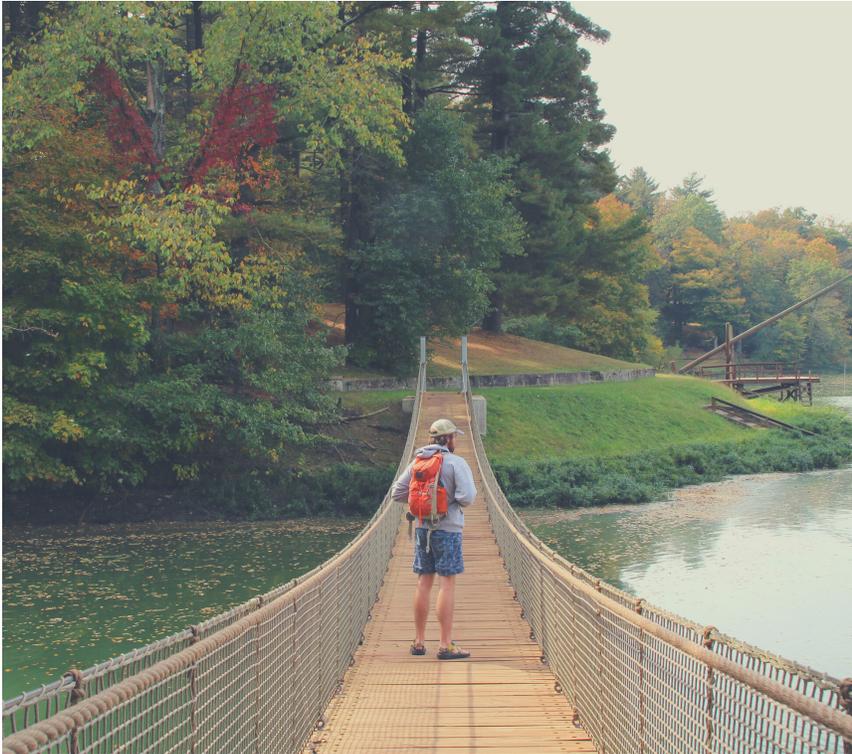


THE CARSON CONNECTION

News and events from YMCA Camp Carson



In this issue:

The Lost
Summer

Military &
Diabetes Family
Camps

The Future of Camp
Carson, a message
from Jim

2021 Registration
& Polar Plunge

THE LOST SUMMER

Every summer since 1940, Camp Carson has been full of laughter, adventure, and friendship. Summer 2020 was going to be our biggest summer yet, with full registration in February. When Covid-19 hit, the world changed. As we cancelled regular Summer Camp for the safety of our campers and staff, we quickly moved into "what's next". We created Family Adventure and Cabin Rental programs which felt like Camp. Traditional camp activities were limited to individual households to ensure safety for all involved.

We had the honor of hosting special weekends for Military Families and INdependence Diabetes Families. This was a unique opportunity for families to enjoy some time away, make lasting family memories, and take advantage of Camp Carson's beautiful spaces and activities. So many of the parents said "I've never done this before". We witnessed campers of all ages overcome fear to take their first leap off of the tower for the Zipline, create their first tie-dye, master the Tom Sawyer swing, and kayak on their own.

Through these programs, we have shared the Camp Carson experience with nearly 250 people across 50 families. While it may not have been the summer we had hoped for, it will always be one we remember fondly.

SUPPORTING OUR MILITARY & DIABETES CAMP FAMILIES

Many of these special programs are dependent upon the kindness of donors. As a nonprofit organization, a summer without campers is quite challenging financially. We are so grateful for the organizations and individual donors whose generosity allowed us to continue our mission by reaching campers and families in new ways.

If you would like to learn more about ways to support Camp Carson and its future, please reach out to Heather at 812-385-3597 or hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org



"Our family really needed some time away from the newsy world and our house. Camp Carson has meant so much to our two girls... and now it means even more to our family!"

-Camp Carson Military Family



Greetings, Camp Family! I hope this newsletter finds you safe and healthy. This year challenged the world to overcome the biggest obstacles, and the team at Camp Carson is working hard to paddle forward.

For the first time in our history, we cancelled summer camp and regular programming. The financial impact of this crisis is highlighted on the next page, and will be felt at Camp Carson for many years. As you review the information, I urge you to think about ways that you may be able to help ensure the future of Camp Carson and its mission.

We are thankful for the supporters who have already joined us in this challenge. However, we still have some rough waters ahead. If you have the ability to donate, volunteer or serve in some way, please reach out to me directly at 513-383-0204 or Heather Pierce at 812-630-6788.

I look forward to meeting you, and hearing your Camp Carson stories.

P.S. Stay tuned for information coming soon - YMCA of Southwestern Indiana is working toward a Gibson County YMCA - right off of the square in downtown Princeton!



2020 REALITY

This summer, we missed having a Camp full of laughter, learning, and friendship. We are eager to get back to normal. Camp Carson is dependent upon our summer revenue and charitable donations. This supports our youth programs, community outreach, facilities, and operations. Please consider supporting us in 2021. Below is a summary of the wins & challenges we face.

Ups

50

Hours of Virtual activities for Campers to enjoy, learn, and Engage with some of their favorite Camp Carson staff

150+

Campers, Staff, & Alumni joined us for Carson Connection activities & Virtual Campfires



31

Military & Diabetes Families joined us for special Military & Diabetes Family Camps

138

Campers of all ages from these Military & Diabetes families enjoyed Camp activities



Downs



1370

Campers did not get to experience Camp Carson

12

Groups had to cancel their planned events, hosted at Camp Carson



\$413,000

Revenue loss from Summer 2020 Camp cancellation

\$25,000

Revenue loss from group rental cancellations

What's Next at Camp Carson?



Polar Plunge - March 13, 2021

Help raise funds for future generations of campers! Make plans to take a cold leap into Lake Seminole with us, to raise money for Camp Carson! It's a fun day with some of your favorite Camp Alum, Staff, and Volunteers. Watch [campcarson.org/events](https://www.campcarson.org/events) for more details, or email Heather: hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org

Summer 2021 Registration is open

go to [campcarson.org/summer-camp](https://www.campcarson.org/summer-camp) to secure your spot for the best summer ever!



Rent a cabin at Camp Carson

Take a break and enjoy the natural beauty of Camp Carson, by renting one of our year-round cabins! These heated cabins are great for various-sized families and groups, with small kitchens, fire pits, access to hiking trails, fishing, and space for your family to grow together in body, mind, and spirit. Check out campcarson.org/cabin-rentals for more details, or call us at 812-385-3597.



Camp Carson Alumni Challenge

Do you recognize any of the alumni in these photos? Send us an email with your guesses for a chance to win your very own Camp Carson gear! We'll draw a winner from all guesses sent by November 30th. Special thanks to August Neal, Dana (Lee) Savidge, and Gary Toon for their input from the last newsletter! Email: hpierce@ymcacampcarson.



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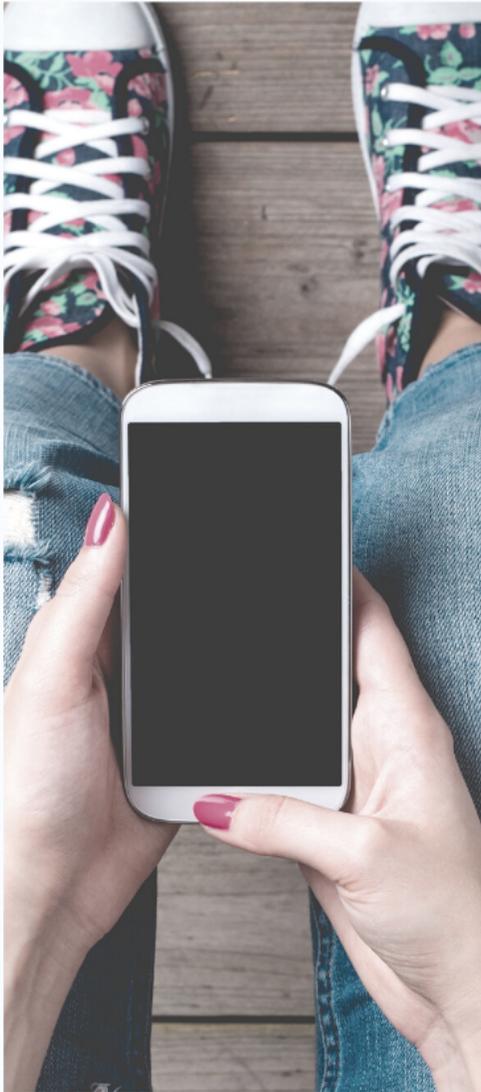
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