

THE CARSON CONNECTION

A mini-update from YMCA Camp Carson



“You are never too old to set a new goal or to dream a new dream.”
~ C.S. Lewis

NEW YEAR, NEW ADVENTURES



Every new year brings a certain level of excitement and opportunity to Camp Carson. This year, we have so much to look forward to. Through some generous grants, foundations, and individual donors, we have a slate of projects coming up to help ensure the future of Camp and our facilities.

Some of these projects will not be visible to Campers or families, focused on infrastructure, safety, environmental stewardship, and year-round operational capacity. Camp has been growing so rapidly that some of our infrastructure has not been able to keep pace. For example, we are installing new water lines throughout Camp, to support the increased number of campers using water.

We have begun work on the new Music Studio, to give campers the opportunity to explore music, performance, and recording at Camp. A new Nature Education center is underway, for campers and school groups to learn through activities and exhibits. Both of these projects are repurposing existing spaces, making the most of our facilities and resources.

We can't wait for you to see what's new this Summer!

NEW EVENTS AT CAMP!

2026 Earth Aware Program

FREE for schools and students! March 6, 12, & 18

We are very excited to offer a NEW Earth Aware Day Camp program for local schools. So much of the Camp experience is outdoors and exploring our environment. We have created a one-day environmentally-focused learning program for fourth-grade students. These day camps will offer kids the opportunity to participate in a wide range of outdoor activities, learn about our environment, and hopefully explore nature in ways they never have before.



ALL local schools are invited to join us for a full day of Earth and Environmental activities, learning, and outdoor fun. Schools can choose to bring a small class group or multiple classes, and will learn alongside other schools and students throughout that day. This program was made possible through support from Lilly Endowment, Inc. and YMCA of the USA.

Spots are limited to 300 participants, so please [CLICK HERE to register your class today!](#)

Women's Wellness Weekend! April 24-26

Are you and your friends looking for a weekend away - a space to learn, explore, connect, and grow? Join us for a special weekend of relaxation, camp activities, mindfulness, and positive energy!

Registration is open to all adult women. A \$200 fee includes all lodging, activities, and meals for the entire weekend.

[CLICK HERE to reserve your spot today!](#)



"Find out who you are and do it on purpose."
~ Dolly Parton



It's time for YOU!

Join us for an unforgettable weekend with friends, or take some time for yourself and connect with new people. This "choose your own adventure" weekend gives you the opportunity to explore your creative side and challenge yourself with some camp and physical activities. Or you can choose to relax by the fire, read a book on the porch, or rest and watch the lake.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR SUMMER 2026!



Go to campcarson.org to register your kids for a summer camp experience they will never forget! In addition to a traditional overnight camp, we offer specialty camps for Dirt Bikes, Wranglers, and Teen Leadership programs.

We offer two unique camps for kids from Military families! Check out campcarson.org/military-camps for more details.

Operation Military Support only costs \$200, thanks to generous donors. This camp is available to children of military families, either active or veterans.

We also have a scholarship for OMS! [Click Here to apply today!](#)

Camp Corral offers a free week of camp to children of wounded, ill, and fallen military heroes. We partner with Golden Corral to offer this special program to military families.

Scholarships are available!

We have Financial Assistance, Scholarships and Foster Care Scholarship available, to help Camp be accessible to as many kids as possible.

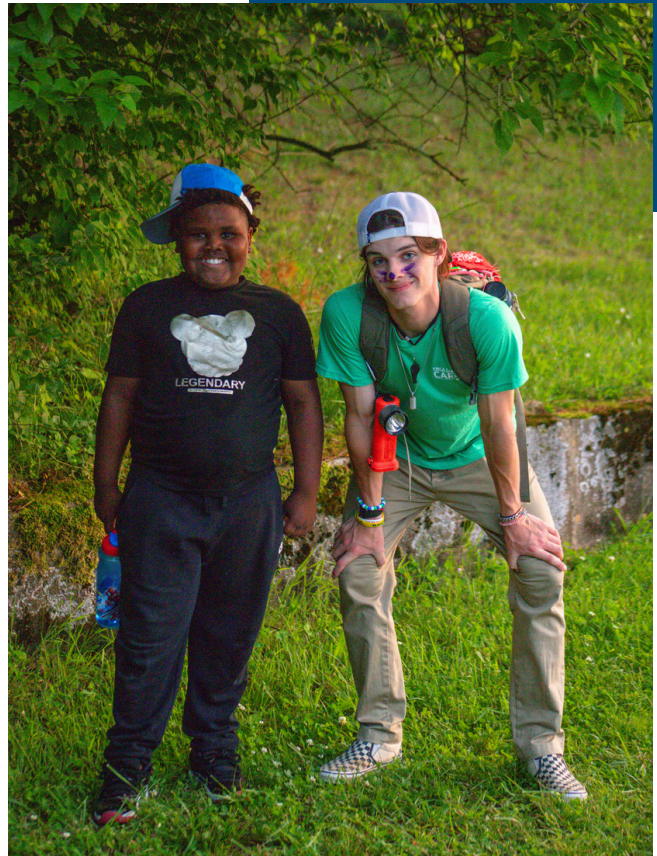
Apply for assistance here: campcarson.org/financial-assistance

Hurry – camp is already filling up for Summer!

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SUMMER JOB

Make the most of your Summer with an experience you will treasure forever. As a Summer Staff member, you support and teach kids as they learn new activities and develop lifelong friendships. You will not only learn important life skills and challenge yourself, you will find friends from around the world and create lasting memories for you and your campers.

If you want to learn more and have your best summer ever, check out campcarson.org/employment!



You can still donate to support Camper Scholarships – [Click Here!](#)

Polar Bears are Hibernating

After six years of plunging into the (literally) frozen Lake Seminole, our Camp Carson team of trusty polar bears has decided to take a hibernation year to focus on some other philanthropic opportunities.

As we spend some time warming up, be on the lookout for other fun ways to get involved with Camp Carson this year.

For our Alumni who visit specifically for this event, please come anytime. We promise that we won't make you jump in the cold lake! And if you can't come visit, please reach out and share your story with us. We would love to feature more Alumni in our next newsletter!



BOOK YOUR NEXT GROUP EVENT AT CAMP

Looking for a scenic, rustic, or “remote” space to host an event, girl’s weekend, or company retreat? Camp Carson has excellent options for corporate meetings, group retreats, family reunions, and team-building activities. With a variety of spaces for both small and large gatherings, our indoor and outdoor areas combine practical amenities with the warm, inviting atmosphere of Camp. We also have technology options for presentations and other conveniences to make your event a success.

You can also rent a cabin for a cozy weekend getaway! Our rental cabins are rustic, but with heating, kitchens, and full bathrooms.

SCHOOL TRIPS & OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Bring your school class to Camp Carson for a unique outdoor adventure that is both fun and educational! Each school has the opportunity to customize their day(s) at Camp Carson with facilitated activities that focus on Teambuilding, Outdoor Education, and Recreation.



Contact Ryan to learn more about events, rentals, and Outdoor Education programs.

rmeeks@ymcacampcarson.org

or request a quote here:

www.campcarson.org/events

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 DONORS

We are so grateful for our kind donors who make Camp Carson possible. Your generosity has a positive impact on thousands of kids, and gives them memories for a lifetime.

\$10,000 +

Mr. and Mrs. Craig Fenneman
David and Linda Patterson Found.
Veterans Overwatch, Inc.
Drs. Bill and Mona Wooten
Mt. Carmel Stabilization

\$5,000 - 9,999

Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Emerson
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Faith
Dr. and Mrs. Steve Graham
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kasey
Mr. Larry Miller
Prince Lodge No. 231
Drs. Dana and William Savidge
Mr. and Mrs. Charley Storms
A&B Logistics, LLC

\$2,500 - 4,999

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Elsner
Dr. and Mrs. Spencer Goodson
Mr. John Raibley
Rudolph Family Foundation
Mr. and Ms. Tom Smythe
Levi Stahl & Stacey Shintani
Heritage Petroleum, LLC


\$1,000 - 2,499

Mr. and Ms. Brent Beeler
Mr. and Mrs. William Carson
Suzanne and Bob Farney
Mr. and Ms. Bob Fenneman
Mr. and Mrs. Max Fiester
Katy & Josh Gilberg
Mr. Rick Goelz
Dr. Gail Heppner & Mr. Brent Heppner
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Heseman
Indiana Members Credit Union
Jasper Engines and Transmissions
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kanowsky
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kleymeyer
Ms. Katherine Kote
Mrs. Deanna Kovacich
Mr. and Mrs. John Lamb
Mr. Thomas Magan
Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Moore
Mr. and Mrs. Lance Morton
Oakland City University
Optimist Club of Evansville-Downtown
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Overstreet
Mr. Jacob Scheu
Ms. Carrie Smith
Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana
Ms. Aggie Waninger

\$500 - 999

Atlas Van Lines
Ms. Elizabeth Anne Canizales
Crescent, Cresline, Wabash Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Diehl
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Doninger
Mr. Bill Eversole
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Fenneman
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Fenneman
Mr. Corey Fritz
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Henning
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Lamble
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. Herb Morton
North Gibson Archery
Ms. Jeanna Roggenkamp
Mr. Dan Saffa
Ms. Sherry Schneider
Sons of the American Legion
Mr. and Ms. Richard Straub
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Traylor
Tri-State Bearing Company, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Van Deest
Mr. Philip Volz

\$250 - 499

American Legion Auxiliary 121
 and Mrs. Jerry Dennis
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Fritz
Mr. and Ms. Donnie Hester
Krempp Construction
Mr. Michael Lavine
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan McDonald
Mr. and James Muehlbauer
Ms. Beate Muller
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Muller
Mr. Robert Musgrave
Ms. August Neal
New Harmony Christian Church
Mr. Ole Olsen
Mr. and Ms. Drew Peyronnin
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Plane
Mr. Ben Redden
Mr. and Mrs. Pete Sabella
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Stahl
Ms. Velvet Tucker
Phil Etienne's Timber Harvest
Hudson Office Solutions

\$100 - 249

Mr. Lance Alston
Ms. Lauren Alston
American Legion Aux. Funkhouser Unit 8
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Bane
Mr. John Bell
Mr. Gregory Bush
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Clippinger
Ashley Craven
Mr. Neil Dauby
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Daum
Mr. & Mrs. James Disney
Lyndsi Dunn
Miss Kristin East
Fairview Presbyterian Church
Fraternal Order of Eagles #414
Mrs. Vikki Gibbs
Mr. and Ms. Scott Gillespie
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Green
Ms. Tammy Hanson
Mr. Kurt Hedinger
Mrs. Lisa Hegg-Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hetzel
Mr. Michael Hile
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ice, Jr.
Mr. and Ms. Joseph Kastle
Mr. and Mrs. Skip Kniese
Keith Knipstein & Stephanie Hulett
Ms. Cynthia Koch
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Koch
Mr. Richard Kunkel
Dr. Jane Lau
Ms. Dana Lobel
Mr. Marc Loge
Mrs. Kimberly Lottes
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Love
Dr. and Mrs. Clovis Manley
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Meyer
Mr. and Ms. Matt Moore
Mrs. Janet Mominee
Mr. and Ms. Larry Morton
Mr. and Ms. Greg Motz
Mrs. Carolyn Nix
Mr. Travis Nolcox
Ashley Ogburn
Mr. Jackson Paris
Mr. Ken Pate
Mr. and Ms. Rowland Peddi
Ms. Julie Phillips
Ainsley Pierce
Carson Pierce

HUGE thanks to these organizations who supported YMCA Camp Carson through Grants:

Camp Corral
Gibson County Community Foundation
Holiday Management Foundation
United Way of Gibson County
WIN Energy REMC Community Trust

Community Foundation of Southern IN
Gibson County Visitors & Tourism
Lilly Endowment, Inc.
William E. Schmidt Foundation, Inc.
YMCA of the USA

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 DONORS

\$100 – 249 (cont.)

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Pietraniec
Mr. Christopher Roeder
Ms. Barbara Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Matt Shrewsbury
Ms. Kym Soderholm
Ms. Julia Stout
Mrs. Lisa Trulove
Julie and Olivia Vandever
Ms. Debra Walker
Mr. Stephen Walker
Mrs. Anne Weinberg
Mr. & Ms. Jonathan Weinzapfel
Ms. Tonya Weinzapfel
Mr. Chad Williams
Mr. Mike Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Williams
Ms. Kathryn Wolsing

\$1 – \$99

Ms. Lauren Alcorn
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Anderson
Ms. Brandy Arnold
Ms. June Avona
Ms. Jennifer Bailey
Ms. Gretchen Bartelman
Mr. Thomas Bawden
Ms. Brenda Beers
Ms. Angi Bettag
Mr. & Mrs. Phil Bickel
Mr. Donnie Bishop
Mr. Nicholas Bockhorst
Ms. Rita Bone
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Bragin
Ms. Allison Brockey
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Brown
Ms. Tammie Bucholz
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Burek
Mr. Jason Butler
Ms. Rhonda Carter
Beth Carter
Emily Cartier
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rider
Mr. Frederick Castle
Ms. Kaylyn Cox
TeAna Darden
Birdie Davidson
Mr. Bob Disinger
Mr. Kenneth Doerner
Ms. Stephanie Downey

\$1 – \$99 (cont.)

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Downs
Bailey Eddmenson
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Elliott
Ms. Katie Ellis
Ms. Rebecca Epperly
Ms. Ashlea Eversole
Ms. Ellen Eye
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Farrar
Ms. Laura Ferguson
Ms. Sarah Flach
Mr. Benjamin Foster
Ms. Angela Sparks
Ms. Anne Garrison
Mr. Will Gershon
Mrs. Beverly Gilbert
Mr. Kenneth Gundersen
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Guthrie
Mr. Randall Haaff
Morgan Halter
Kristy Hamilton
Mrs. Rhonda Hammack
Ms. Carrie Hazelip
Mr. Timothy Head
Austin Healy
Ms. Katherine Healy
Mr. Craig Healy
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Heilmann
Ms. Janna Hennessy
Ms. Jenni Herrell
Ms. Alys Herrmann
Christopher Huber & Rachel Reiners
Robyn Hughes
Ms. Sophia Ice
Mr. Marcus lunghuhn
Shannon Jahn
Ms. Mary Jochim
Mr. and Ms. Travis Johnson
Mr. Greg Johnson
Ms. Nicolette Juncker
Mr. William Gene Kanowsky
Ms. Ramona Kleiman
Ms. Emily Klein
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Knopfmeier
Ms. Sarah Kohler
Ms. Melissa Krieg
Ms. Ashlyn Kyte
Mr. and Ms. Jamie Lannan
Donna Laramore
Ms. Becky Lazaro
Elliott Lloyd

Elze Lloyd
Mr. and Ms. Mark Loeser
Ms. Linda Longabaugh
Ella Luethje
Ms. Heidi J. Lutterbach
Carlos Mangual
Ms. Addy Maxheimer
Derek McGraw
Mr. Zach McMurray
Mr. Mike Meeks
Mr. Mitchell Meeks
Ms. Andrea Michel
Alice Miller
Jessie Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Ryan Moore
Ms. Christine Morris
Ms. Tami Muckerheide
Mr. and Ms. David Murphy
Ms. Deborah Neufelder
Ms. Alexis Newsome
Ms. Darla Olberding
Natalie Overstreet
Ms. Janie Paraschak
Ms. Christina Parker
Ms. Kristen Patel
Julie & Paul
Miss Stephanie Peddie
Mr. Michael Peden
Mr. David Pellett
Mr. John Phillips
Ms. Amy Phillips
Mr. Mark Powell
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Powers
Ms. Jeanette Ramos
Ms. Reygan Reinhart
Reliance Inc.
Mr. Brian Rexing
Ms. Amy Robb
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Rouser
Ms. Michelle Sanders
Mr. & Mrs. Emmanuel Sarikie
Ms. Emily Scales
Kim Schauss
Ms. Jill Schell
Mrs. Sherry Schenk
Ms. Isabel Schneider
Ms. Sandra Schneider
Ms. Vicky Schneider
Ms. Madelynn Schnur
Ms. Suzanne Schriber

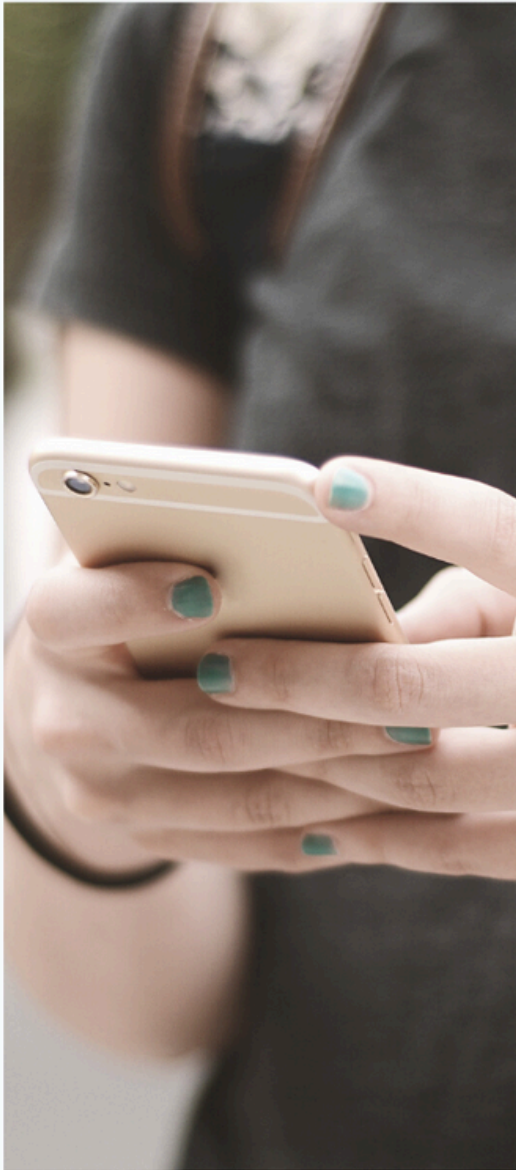
Ms. Jacquelyn Schultze
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Schwengel
Ms. Cathy Sheets
Melissa Shell
Mrs. Zara Shuey
Ms. Lauren Singleton
Ms. Brandy Sisk
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Skeels
Ms. Danielle Slaughter
Ms. Traci Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Sprinkle
Ms. Mary Steckler
Ms. Courtney Stephenson
Mr. Michael Stephenson
Ms. Heather Sticka
Ms. Ellen Stigleman
Ms. Virginia Stone
Mr. and Ms. Matt Striegel
Mr. William Striegel
Ms. Sydney Susott
Mr. Joshua Susott
Ms. Amber Taylor
Mr. Michael Tempel
Ms. Hannah Thompson
Ms. Kacey Titzer
Megan Trowbridge
Ms. Cathy VanHoose
VFW AUxiliary Post 9395
Miss Roxanne Waggoner
Ms. Katie Walker
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Wallerstedt
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Weier
Nathaniel Weinzapfel
Eleanor Weinzapfel
Ms. Martha Whalen

Thank you to these companies who made matching gifts for some of our donors:

Apple, Inc.
Duke Energy


AstraZeneca
Raymond James Financial, Inc.

Berry Global
Toyota Motor Manufacturing



It's easy to join our
mailing list!

Just send your email address
BY TEXT MESSAGE:

Text 
CAMPCARSON
to 42828

The Carson Connection is our new digital newsletter, our Camp newspaper, and our online Camper & Alumni forum. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or campcarson.org for more updates and opportunities to CONNECT.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2034 Outer Lake Road
Princeton, IN 47670
812-385-3597
campcarson.org

