



PROVIDING POSITIVE EXPERIENCES

+ POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTS + POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE KIDS' LIVES THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCES.

Harnessing the Positive

At the heart of our work is a desire to promote *positive youth development* for the young people we serve. We believe that we can achieve this by providing the children and young adults we support with *positive experiences, positive environments, and positive relationships*.

To enhance the positive outcomes that summer camp undoubtedly delivers, we have spent the past year continuing to build upon the complementary programming that ATS offers. The progression of ATS programs allows for broader and deeper experiences, greater challenges, and stronger relationships that all lead to more significant positive personal development.

Spending multiple summers at camp and participating in our other development programs strengthens each young person's *competence, confidence, character, connection, and caring*. Richard M. Lerner, professor of Human Development at Tufts University, proposes that when these '5Cs' are present in a young person, a sixth C, *contribution*, emerges, where the young person can constructively contribute to self, family, community and society. We believe programs that promote these features (the '5Cs') are both positive and powerful.

The benefits of our work are both immediate and slow to emerge. Although our programs are essentially delivered one summer at a time, we aim for the impact to last a lifetime and beyond - we aim for the impact to last a *thousand summers*.

In conjunction with summer camp we strive to provide the kind of positivity that enriches young people's lives and changes the world. We believe this is a cause worthy of our collective effort and we thank you for your support.



Tim Lucas

Tim Lucas
Executive Director



“My confidence has increased exponentially because of my time at camp. By successfully making it through difficult situations (such as making friends or doing a very long hike) my self-esteem was boosted, and I feel confident and prepared to face more challenges in the future.”

—Isabel



Campership Program

A Thousand Summers firmly believes that extended-stay wilderness summer camp programs play a critical role in youth development, strengthening and reinforcing learning and allowing children to thrive. These types of highly impactful enrichment experiences are financially out of reach for the families we serve.

We work to remove the barriers and make broadly accessible the significant growth that camp provides. Included in that commitment is dedicated mentoring to support and prepare each camper and their family to extract the greatest benefit from the camp experience.

Each summer we send kids ranging in age from 10-17 who are from underserved backgrounds to one of twelve carefully selected, high-quality camps. In 2024 we awarded 127 camperships.

We commit to offering this multi-week program over multiple summers to expose the kids we serve to progressively more challenging outdoor experiences, to deepen their connection to nature, and to maximize their social and emotional growth.

Camp is about fun and friends, but it also provides a safe and supportive environment that encourages kids to try new activities and push themselves beyond their comfort zones. They engage in rigorous outdoor adventures, often having to work together to overcome challenges and achieve success. They develop confidence, resilience, and grit and discover their own strengths while celebrating the strengths of others.

Our work is about much more than just providing financial assistance. We know that by breaking down barriers to the camp experience for the youth we serve, we are giving them a gift that has the power to shape the trajectory of their lives.



About Our Campers



35

YEARS OF AWARDING
CAMPSHIPS



127

CAMPSHIPS AWARDED
IN 2024



1,763

CAMPSHIPS AWARDED
SINCE 1989



49%

CAMPERS THAT COME FROM
SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES



93,262

HOURS OF YOUTH PROGRAMMING
DELIVERED IN 2024



20%

CAMPERS THAT LIVE AT OR
BELOW POVERTY LEVEL



44% MALE CAMPERS &
56% FEMALE CAMPERS



12

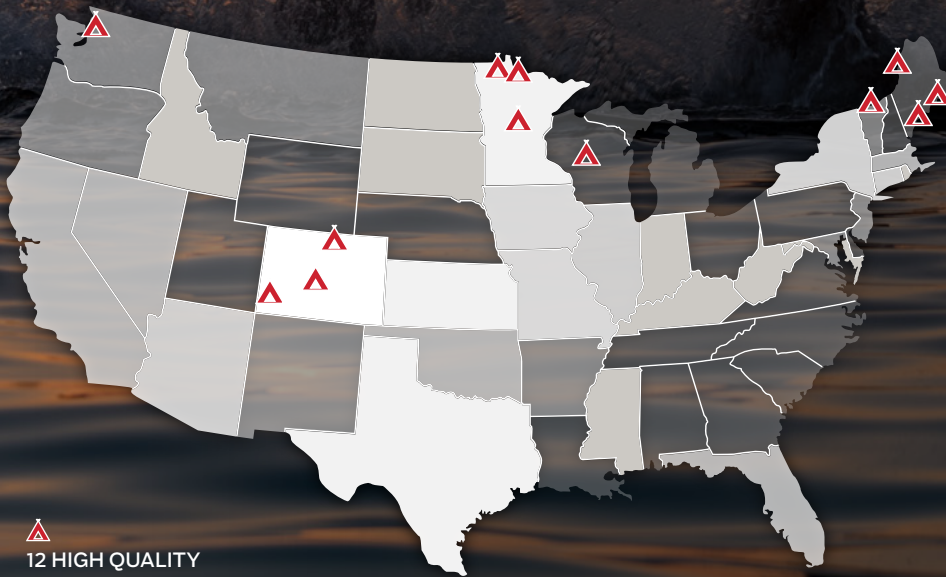
NUMBER OF ASSOCIATE
CAMP PARTNERSHIPS



\$435,223

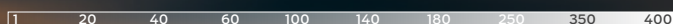
CAMPSHIP AWARDS VALUE

CAMPERS ATTENDED 12 CAMPS IN THE SUMMER OF 2024



12 HIGH QUALITY
ASSOCIATE CAMP PARTNERSHIPS

1990-2024 DENSITY MAP WHERE OUR CAMPERS COME FROM



RACE/ETHNICITY

41% WHITE

33% LATINO

11% BLACK

10% BIRACIAL

3% AMERICAN INDIAN

2% ASIAN

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



2023-2024 Volunteer of the Year

Julie Richardson

A Thousand Summers is proud to announce that Julie Richardson from Salida, Colorado, is our Volunteer of the Year.

Julie was a camper and staff member at Sanborn Western Camps starting in 1962. She served in administrative and leadership roles, including being the Director of the girls' camp from 2003-2012. Julie was also an educator.

Julie has served as an ATS Campership Mentor and Capstone Mentor since 2012. Julie has been a mentor on fifteen separate occasions for campership recipients.

Gillian Nyland, the ATS Program Director, shared that “Julie is an excellent example of what it means to be a mentor with ATS. She is a great advocate for her campers and clearly and kindly communicates with them and their families. Her passion for camp is unmatched, and we appreciate her dedication to our community.”

Thank you, Julie, for all that you do for ATS!



“I consider it a privilege to work with campers and their families. I tell them, let’s get this done because I know it will be great. Camp is the best thing that can happen to anyone. It’s life-changing.”

—Julie Richardson, ATS Volunteer of the Year

Compass Program

The Compass Program is designed to enhance social and emotional learning and provide service and leadership opportunities over multiple years for the kids in our Campership Program. It focuses on camp-related themes like coping with homesickness and living in tight quarters with diverse friends.

Of this year's participants who were surveyed, more than 80 percent said they had a better sense of what to expect at camp after taking part in the Compass Program.

The Compass Program gives kids a head start in preparation and personal growth before they arrive at camp and then builds upon what they learned at camp as they participate in Compass the following year.

As our campers participate in the Compass Program each year, they learn more about themselves and others and discover how to navigate their lives with a sense of belonging and purpose.



73

COMPASS PARTICIPANTS
IN 2024

“The Compass Program helps prepare campers for the social and emotional implications of camp. Discussing these topics in a group setting with other campers who have shared similar experiences creates a form of collective understanding and helps campers come out of their shell.”

—Gillian Nyland, ATS Program Director

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



“I loved the meetings and having a mentor and doing something to help out my community. It also improved my confidence and I feel I could do this again.”

—Elizabeth



13

CAPSTONE
PARTICIPANTS IN 2024

Capstone Program

The Capstone Program invites older campership recipients, with their Mentor’s support, to design and lead a service project in their community during the school year. Campers maximize the impact of the personal growth attained through their camp experiences to make a difference and further develop leadership skills that can serve them and their communities now and in the future.

In 2024, thirteen Capstone Program participants completed projects that ranged from park cleanup to gratitude presentations to introducing reptiles to elementary school students.

Capstone Program service project outcomes are shared with our camps to enhance campers’ leadership program applications, whether it be for the Camper in Leadership Training, Junior Counselor, or Pathfinding programs. Capstone Program service hours accrued may also count towards school community service requirements.

A Thousand Summers is committed to empowering the young people we serve to be agents of change and create opportunities to do good in their communities.



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Fellowship Program

The Camp Fellowship Program provides ongoing leadership opportunities for the young people we serve as they move beyond their camper years.

In 2024, five of our Campership Program alums were enrolled as Fellows and employed as camp counselors, receiving additional training and taking on additional responsibilities to support current ATS campers in exchange for a stipend and references from ATS.

We had Fellows working at Cheley Colorado Camps, Colvig Silver Camps, Camp Kawanhee, and Camp Kooch-i-ching.

The Fellows served as positive role models for campers and provided a sense of connection and belonging for our younger ATS campers as they got to know someone like them who had successfully navigated the camp experience.

Working at camp is a wonderful way to develop leadership and professional skills, give back to a community, and help younger campers find their path as they begin their own camp journey.



5

FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED
IN 2024

“A Fellow is strong not for himself, but for others. Yes, I became a Fellow because I wanted to do this for me, but really I want to be strong for other campers.”

—Jack

WANT TO LEARN MORE?





Outdoor Leadership Program

The Outdoor Leadership Program fills the gap between when a camper ages out of the Campership Program and when as a young adult they can apply to work as a camp counselor. In 2024, the first year of the program, we had seven participants.

The program consists of a 2-week backpacking and river travel wilderness experience in Colorado and Utah led by a reputable outdoor adventure organization called *Open Roads*.

While on the trip, participants focus on leadership, team building, environmental education, service learning, and acquiring wilderness tripping certifications. These skills prepare participants to be effective camp counselors should they choose to apply to the Camp Fellowship Program or seek other opportunities in the outdoor industry.

The Outdoor Leadership Program offers our Campership Program alums the chance to transition into wilderness leaders while continuing to make camp and outdoor education more inclusive and equitable.



7

OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS
IN 2024



“

I will take with me the leadership skills I'm learning. I plan on using this program as a stepping stone to becoming a camp counselor and working with young people to discover their passion for the outdoors. This program is the best course of action for me to do that.

—Jean

”

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



A Glimpse at the Finances

Unaudited Financial Information 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024

We benefited from a strong year financially. Funds raised from our supporters along with healthy program revenue have put us in a position to invest more than ever before into our programs in 2025. Organizational assets continue to grow as a result of new donor contributions and strong investment returns and now approach \$4.8 million, 60% of which is restricted to fund camperships.

We are honored to partner with you in pursuit of our mission. Together we are making an increasingly positive impact on the social and emotional development and leadership potential of the increasing numbers of young people we serve.

Below is a financial snapshot of our 2023-2024 fiscal year:

\$887,939

TOTAL DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS



\$4,798,269

NET ASSETS



BUDGET VS ACTUAL: NET INCOME

REVENUE

BUDGETED: \$1,124,539

ACTUAL: \$1,157,354

EXPENSES

BUDGETED: \$1,175,585

ACTUAL: \$1,107,322

NET INCOME

ACTUAL: \$50,032



1

NEW ENDOWED CAMPERSHIP
THE BOVARD FAMILY ENDOWED
CAMPERSHIP FUND

MORE THAN

\$10,200,000

IN CAMPERSHIPS AWARDED SINCE 1989*

"Thank you! Camp has been a really amazing part of my life, and I will never forget this experience. I hope someday I can help someone go to camp like you helped me."

—**Coco**



* NOMINAL VALUE

Support Our Campers and Promote Positive Change

Would you like to invest in the kids that we serve and provide them with a summer full of friendship, positivity, and personal growth? Here are a few ways that you can make a significant impact on the young people we serve:

\$5,000

The summer of a lifetime for one lucky camper

\$2,000

Sponsor one ATS Fellow to work as a camp counselor

\$1,000

Provide an introductory camp experience for a young camper

\$500

Provide travel expenses for one camper

\$250

Provide equipment for one camper

\$100

Fund a camper's bank account during his/her stay

Leaving Your Legacy

Leave your legacy by including A Thousand Summers (the John Austin Cheley Foundation) (FEIN #48-1077337) in your estate plans. For more information on leaving an impactful gift in your will or naming the Foundation as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy or retirement fund, contact Alyssa Street at **720.981.2532 x 100** or at alynna.street@athousandsummers.org.



Give the Gift of Stock and Increase Your Impact

Did you know that we accept gifts of stock? Gifts of stock are a wonderful way to support the kids that we serve. You can make a bigger impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stock, bonds, and mutual funds. Compared with donating cash, or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift AND your tax deduction. Be sure to contact us to let us know you are making a transfer because we aren't always notified. You can find our organization by searching for the John Austin Cheley Foundation or (FEIN #48-1077337) online through your brokerage firm. You can also find more information and download stock transfer instructions at www.athousandsummers.org/stock.



The Team

Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteers.
We couldn't do it without you!

Trustees

Dave Brown
Ridgefield, CT

Ann McCollum
Albuquerque, NM

Mike Brower
Fort Collins, CO

Lindsay Nyquist
Los Angeles, CA

John Ceraolo
Port Saint Lucie, FL

Luis Ochoa
New York, NY

Lisa Durkee
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Gregory Euston*
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Hillary Shaw
Atlanta, GA

Sara Erickson
Kennebunk, ME

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Sara Gilbertson*
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Kirstin Gillespie
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Denver, CO

Kim Kittle
Allenspark, CO

Eean Tyson
Brooklyn, NY

Sarah Littlefield
Reading, MA

Will Whipple
Lawrence, KS

Staff

Tim Lucas
Executive
Director

Gillian Nyland
Program
Director

Alyssa Street
Development
Director

Karen Smith*
Program Advisor

Vanessa Badolato
Development and
Communications Manager

**Final Year of Service*

Board Updates

A Thousand Summers is proud to welcome three new trustees to the Board: Sandra Johnson, Leilani Germain, and Deidra Honig.

Our new trustees have rich and varied backgrounds and experiences and are passionate about youth development and getting kids outside. They are a talented group who bring great expertise and energy to A Thousand Summers.

Gregory (Gus) Euston and Sara Gilbertson served their final year on the Board in 2024. We offer our sincere thanks to Gus and Sara for their service, their dedication, and their support of our mission.

Donor List

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those individuals, businesses, and organizations who partnered with us to provide the gift of camp to so many kids this past summer. We couldn't have done it without you and would like to recognize all donors who contributed to the Foundation from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

GIFTS MADE IN HONOR OF

ATS Campers at Clearwater
Camp for Girls
Avery Bell
Peter H. Beren
Don & Carole Cheley
Thor Collins
Colvig Silver Camps
Loyal Durand
Jim Eby
Gregory E. Euston
Geoffrey Euston
Gabriel P. Fletcher-Rauch
Sue & Tom Frostman
Christine Geraghty
Cathy Caton Groene
Barbara Hall
Kimberly W. Kittle
Alexandra Kittle

Timothy J. Latham
Sarah H. Latham
John Matous
My summer job at Cheley
Allan Neustadt - My father &
grandfather to Stokli & Osha Ashcraft
Lindsay Nyquist
Carol Ann Sass
Jane M. Scott
Hillary "Brewster" Shaw
Alyssa Street
The amazing Lindsay Nyquist
The CSC staff - past, present & future
Wendy Thorpe
Hovey Tinsman
Heidi Tinsman
Will Whipple

GIFTS MADE IN MEMORY OF

Abe & Mary Lou (Jeff) Akaka
(counselors in the 1940's)
Rex & Jeannette Baker
Hanora Lee Bihari
Kai Boyd
John P. Boylan
Teddy Bruce Boyle
Linnea Brock
Marilyn Brown
Frank "Chief" Cheley
Jack & Sis Cheley
Sud Dows
Prissy Essen
Bess, Dick, & Bill Fuller
Bill Fuller
Parker L. "Chip" Gerdes
Timothy S. Hershey
Claire E. Holmes
Peter & Pat Horne
Nancy Hushek
R. Edgar Johnson
Sally Altick Keller
Anna Belle Kritser
William David Kroffke
Jack T. Lamkin
Marilee Long-Saxe
Phyllis Malicoat
Lanny Martin
Ilka Mathews
Elda Matous
Mickey McArthur
John L. McKown
Rowan Chiara Meredith
My Father
Allison Fay Neidig
Jon L. Olsen
Our friends Clarke & Arne
Lee E. Palmer
Andrew R. Pfeiffenberger
Bill Raley
Brian Randolph
Jan Rufien
Roberta Saalfeld
Joy Schoppe Butler
Linda Pigg Schroeder
Joan Sessel
Jay R. Smith
Virginia "Ginny" Stafford
Caryl Susman
Herbert J. Ullmann
Francille Walker
Barbara Moore Weber
Diane H. Zent

ENDOWED CAMPERSHIPS

Reverdie and Jean Ater Memorial
Campership
Robert H. Bell Family Fund
The Bovard Family Endowed
Campership Fund
Brown Family Campership Fund
Deborah J. Chaloud Campership
Jack Cheley Endowed
Campership Fund
Sis Cheley Memorial Endowment Fund
Craig I. Colvig Fund
Barbara Elaine Emmons
Endowment Fund
Carol Hershey Periard Family Fund
John T. Jackson Campership Fund -
John T. Jackson Foundation

Anna Belle Kritser Memorial Fund
Ann Kuhn Endowed Campership Fund
Kundtz-Tuohy Endowed Campership
John C. Lebor Memorial Campership
Fund - Lebor Family Foundation
The Livingston Family Fund
Laura Naugle Sanborn and Mary Colvig
Miller Campership
Robert Perkins Campership Fund
Mary E. Satter Endowment Fund
David H. Street Family Endowed
Campership**
Andy and Nancy Thompson
Campership Fund
Williams Family Campership Fund
***Pledged Endowments*

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE - \$20,000 AND ABOVE

**Anna Belle Kritser II Foundation
L & M Charitable Foundation, Inc.**
Lynn Marcus Richards

Barbara & Gregory Rosston
The Estate of Virginia Stafford**

CAMPERSHIP LEVEL - \$5,000 - \$19,999**Anonymous**

Cynthia S. Anthony

Amy Blevins & Philip Bickler**Chris & Allison Bovard**

Bill Brandt

David & Christine Brown

John & Jacolyn Bucksbaum

Catherine Manley Gaylord**Foundation**

Lisa Durkee

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The Elbridge & Evelyn Stuart Foundation

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Julie V. & Donald E. Gardner

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Marcus Sessel**Hillary Shaw**

Brian & Christa Simmers

David & Betty Street**Randy & Holly Street**

Kirstin & Patrick Sullivan

The Tobin Family

Cynthia Beck Tomlinson

Michael C. & Mary Trueblood

Andrew & Amy Trueblood**Tracy Valentine**

The Zent Family Foundation

CURRENT ADOPT A CAMPER FUNDS

Teddy Bruce

Fletcher Family

Mary Christine (née Boylan) Lytle

Lynn Marcus Richards & Allan Marcus

Emmie & John Scully



"Thank you for doing something for me that is undeniably a positive pivotal experience in my life."

—Ryland

BENEFACTORS - \$1,000 - \$4,999

4S Bay Partners LLC

Dawn Aladits

Anonymous Anonymous

Alan L. & Jill Ater

Pam Beaver & Ed Smith

Steve & Susan Bell

Betsy Moog Brooks & Mike Brooks**Mike Brower****The Buettner Family Foundation for****Leigh & Al Buettner****Jan Burke**

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The Cynthia Elkins Foundation

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Jared Young

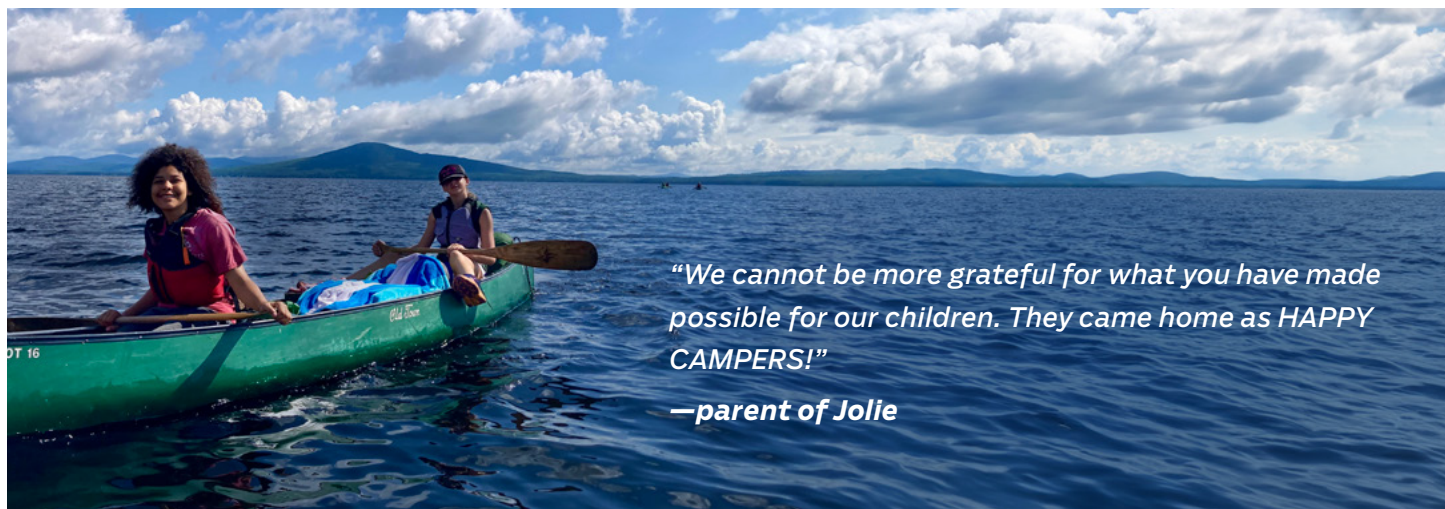
PATRONS - \$500 - \$999

Anonymous
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**Peter Brown & Lisa
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Jay, Lara & Matt Bushman
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Loyal Durand
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Cinkosky & Family
Vaneeta & Devadas Varma
 Cassie Ver Steeg
 Willo Wright



"We cannot be more grateful for what you have made possible for our children. They came home as HAPPY CAMPERS!"

—parent of Jolie

FRIENDS - \$250 - \$499

Lee Adler & Robert Marks
Alaska Airlines
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 Sarah Anyieth
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 Jacque Tietjen
 Carolyn Tocks
Steve & Judy Trapp
 Eean Tyson
Carol Vance
 Dawn Werner
Robert Wham
 Kimberly Whipple
Vincent & Joyce Zarcone
Sasha & Mike Zolick



"I became more positive in thinking about life."
—Jazzy

GIFTS IN KIND

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Anonymous | Clearwater Camp for Girls |
| Big 5 Sporting Goods | Colvig Silver Camps |
| Camp Kawanee for Boys | Kim Kittle |
| Camp Kieve for Boys | Hillary Shaw |
| Camp Nor'wester | Theodore Shaw |
| Camp Thunderbird for Boys | Sanborn Western Camps |
| Camp Thunderbird for Girls | Ship Camps |
| Camp Wavus for Girls | Songadeewin |
| Camping Education Foundation | Tough Cutie |
| CampMinder | Will Whipple |
| Cheley Colorado Camps | |

PARTNERS - UP TO \$250

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| Luke Adams | Sandy & Alice Bushman | Sara Erickson | Sheila Holton |
| Nicole Adams | Julia Bess Smith Butler | Kathryn Falzone | Kylie Holzman |
| Kate Ahalt | Ricky Lee Campbell | Anne Feeney | Louise Marie Hopkins |
| Paige Alcott | Tyler & Debby Campbell | Sheila Ferguson | Michael D. Horne |
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