realize how blessed I am to get this opportunity because there are so many kids who don’t get this experience. Thank you for everything that you do.

- Asia, Age 16, Lynwood, IL

Thank you for everything that you do.

To all of you who received this newsletter, thanking you for all your support and for allowing our campers to have such a wonderful experience.

Thank you to our proud Annual Corporate Sponsors that continue to help make the HHC magic possible!

Eileen Mullin
Development Counsel
eileen@holidayhomecamp.org

Because of your help, Holiday Home Camp was able to change the lives of 720 children this summer, including Asia. You are giving BLESSINGS, one week at a time to our campers. We ask Asia and all of our campers’ messages of gratitude and appreciation.

Please consider making a donation to our fall drive today!

IMPORTANT NOTE: In an effort to be more conscientious with our donors’ dollars, if we haven’t heard from you in the last few years this newsletter will be the last communication you will receive from us for some time. If you would like to remain on our mailing list regardless of recent giving please check the proper box on the enclosed remittance envelope and return it to Camp.

Sincerely,

Eileen Mcintyre-Gantert
Development Counsel
Eileen@HolidayHomeCamp.org

Thank You for Making It Possible!

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So come along with us on this new expedition. Jump on the CAMP Wagon and help us CAMPaign! Together we can chart the course that will provide sure footing for the Lake Geneva Fresh Air and Holiday Home Association so that we can continue to provide fresh air summer camp experiences that inspire so many deserving children to seek excellence within themselves.

Where do we GROW from here?

Well, that’s easy… Onward and Upward!

Onward and Upward!
First, OWLS is very happy to announce the promotion of Mark Feldman as the Director of Programs and Trainings. Mark has been part of the OWLS family since 2015. He brings a high energy attitude with exceptional leadership skills. In August, Mark received his Level 2 and Challenge Course Training. Mark has bolstered our fall staff by adding four adjunct facilitators and five members of the amazing Holiday Home Camp (HHC) Summer staff to help out for the fall busy season! After completing fall OWLS training, Mark is ready to share his knowledge to our team. Programs such as Community Action in Beloit, Mt. Mary Grace Scholars, and Future World and Local Leaders are examples of the space by the LaCroix family. Last year during two great Football matchups. Bears Vs. Lions and Packers Vs. Dolphins! Lastly, OWLS by Tailgate Hoot is coming on November 11th 12:00-4:00pm during two great football matchups. Bears Vs. Lions and Packers Vs. Dolphins! The second year of the Counselor In Training Program was a total success! Speaking of full circle, 17% of the summer 2018 staff were former HHC campers. Many teens expressed their desire to work at HHC after completing high school. This is nothing but positive for the HHC Staff and there is nothing like being the journey at HHC full circle.

Holiday Home Camp had another successful summer celebrating our 131st year of serving deserving children. Once again, records were broken by the Camp Registrar, Linda! 720 kids traveled out of the water with a part or whole matching donation so we can help our clients and community to LEARN! LEAD! GROW! This football season, our goal is to help subsidize our leadership opportunities based on customer set goals and objectives for youth and community leadership opportunities based on customer set goals and objectives for youth and community. Programs such as Community action in Beloit, Mt. Mary Grace Scholars, and Future World and Local Leaders are examples of the underserved so our program can lower the rates of clients and swing! This football season, our goal is to help subsidize our leadership opportunities based on customer set goals and objectives for youth and community leadership opportunities based on customer set goals and objectives for youth and community. This summer we are expanding the HHC mission to the children in our own backyard was one of our goals this year.

Holiday Home Camp is a family friendly tailgate party! Everyone welcome! 12-4pm at Privato in Williams Bay! Nov 29th - HHC Christmas for the Kids dinner & fund raiser. Everyone is welcome. Call us for tickets 262-245-5161 Dec 9th - Holiday Home Founders Dinner. FREE to all Volunteers, Committee members Donors and Alumni. RSVP’s are appreciated—Brad=HolidayHomeCamp.com Dec 17th - Holiday Package stuffing! Volunteer to help ensure every camper gets a pre-Christmas present this holiday season. Meet at Camp around 9:30am to help. Cocoa and holiday cheer provided by our camp elves!

Are you a Holiday Home Camp Alumni? Keep the camp spirit going by joining us at “Holiday Home Camp Alumni” Facebook page!

Holiday Home Camp adores our volunteers! In 2018 we saw a lot of dedication to serve and spread out every volunteer to come to camp and donate their time and talents! We enjoyed having individuals, families, scout groups, youth groups, churches, and even other non-profits that came to lend a helping hand. There were over 600 hours of volunteering logged in 2017 by community members that wanted to invest in our mission! All we can say to numbers like these are “THANK YOU!” - to all of our volunteers and partners. Your generos- ity has helped us make this change. This positively affects the lives of our campers, and our community.

There are always opportunities to get involved every month! We enjoy customizing your volunteer experience to re- flect what you or your group interests are. If you’d like to help, then we’d love to have you. Call us at 262-245-5161.

### Make change happen, volunteer! 

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### More ways to give back...

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