

THE CARSON CONNECTION

Welcome Home to YMCA Camp Carson



Alumni Spotlight
Polar Plunge
p. 2 - 3

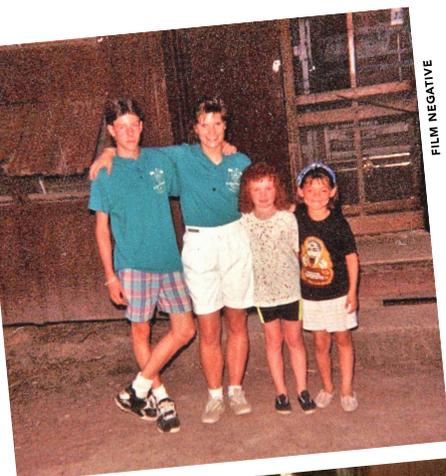
Americorps NCCC
Volunteer Day
Annual Campaign
p. 4 - 5

Registration
Open House
p. 6

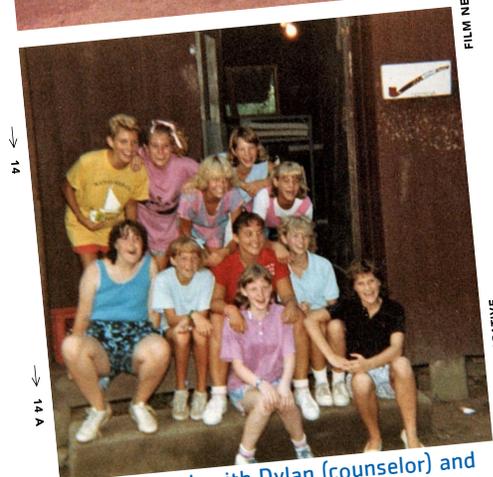
Service Corps
Adventure Programs
We're Hiring!
p. 7 - 8

CAMP CARSON ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ELIZABETH CANIZALES



FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE

Elizabeth Canizales was a camper at YMCA Camp Carson for many years, then became a counselor, and is a Bridge Builder Donor. She recently spoke with us about her experience and love of Camp:

When I think of Camp Carson, I just immediately smile.

Camp was such an important part of my childhood and teen years. I was able to just go and have fun being a kid. At school, I was quiet, smart, and got good grades, but none of that mattered at Camp. It was more about having fun and doing activities; I could almost go and be another version of myself.

Camp brought out another part of me that was outdoorsy and crafty – things I didn't get to explore as much during the school year. And that love of the outdoors stayed with me – it's one of the reasons I love being in Seattle with the trees, water, and mountains.

I got to make new friends who were different from the ones I had at home. I grew up in Newburgh, but I didn't always go to Camp with kids from my school. A lot of the kids were from Evansville and the surrounding areas so I made new friends when I went to Camp.

Thoughts on being a Summer Camp Counselor:

I still say Camp was my favorite job I've ever had. I loved-loved-loved being with the kids, teaching them, and watching them change during the course of the week as they made friends and learned new skills.

One week, I had a cabin of four six-year-olds and just me. We were late for every meal, every activity. (They didn't put me with the little ones again after that week).

I think all of that helped me – after I graduated from law school, I moved to New York, then Washington, DC, London, and Dallas, finally landing in Seattle (whew!). And I have traveled all over the world. Because of Camp, I have a sense of being able to go somewhere new and do new things, knowing that I will be able to make friends and adjust. The independence that going to Camp gave me has helped me be an explorer throughout my life.

Top: Elizabeth with Dylan (counselor) and 6-year-old campers
Bottom: Elizabeth (front right) with her cabin

That's one of the reasons I've given back to Camp for so many years. I was fortunate to be able to go and experience all that Camp has to offer, and I want to make sure that other people can have that experience, too.

Life after Camp:

I am currently a tax lawyer for Amazon in Seattle, focusing on financial reporting and international tax.

I serve as a Board Member & Board Secretary for the Ballard Food Bank in Seattle. Part of my interest comes from Camp's community mindset. The Ballard Food Bank just built a brand new building that is just like a grocery store with fresh foods, frozen foods, toiletries, baby formula, etc. It is also a community service resource hub for a large variety of services, helping our most vulnerable neighbors get on a path to self-sufficiency.

Being a part of the Ballard Food Bank is the thing I'm most proud of; it is so impactful for what we do in the community.

To learn more about the Ballard Food Bank and their efforts, go to www.ballardfoodbank.org

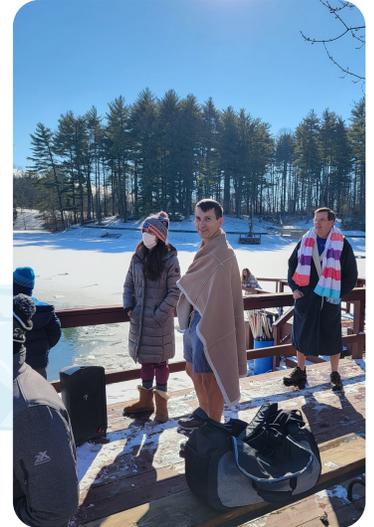
Camp is just a place of such happiness for me, so many happy memories, just joy!



TAKING THE PLUNGE FOR CAMPERS!

Our 3rd Annual Polar Plunge was certainly EPIC. The lake was frozen solid, and our local Firefighters had to cut the ice to allow us a space to plunge! This year's Plunge raised nearly \$22k to help with camper scholarships and subsidies. Rodgers Greenawalt returned for his second plunge and earned the Top Fundraiser award, raising \$2,100. We are grateful to all of the Plungers, Volunteers, Donors, and Supporters who came out to join us for such a fun day.

\$21,890 raised
24 Plungers
280 donors
100+ attendees



Thank you to our 2022 Sponsors!

- Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union
- Indiana Members Credit Union
- Springs Valley Bank & Trust
- Best One Tire of Princeton
- Donut Bank

And HUGE thanks to the Princeton Fire Territory for breaking the ice and keeping us safe!

Thank you!



AmeriCorps NCCC at YMCA Camp Carson

This Spring, Camp is fortunate to host a team from AmeriCorps NCCC. This team is helping revitalize and mark our trail system, adding trails and campsites, and assisting with other projects around Camp.

These NCCC team members come from California, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, and Texas. Their efforts will serve Camp for many years, and we are extremely grateful for their time and expertise.



The mission of NCCC is to develop leaders and strengthen communities through direct, team-based national and community service. To learn more, go to www.americorps.gov.

Volunteer Opportunities

Join us for Volunteer work days! These days are a great time to gather at Camp and help with improvement projects.

Below are some scheduled opportunities, but we would love to see you anytime.

April 23
October 22

Please call us at 812-385-3597 or email hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org to sign up!



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

A week of Summer camp can be life-changing, even if it appears that kids are just outside having fun. Your donation to the YMCA Camp Carson Annual Campaign supports young people who do not have the financial access to a Summer camp experience.

As a nonprofit organization, the support we receive from our donors, alumni and community is the only way we are able to provide these fun, life-changing, outdoor, challenging, relationship-building experiences for our campers.

We are honored to be able to serve camp families in this beautiful space, to carry on the traditions of YMCA Camp Carson, and to share joy and friendship with new and returning campers. Please join us as we continue to find new ways to make an impact with young people and their families.

MAKING IMPACT

YMCA Camp Carson 2022 Annual Campaign

We currently have a match challenge from a kind donor, to match up to \$7,500 for our Military Family Weekends. Please contact Heather if you would like to help us achieve that match. hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org



How your investment impacts campers

The YMCA Camp Carson Annual Campaign is our primary fundraiser, supporting:

- Camper scholarships to reach more young people
- Funding for our two Summer Military camp programs
- Subsidizes the tiered pricing to make Camp accessible for all families
- Helps us achieve a matching grant for our Military Family Weekends

We welcome your donations online at www.campcarson.org/giving

or mail to:

YMCA Camp Carson
2034 Outer Lake Rd.
Princeton, IN 47670

Summer 2022 Registration is open!

Some summer camp sessions are full already! Go to www.campcarson.org/summer-camp to sign up for a summer camp experience your campers will never forget! In addition to our traditional overnight camp, we have options for Operation Military Support, Dirt Bike, Wrangler, Teen Leadership, Backpack Adventure, and Whitewater Rafting camps!

We have Financial Assistance and Scholarships available, to help Camp be available for as many kids as possible.



NEW Foster Care Scholarship!

In addition to our regular Scholarships, a kind donor has helped us create scholarships specifically for kids in Foster Care.

Please give us a call at 812-385-3597 or go to our website to download the application at www.campcarson.org/financial-assistance Please share with family & friends, to help promote this new scholarship opportunity.



Camp Open House

Saturday, May 7, 2022

We invite you to visit Camp! Open House allows parents & campers to preview camp activities, check out the camper cabins, explore Camp, & meet your YMCA Camp Carson team.

Call for more information at 812-385-3597 or register online at www.campcarson.org/events



SERVICE CORPS PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER & GAIN LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE



The Service Corps Program at YMCA Camp Carson is a leadership experience for young people to gain leadership skills through experiential service learning, leadership sessions, and trainings.

Designed for incoming 12th-graders, the Service Corps Program is a two week volunteer opportunity that gives teens hands-on experience in the Camp environment while earning service hours toward potential school or scholarship requirements.

“You learn so many life skills that you will continue to use for the rest of your life.”

–Josh, 2021
Service Corps



To learn more about this fun & rewarding program, please contact Ryan Meeks
rmeeks@ymcacampcarson.org
 812-385-3597

ADVENTURES WITH CAMP

If you're looking for a summer camp experience that's a little more adventurous & involves travel outside of camp, join us for the Carson Adventure Series!

We offer three co-ed trips of Red River Gorge Backpacking, and a co-ed White Water Rafting trip. These 5-day expeditions teach valuable leadership, communication, and new skills through an adventure you'll always remember.

We offer Financial Assistance and Scholarships to help Camp be available for as many kids as possible.



www.campcarson.org/adventure

www.campcarson.org/white-water-rafting



FIND YOUR FAVORITE SUMMER JOB!

Are you looking for a summer job that's challenging, rewarding, outdoorsy, and FUN? Join us this summer at YMCA Camp Carson! We have the opportunity to encourage and develop young people as they explore new activities and build new friendships. You will leave Camp with valuable leadership skills, stories and memories, and lifelong friends.

We are hiring Cabin Leaders, Photographers, Dirt Bike Counselor, Adventure Tripping Director, and other leadership positions.

Some of these positions qualify as **INTERNSHIPS!**

If you think you would love to spend a summer at YMCA Camp Carson, start an application at www.campcarson.org/employment or contact Sarah at shooper@ymcacampcarson.org.

Get Away, in our own backyard

at YMCA Camp Carson



YMCA Camp Carson is a perfect spot for:

Cabin Rentals • Corporate Retreats
Field Trips • Group Rentals
Reunions • Weddings • Events
Tent Camping • Church Picnics

Activities:

Enjoy the following Camp activities at your own pace, or spend quiet time on your porch.

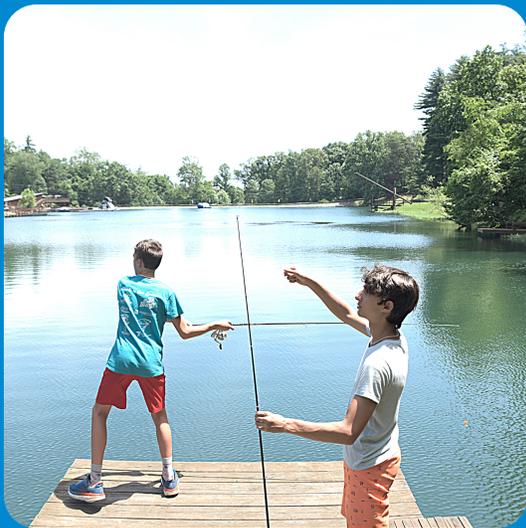
Hiking (trail maps available)
Fishing (bring your own bait & gear)
Soccer
Basketball
Tether Ball
Sand Volleyball



YMCA Camp Carson is a beautiful place to get away as a family. We have select cabins available for rent in the non-summer months. Take advantage of the natural beauty of Camp for a family adventure or relaxing weekend.

Rental Rates

Grandview Cabins: \$250 per night (up to 28 people)
Otto Cabin: \$100 per night (up to 6 people)
Kickapoo Cabin: \$100 per night (up to 4 people)



Let's be Friends!



It's easy to join our mailing list!

Just send your email address
BY TEXT MESSAGE:

Text 
CAMPCARSON
to 42828

Or go to campcarson.org and click the "Sign Up" box at the top of the page!

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

