

# MIRACLE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER



CASE FOR SUPPORT

# THE POWER OF CAMP

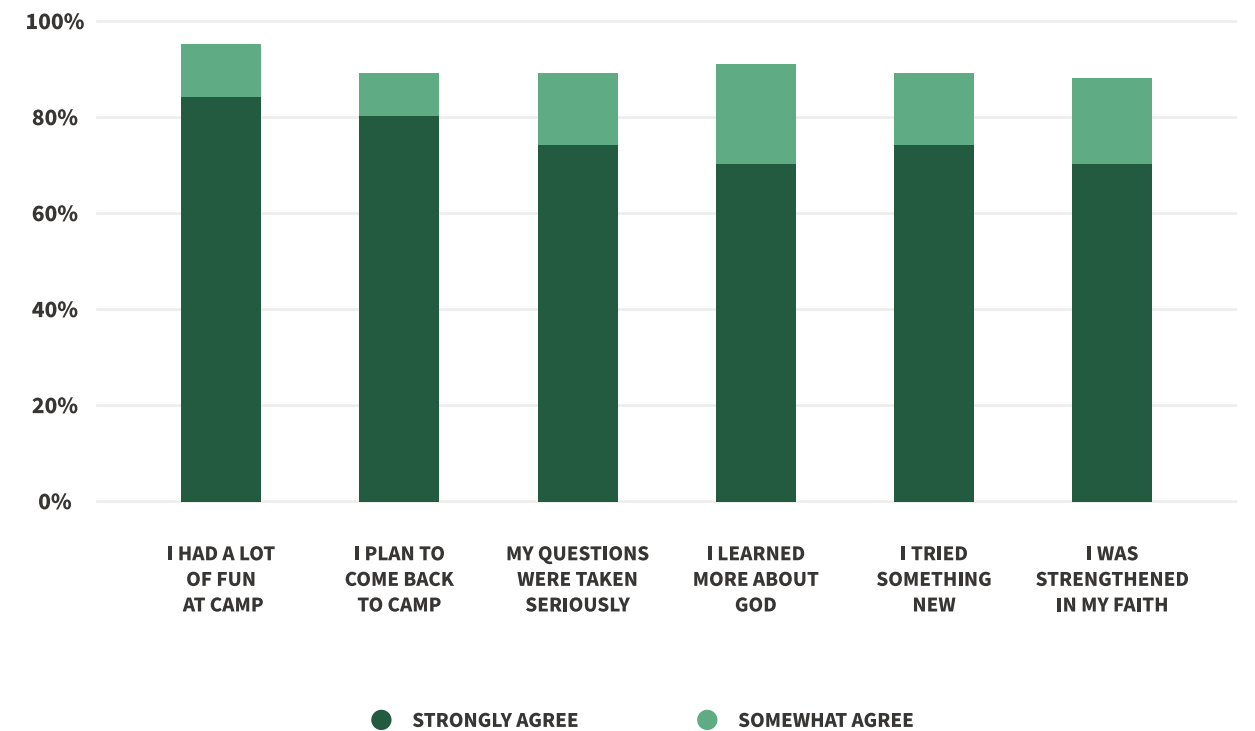


Camp and Conference Center ministry is arguably one of the greatest avenues of spiritual development in the US for the kingdom of God. We know that camps are impactful in the lives of many people, young and old.

There is a great outcome when people can get away from every day life for a week/weekend to experience God's presence in a new or deeper way. Then being able to take that experience back home to continue in growth. We refer to this as the "Power of Camp."



## IMPRESSIONS OF CAMP EXPERIENCE



## WHAT MAKES CAMP MINISTRY SO POWERFUL?

- 1 TRANSFORMED LIVES
- 2 ADULT MENTORS
- 3 LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS
- 4 NATURE & ADVENTURE
- 5 COMMUNITY

# 60 YEARS OF LIFE CHANGE



## MIRACLE CAMP IS ESTABLISHED

In 1965, the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches (FEC) was looking for property to purchase for a youth camp. The University of Notre Dame was selling a camp on a largely dried up lake in Southwest Michigan. Through a generous donation for the exact amount of the down payment, the FEC was able to purchase this property. The water level rose back up and the name "Miracle Camp" was given to remember God's provision.

## CAMP'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY



## BANKSON LODGE DEDICATION

After almost 40 years using the same lodge that was used by Notre Dame in the 60's, construction on Bankson Lodge was completed and the building began to be used. This addition to camp's lodging replaced old and outdated housing in the previous lodge with beautiful hotel-style rooms that faced the lake. Bankson Lodge allowed more guests, especially families and groups, to enjoy all that camp had to offer.

## ALMOST 60 YEARS OF MINISTRY



1965

1970s

1987

1990

2001

2006

2018

2024

## MORE THAN A SUMMER CAMP

The 1970's were the years that camp grew from a strictly summer facility to a year round camping and retreat ministry." Camp staff devoted five years to winterizing camp buildings by improving the insulation, plumbing, and electrical work. The board lined up many volunteer groups from loyal FEC churches to help take camp to the next season.



## OAKWOOD CHAPEL COMPLETED



## ZIPLINE TOWER CONSTRUCTED

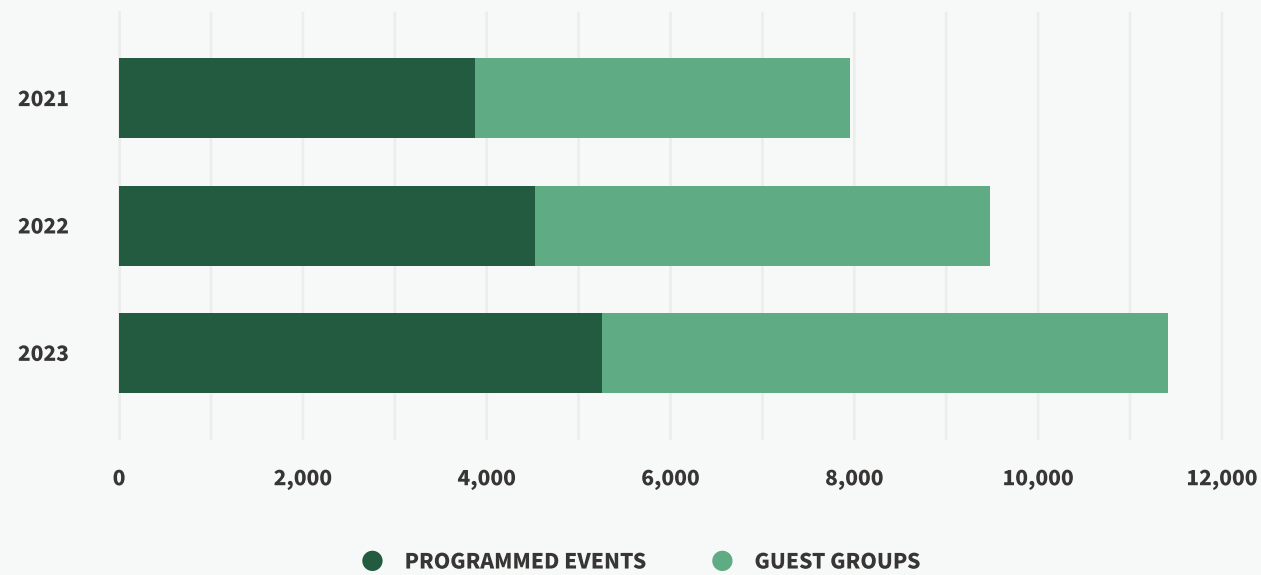
## EVERGREEN RENOVATION

Evergreen used to be one of the oldest, most run down buildings at camp. This renovation added 40 more beds, a large chapel facing Bankson Lake, as well as a spacious gathering area. Over the past six years, Evergreen has helped us have multiple groups on campus at the same time and has been one of our most requested lodging options.

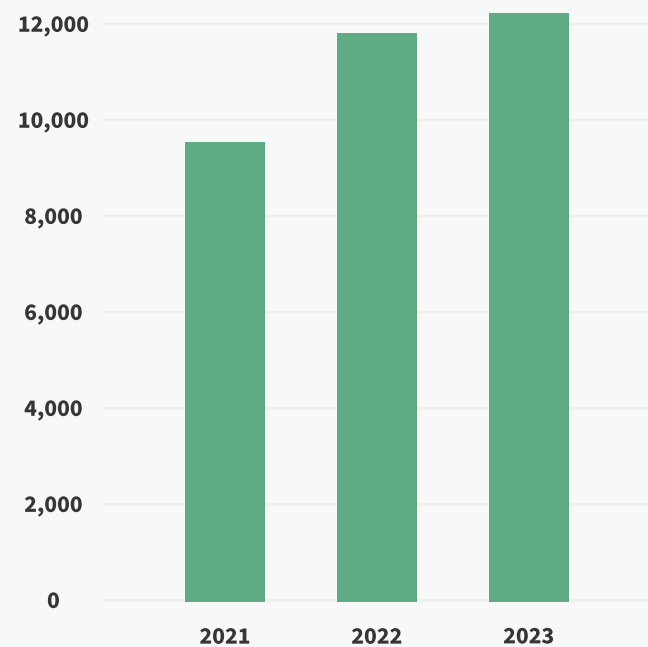


# A PLACE WHERE LIVES ARE CHANGED

## CAMP EVENT ATTENDEES



## SCHOLARSHIPS



Miracle Camp is parachurch ministry, meaning we come alongside churches to help them achieve their ministry goals. We not only create life changing experiences in Christ in our own programs, but also allow other groups to use God's property to spread the gospel in their spheres of influence.

When retreating, people can see God reflected in nature, calm their minds and hearts to receive his word, reflect on him in community, and have tons of fun while they are at it!

# OUR VISION

## FOR THE FUTURE

As our demand increases and our capacity fills, we need to expand our program, property, and personnel to more effectively spread the gospel.

We never want to expand simply to add to our camp numbers, **but rather to create an excellent, life-changing experience for the local church to achieve the same ministry goals that we have.** Namely, to encourage people to make Jesus the Lord of their lives.

### OUR MISSION

To partner with the local church by providing a retreat environment that is a catalyst for faith in Jesus as Lord.



### IMMEDIATE CHALLENGES

The wastewater system is at capacity so we cannot add more buildings to meet guest needs

Our current gymnasium is at capacity and does not fit all guests, especially in bad weather

There is not a great space to easily welcome guests

The maintenance shop is old, an eyesore, and in the middle of guest experiences.

Retail locations are not in ideal locations or large enough to efficiently meet guest needs

### ADDITIONAL CHALLENGES

We're hitting capacity but needing to increase current budget

There's a lack of staff housing

We need to expand all facilities peripheral to lodging (chapel, dining hall, community spaces, multipurpose center, etc.)

Summer break for schools is shrinking (we need more beds to increase weekly capacity)

There are long wait times for activities so we need to add more recreation and lodging in the northern woods



## OUR PROPOSAL & BUDGET

Currently our top priorities (wastewater, gym, welcome center/offices, and retail/coffee space) equal an estimated \$12 million. However, we have other priorities and therefore the total overall cost is likely closer to \$20 million over 10 years.

This proposal is not set in stone; just the first draft. We want to hear your feedback so we can make sure our plan will meet the needs of our ministry and guests well.

### CAMPUS ELEMENT

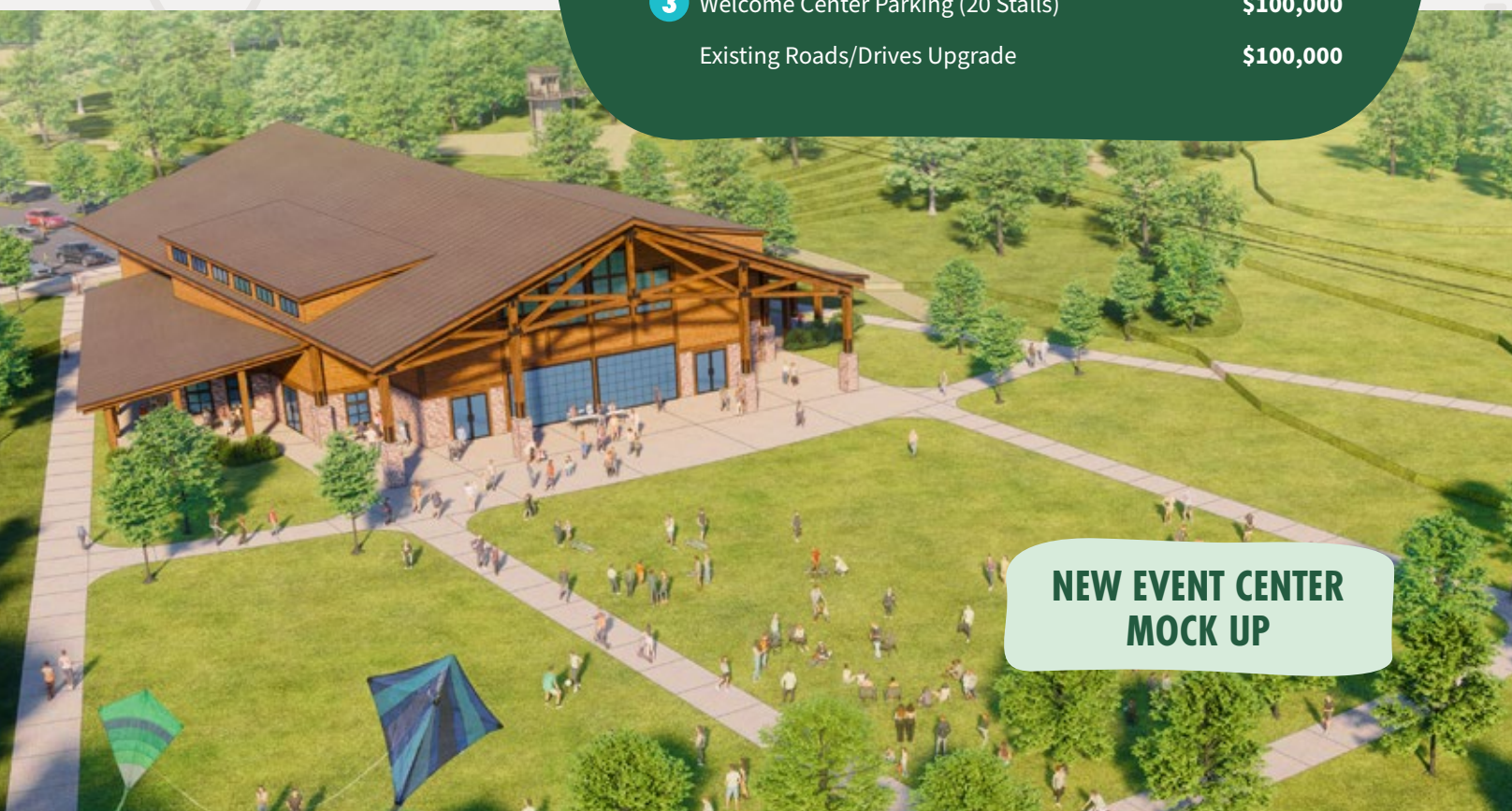
### BUDGET

#### BUILDINGS

	Demolish Existing Maintenance Shop	\$72,000
1	New Event Center (24,000 sf)	\$8,400,000
2	New Maintenance Shop (10,800 sf)	\$810,000
3	New Welcome Center/Offices (2,400 sf)	\$720,000
4	New Retail/Coffee Shop Area (5,000 sf)	\$500,000

#### SITE ITEMS

	Septic/Sanitary Upgrades	\$800,000
5	Modify Razz Field (4 acres)	\$80,000
6	Event Center Parking (60 stalls)	\$300,000
3	Welcome Center Parking (20 Stalls)	\$100,000
	Existing Roads/Drives Upgrade	\$100,000



**NEW EVENT CENTER  
MOCK UP**



- PRIORITY 1
- FUTURE PRIORITIES
- CURRENT BUILDING



## STAY UP TO DATE!



To keep up to date with the latest progress in the campaign and see how you can get involved, just scan the QR Code!

