



May 2019



“Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6
NASB Version

Greetings Friends, Supporters, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thanks to generous contributions like yours, kampers will experience God’s abiding love in unforgettable ways that may forever change their lives as Christians.

At kamp we strive to live, learn, play and pray together in a Christian community of peace, love, and acceptance of one another while demonstrating the values of caring, respect and responsibility for ourselves, others, and the world around us. For many of us (kampers and staff alike) the result is transformational:

“He seemed so happy and excited... I really enjoyed seeing the sparkle in his eyes... explaining to me about the different activities he did, and how he enjoyed the chapel services there... The way you talked about God was insightful for him, and he was excited to have his first communion there! It made me tear up, and so very happy as a parent. (He) cannot wait to go back! He is interested in becoming a camp counselor... when he is of age.”

-A mother’s email regarding her son’s first experience at Vanderkamp

“I was a camper... during one of the most challenging chapters of my life... I found peace with (my mother’s) illness through (my) experience at Vanderkamp. The relationships campers form in such a short period of time remind them how present God really is. I have yet to form the type of connections that I’ve formed at Vanderkamp. Vanderkamp encouraged me to pray, explore and grow. When I thought nobody would understand or care how I felt, my experiences at Vanderkamp proved me wrong.”

“... gives campers a safe space to explore their faith without any pressure. Quite often children will grow to resent the traditions in their family because they feel like they have no choice and no chance to explore what they believe with other people... when they go to Vanderkamp they meet other people in their same situation, they connect their faith to fun... it’s all about connection... Bonds that are made at Vanderkamp last a very long time... Christianity wouldn’t be what it is without the church and the community within it... our duty as Christians is to spread the word of God. We see God in each other. That can be a lot for children to process, and I feel it is my duty to show them how fun making friends through God can be! ...There is always something new to explore in nature, and always something new to discover about our faith... I think it’s very important to expose a child to the love of Christianity at a very young age so that as they grow older, they can be a productive member of their church community... Vanderkamp changed my perspective on church as a camper.”

-Excerpts from staff application... and yes... they will be joining our ministry team for kamp this summer!

To reach more youth with Vanderkamp’s summer ministry, we need your help to fill the GAP

(Give... Act... Pray...)

We work hard to keep Vanderkamp's rates affordable for families, charging only enough to cover the direct expenses of staffing, food, utilities and program supplies. However, the cost of kamp registration remains out of reach for many families. **Social justice**, providing access and opportunities for all, is an important Christian value we aspire to at Vanderkamp. **Our kampership policy is to never turn a child away due to an inability to pay nor must any family bear the indignity of proving their need.** This year we have also committed to removing the barrier of transportation. These are lofty goals and we need your help to achieve them.

We saw a **21% increase in camper registrations from 2017 to 2018**. Correspondingly, the need for kampership assistance increased. A variety of circumstances contributed to our not conducting our annual spring appeal for kampership funds last year. Vanderkamp operates within an exceedingly tight fiscal margin and the resulting \$7000 shortfall from keeping our promise to families in 2018 contributed to a financial deficit by year’s end that we continue to grapple with. Continued growth of Vanderkamp’s summer ministry is a priority but doing so requires us to raise increasing sums to assist families and meet expenses while keeping registration fees at a minimum. Therefore, **we need your help to fill the gap between paid registrations and summer kamp expenses. (continued on back page...)**

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Vanderkamp
2018 – 2019 Annual Facility Appeal
Thanks to contributions like yours,
Vanderkamp’s summer ministry will impact
more young Christians. Visit:
<http://www.vk.org/wpsite/2018-summer-kamps-2/> for photos and kamp program information.

We work hard to keep Vanderkamp’s rates affordable for families, charging only enough to meet the direct costs of kamp, but we rely on contributions like yours to fill the gap between paid registrations and kamp expenses.

We thank you for your support!

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Name(s) as they should appear for recognition (if different).

- This contribution is being made anonymously.
- Please email Vanderkamp news & information.
- Please mail Vanderkamp news & information.

For more information, visit our website at www.vk.org, email us at vkcenter@vk.org, or call (315)675-3651. You can also Like us on Facebook.

Vanderkamp Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization. For income tax purposes, your contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.



(Give... Act... Pray...)

Give: We understand it can feel overwhelming being inundated by seemingly more and more requests for donations to worthy causes though disposable incomes do not keep pace. However, we ask you to consider that while the world seems smaller today with virtually instantaneous notifications in the media of natural and human disasters around the globe... those causes will garner support from thousands to millions of individuals, churches, businesses, or other organizations. **All Vanderkamp can rely on for financial contributions, like yours,** are the people whose lives, or those of a loved one, have been touched by its ministry.

Please prayerfully consider making a financial contribution in support of summer kamp to aid us in assisting families, meeting the ever-increasing cost of staff expenses, or maintaining/purchasing supplies and equipment for programming. We also need smaller items like glow sticks, cardboard tubes, shaving cream, cleaning supplies or toilet paper.

Act: As does the Lord, Vanderkamp relies heavily on our volunteers. **You can make a difference** by donating your time and talents. All aspects of Vanderkamp’s ministry and operations benefit from the contributions of skilled and unskilled volunteers. Sometimes people want to help but for whatever reason are unable to do so themselves. It does not need to be you. Do you know someone (family members, friends, colleagues, women’s group, men’s group, club, church, or employer) who has the potential or resources to help?

We are **especially in need of** health professionals (LPN, RN, PA) and routinely kampership children/grandchildren of adults volunteering the equivalent of at least one week during the summer. Can you drive? Please let us know if you could help youth in your area get back and forth to kamp. Encourage young adults in your family or community to apply for **summer positions** that will transform their faith and their lives. Minimum age requirements are set by the health department: 15 years for lifeguarding/kitchen assistance, 17 years for day camp counselors and 18 years for residential (sleep away) counselors. **Help us continue to grow** kamp by spreading the good news of Vanderkamp’s summer ministry with families in your community.

Pray: Always most needed and much appreciated. Please pray for our kampers, staff, and ministry.

Will you help us provide transformational Christian experiences for youth this summer?

Thank you for prayerfully considering volunteering and/or making a contribution, pledge, recurring donation, or planned/estate gift. Visit Vanderkamp’s website at <http://www.vk.org/wpsite/2018-summer-kamps-2/> for photos, kamp program information, or to donate online.

Joyfully In HIS service,

Bill R. James, MS; Penny A. James, PhD
Executive Directors

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YES! I (we) will join you in making facility improvements and enhancements at kamp.

Contribution:
 Enclosed is our gift of:
 Enclosed is our gift of:
 \$1000 \$250 \$50
 \$500 \$100 \$25
 Other: _____
 Our check or money order # _____ is enclosed (Payable to Vanderkamp Center).
 To gift credit card or eCheck, please see Online Gift Options” below.

Ongoing Support or Pledge:
Contribution Schedule:
 Weekly Quarterly
 Bi-Weekly Semi-Annually
 Monthly
Amount of each gift installment:
 \$100 \$25
 \$50 \$10
 Other: _____
Payment Method:
 Will mail check or money order.
 Will make recurring online gifts by credit card or eCheck.

Online Gift Options:

- To make a pledge or payment by credit card or eCheck, go to www.vk.org and click on “Support Vanderkamp” then “Donate Online.”
 - Make a one-time contribution or recurring gift pledge.
 - MasterCard & Visa accepted.
 - Automate your recurring payments or process installments manually.
 - View your contribution history, update account information, or modify your payment schedule anytime.
- If you require assistance or prefer to pay by phone, call us at (315) 675-3651.