

Camp Millhouse

Empowerment~Independence~Compassion



Are you, or someone you know, looking for the best summer job ever? Do you want to build your professional skills while also having fun and meeting some of the most amazing folks? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then we want to talk to you about the experience you can have as a Camp Millhouse staff member. We are seeking responsible, compassionate individuals as Nurses, Counselors, Cabin Crew, Aquatics Director, Lifeguards, Special Jobs Director, Cooks, Servers/Kitchen Crew. Check out: campmillhouse.org/employment.html

Camper Spotlight



"Camp is the best time of the year for both of us. He gets to be himself around his friends and feels at home there. I get a much needed break." Ann, camper mom



"Thank you for providing a safe and fun environment for my daughter to enjoy. She loves coming. She loves having the same counselor. She even made a new friend she keeps in touch with." Amy, camper mom



Questions? Contact us at:
574-233-2202
campmillhouse@gmail.com
25600 Kelly Rd, South Bend, IN 46614

Greetings Friends!

"This will be Hannah's 3rd year attending the camp. We've seen her grow each year she attends, she learns independence, how to be more patient, how to learn new things with new people, these are very important to Hannah and our family. Hannah loves the outdoors, she loves being social, being at camp allows her to have the best of both worlds. We're grateful for her to have this yearly opportunity." This note came to us from Hannah's parents this past May. We are grateful to hear how camp positively impacts our campers and their families.

We receive these notes throughout the year and hear back from parents & caregivers through our end-of-summer parent surveys. Our campers return year after year to share the same things that Hannah has experienced – independence, learning to be more patient, learning new things with new people, and being social. Hannah's parents added, "Camp = Acceptance – this isn't always the case in the outside world, it can be very hard for Hannah. She yearns for friendship and this helps bridge the gap for her during the summer months." Acceptance and friendships – two of the most important aspects of a summer camp experience for both campers and staff.

Although we get all the praise for providing this amazing experience year after year, we wouldn't be able to do it without the support from our donors like YOU! It is thanks to you, our faithful supporters that Camp Millhouse is able to continue to provide this unique opportunity. You make it possible for our campers to feel that excitement and independence and make lifelong friends. You also provide our staff with a life-changing experience working with all our special campers.

As we near the end of another remarkable year, we ask for your steadfast support. The campers' base fees cover less than half of what it takes to run the camp program. We have many long-standing repairs facing us in the coming year as well. Without the generous support of each one of you throughout the year, Camp Millhouse would be unable to continue. Your year-end tax deductible contribution will serve as an investment in the growth of our campers like Hannah, our staff, and Camp Millhouse itself.

Donations can be made directly to Camp via cash, check or charge. The most tax-efficient method of making this type of gift is to donate stock shares directly to Camp thru our Edward Jones investor. You can make a multi-year pledge or do a matching gift through your employer. We are so grateful for your kind and generous support. Please call the office if you have any questions, would like more information or to schedule a tour of Camp Millhouse. Wishing you all the warmest of holiday seasons.

Gratefully,

Diana Breden
Executive Director

Camp Millhouse
Messenger 2019

Sunday Volunteer Program

We need your help friends! It is extremely beneficial to our campers, their families and our staff to have many extra hands on Sunday intake day. We would love to build this volunteer program for summer 2020. It would be great if we could have 15 - 20 volunteers each of the six Sundays of camp. Volunteers check in at the lodge by 1:45 p.m. to be assigned to one of three locations – luggage tagging at the front of the lodge, camper cabin welcome team, or Sunday activities in the rec hall with our staff. We are all done with check-in between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. – a short (approximately) 3 hour commitment. We are asking you to please consider this small commitment that has big rewards for all involved. We've started our volunteer schedule for next summer so please call the office for more information.

News, News and more News

"So, where do you work this time of year?" This question has been posed to Diana and Melissa on more than one occasion. Good question! When we really think about it, it makes sense. Many folks don't realize that it takes year-round work and fundraising to make the camp season happen. Lynda Clark, Camp Board President said, "The work that Diana and Melissa do in the off-season is vital to the success of Camp Millhouse. Without their hard work and the support of our camp community, we could not meet the year-round financial responsibilities of payroll (including our directors' health insurance), office and camp utilities, ACA membership fees, camp repairs, expenses associated with the directors attending job & transition resource fairs for staff and camper recruitment and much more." You can reach Diana and Melissa in the office Monday thru Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feel free to leave a message and they will call you back.

We work very hard, every day, to stretch the dollars we gratefully receive to make the camp season a success. The actual cost for Camp Millhouse to support one camper for one week is now \$1,300. Our minimum fee has been \$525. Although the new tiered system has been very helpful in increasing income to meet our financial responsibilities, it has become necessary for Camp to raise the minimum fee from \$525 to \$600 per camper per week. The Board of Directors along with Diana and Melissa, agonized over ways to save in other areas to keep the increase at a minimum. One way we are doing this is by moving up the pick-up time at the end of the week from 7 p.m. to 4 p.m. This small change saves hundreds of dollars in payroll, utilities and dinner food costs. We never want the cost of camp to keep a camper from coming to Camp Millhouse. Please contact the office for more information about financial aid and to receive an application.

In an effort to provide camp families and caregivers with a one-stop-shop to understand the process for registering and attending Camp Millhouse, learn about opportunities available at camp and obtain more information about the importance of supporting camp, we have created our first ever Parent Handbook. Check it out at campmillhouse.org/registration.html - Just click on the Registration tab. As always, please call the office with any questions 574-233-2202.

The Millhouse Mingles

Thanks to the Guy family for recommending Camp Millhouse for Weichert, Realtors - Jim Dunfee & Associates, Parking for a Cause. Weichert chose Camp Millhouse to receive the funds for their event during the November 2nd Notre Dame game. Those funds are being earmarked to cover our Millhouse Mingles. What is a Mingle? It is a once-a-month activity that allows Camp to keep in contact, and do something fun, with our campers and their families outside of our normal camp season. Watch Facebook or call the office, for monthly updates on date, time and location. In November, we took 14 people to Rocket Science Ice Cream in Nappanee. **In December, please join us** on Saturday, 12/14/19 from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. at the German Township Library, 52807 Lynnewood Ave, South Bend for **Cookies and Crafts. RSVP 574-233-2202**

CAMP MILLHOUSE
2020 CALENDAR

March 14 30th Annual Dinner & Auction "A Night with Our Stars"
April TBA Spring Clean-Up at Camp 8 a.m. to Noon
May TBA 4th Annual Camp Millhouse Golf Outing at Blackthorn
May 16-17 Spring Camp Weekend
June 9 - 11 Program Staff Training
June 15 - 19 Staff Training
June 21 - 26 Week 1 18 & Up (leave Friday 4 p.m.)
June 28 - July 2 Week 2 "One"derful Week (leave Thurs 9:30 a.m.)
July 5 - 10 Week 3 18 & Up (leave Friday 4 p.m.)
July 12 - 16 Week 4 Kids' Week (leave Thurs 4 p.m.)
July 19 - 24 Week 5 18 & Up (leave Friday 4 p.m.)
July 26 - 31 Week 6 Sports Week (leave Friday 4 p.m.)
August 8 6th Annual Millhouse Mash Softball Tournament
August 15 2nd All Staff Reunion at Camp Millhouse
August TBA Barron Lake Tri - Racing for Steve-O Foundation
Sept 19-20 Fall Camp Weekend
September 26 Exciting New Fundraiser To Be Announced
October TBA Fall Clean-Up at Camp 9 a.m. to Noon

Please watch our Facebook and Twitter pages for updates on current events and announcements for new events!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISERS. YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR CAMP MILLHOUSE TO "INSPIRE SELF-DISCOVERY IN INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS THROUGH A SAFE, TRADITIONAL CAMP EXPERIENCE. EMPOWERMENT-INDEPENDENCE-COMPASSION

SAVE THE DATE

30th Annual Dinner & Auction
"A Night with Our Stars"

Save the date and plan to attend our 30th Annual Dinner and Auction "A Night with Our Stars" This is a special evening where we recognize our campers and individuals or organizations who have helped make such an impact in their lives. We have fun with our silent and live auctions, raffles, light entertainment, spending time with friends and raising funds camp. The cost includes a delicious polish style dinner, dessert, coffee, tea, and soda. A cash bar is available.

When: Saturday, March 14, 2020, Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Sts. Peter & Paul Social Hall, 59250 Keria Trail, South Bend, IN 46614

Invitations will be mailed in January. RSVP will be due by February 20, 2020. All proceeds from this event provide vital support for the Camp Millhouse mission. You make it possible for our campers and staff to have a life-changing camp experience. .

Special Thanks to our 2019 Dinner Sponsors...

Halpin Slagh, Attorneys at Law underwrote all dinner expenses.

Presenting Sponsor: Fuerbringer Landscaping & Design Inc.

Platinum Sponsor: Gurley Leep Automotive Group

Gold Sponsor: All-Secure Self Storage & Veldman's Automotive Service Center

Silver Sponsors: Fun by the Yard

Jon Badur of Edward Jones Investments, Edwardsburg, MI

