

God continues to bless His work through Camp of the Hills, touching over **8,000** lives in 2024! **THANK YOU** for being a part of His ministry in 2023 and making an eternal investment into the lives of those we serve. We were able to see God move in some incredible ways and we could not have done it without **YOU**!

Summer Camp was a huge success, providing life-changing experiences to hundreds of children. The summer staff were amazing, pouring out God's love and sacrificially giving themselves to the Lord's work. Over 300 incredible volunteers made camp possible through their service in the kitchen, and helping with other camp projects. We got to catch glimpses of miracles and transformations during the summer, but know and trust that God will grow all the seeds planted!

Outdoor Education continues to grow and expand its impact in the lives of thousands of children each year. We launched a new OE program, Timbernook, with locations in Marble Falls and West Austin. From free day camps during school holidays to week long events, we get to share God's beautiful creation year-round. Homeschoolers, private schools, and public schools are being provided excellent outdoor programming and experiences that focus on social-emotional growth of our next generation.

Retreat events and cottage rentals are happening throughout the year to help raise support for summer. Camp hosted 30 different retreat groups, providing space for renewal and reconnection with God. We also hosted a former camper and counselor retreat to follow up from summer camps.

Immerse Discipleship Experience had 9 participants last year. This year-round ministry to young adults targets former summer staff, former summer campers and kids aging out of the foster care system. Participants spend 9 months immersed in the camp context and are guided in discovering their identity in Christ, pursue healing, and exploring their purpose.

Phase One of our **Master Site Plan** was launched in 2023. You helped us raise almost \$1M for a new swimming pool that is under construction now and should be ready for summer camp 2024! Plans for Staff Housing and a "Cook's Cottage" began, and some funds have already been pledged. Please contact me anytime to learn more about our Master Site Plan and how it will enable us to serve thousands of more children each year.

2024 GOALS & PLANS

Here are a few goals you can pray about with us as we seek and follow the Lord's direction in 2024:

- Hire a full summer staff; reach capacity for week-long campers and our 2-week high school discipleship camps
- Complete Pool Project
- > Raise capital funds for the Staff Housing Project and begin construction
- Continue to expand and grow the Outdoor Education/Timbernook ministry; serve 5000 children
- > Host 30 retreats, serving 2500+ youth and adults
- > Hire a full-time Development position
- > Hire part-time food service and housekeeping positions

Camp has 2 critical financial needs that I would like you to prayerfully consider further investing in:

- 1) Operating Budget: Due to more year-round ministry, additional full-time staff, and our pursuit for excellence, our annual operating budget has increased by 20% in the last 2 years. Our annual fundraiser last year was a huge success, but most of the funds raised went to capital projects causing a significant shortfall in our operating budget. It's vitally important that we see increases in monthly and annual gifts to sustain the current ministries that serve thousands of children each year.
- 2) **Capital Budget:** We need your help to wrap up the Pool Project in Q1 of 2024. To complete the pool house, restrooms, and perimeter safety fencing, we need to raise \$250,000. We are so close and gifts of all sizes will be needed to get us to the finish line.

Camp of the Hills is committed to being good stewards of the resources that God entrusts to us. In 2023, approximately 70% of our operating budget was comprised of charitable gifts, mostly from individual donors. Individuals and faith-based grant makers helped us raise nearly \$1M in capital funds. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information about the financials.

Thank you again for your investment of time, prayer, and resources into what God is doing at Camp of the Hills! Your partnership is needed and valued! I would love to visit with you in person this year to share more about what God is doing through Camp of the Hills. You are invited and welcome to come see us in 2024!

Blessings,

Michel Than

Michael Thames Executive Director Email: michael@campofthehills.org Office: 830-693-2580 Cell: 512-755-6793





