



LBLC

CAMP CONNECTIONS

NEWSLETTER

Connecting our community with the latest stories, updates, and events from Lions Bear Lake Camp. Stay informed and inspired as we continue our journey together year-round.



What's Inside ?

Camp Updates

This month's Camp Update is centered on gratitude. We are thankful for a grant from Four County Community Foundation and for the Laingsburg Lions Club, whose annual golf outing fundraiser brought a generous gift to camp. Their support helps us continue creating life-changing experiences for our campers.

LBLC Spotlights

In this month's LBLC Spotlights, we are highlighting Board Member Dave Hacker and Cabin Leader Joshua Barber. Dave continues to share his steady leadership and commitment to camp, while Josh, in his very first summer, made a lasting impression by guiding campers with care and stepping in wherever help was needed. Their stories may be different, but both remind us that leadership is about heart, service, and showing up when it matters most.

Campfire Chats

This month's Campfire Chats features a heartfelt reflection from Brady, one of our campers who shares their summer experience. We also honor Denise Temple as our Camp Champion, recognizing her dedication to volunteering throughout the year at camp.

Stay Connected & Get Involved

Stay connected and get involved—there's always something happening at Bear Lake Camp! Explore our upcoming events, follow us on social media, and consider making a donation to help us continue changing lives.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NOTE TRACI TRIBLEY



This summer at Lions Bear Lake Camp was one we will never forget. More than 1,400 kids came through our gates, the most in our history. Every day was filled with energy, laughter, and courage. You could hear it in the cabins at night, see it on the climbing tower, and feel it around the campfire. What makes a record year matter is not the number itself but the stories inside it. A child who started the week unsure of themselves left standing taller. Another who thought they would never fit in found a friend who made them feel at home. Families picked up their kids and saw something in their eyes they had not seen before, confidence, joy, and a sense of belonging. As the summer season closes, the grounds feel quieter, but the work of camp continues. The off-season brings crafting retreats, school groups ready to learn in ways only nature allows, and leadership retreats where young people begin to discover who they are becoming. The pace changes, but the purpose remains. Camp always teaches us about balance. Some days it is the balance between fear and courage. Other days it is the balance between exhaustion and renewal. For our campers, it might be the balance between holding on to what feels safe and daring to step into something new. Those same lessons are here for all of us, long after summer ends. This year reminded us that obstacles are not the end of the story. They are the starting point for growth. It reminded us that courage is often found in the smallest steps forward. And it reminded us that when people come together with heart and purpose, even the hardest challenges can be overcome. We close this record summer with gratitude for every child who trusted us with their story, and for every supporter who helped make it possible. The season ahead will carry the same spirit, because the impact of camp does not fade when the summer ends. It keeps growing, one life at a time.



CAMP UPDATES: WHAT'S NEW AT BEAR LAKE CAMP

Stay up to date with everything happening at Lions Bear Lake Camp in Camp Updates! From exciting developments and upcoming events to the latest news from around the camp, this section will keep you informed on all the ways we're growing and evolving to serve our campers and community.

LCCF Grant

We are deeply grateful to Lapeer County Community Foundation for their incredible \$10,000 grant in support of camperships and programming at Lions Bear Lake Camp. This gift reaches far beyond dollars, it opens doors for children to discover new abilities, make lasting friendships, and create memories they will carry for a lifetime.

Grants like this make it possible for us to welcome every camper who dreams of being here, regardless of their circumstances. Thank you for believing in our mission and for helping us continue the work we love. Your generosity is felt in every smile, every shared laugh, and every moment of courage at camp.



Laingsburg Lions Golf Outing

We want to take a moment to thank the Laingsburg Lions for their incredible generosity. Through their annual golf outing, they raised \$3,500 for Lions Bear Lake Camp, and we are truly grateful. This gift makes a real difference. It helps a camper who is blind or visually impaired climb a tower they never thought possible. It helps a camper who is deaf or hard of hearing discover confidence out on the lake. It supports teens who are stepping into leadership roles and learning how to guide others with kindness. Every part of camp is touched by support like this. The Laingsburg Lions put their time and heart into planning and hosting their fundraiser, and because of that, children who need camp the most will have the chance to experience moments that change their lives. From all of us at Bear Lake, thank you for believing in what we do and for helping make it possible.



LBLC SPOTLIGHTS: CELEBRATING OUR CAMP COMMUNITY

In LBLC Spotlights, we shine a light on the dedicated individuals and partnerships that help make Lions Bear Lake Camp extraordinary. Each month, we'll highlight a staff member and board of directors member. These are the people and collaborations that drive our mission forward, ensuring that every camper experiences the magic of Bear Lake Camp.

Dave Hacker Board Member-2VP

Lion Dave Hacker has dedicated decades of his life to service, and we are fortunate that his path led him to Bear Lake Camp. His leadership journey with the Lions began in 1997. Beyond the many titles and positions he has held, it is his heart for helping others that truly defines him. As a member of our Board of Directors, Dave brings both experience and a deep sense of commitment to the mission of Bear Lake. He understands the importance of giving children and families a place where they can belong, grow, and discover their strengths. His steady support has helped shape the camp into what it is today, a place where lives are touched every summer and throughout the year. We are grateful for Dave's vision, his guidance, and the many hours he has given in service to the Lions and to Bear Lake. His dedication is a reminder that true leadership is not only about responsibilities. It is about creating a difference that continues long after the work is done.



Joshua Barber Cabin Leader/Kitchen Team

This past summer we were grateful to welcome Joshua Barber to Lions Bear Lake Camp as a Cabin Leader. Even though it was his first year with us, Josh quickly became a familiar and trusted presence for campers and staff alike. He has a natural way of connecting with kids, helping them feel safe, supported, and encouraged to try new things. Beyond his cabin responsibilities, Josh stood out as someone who was always willing to lend a hand. Whether it was helping with activities around camp or stepping into the kitchen when needed, he showed what it means to be a true team player. Josh's dedication made a lasting impression, and we are excited that his journey with us is continuing into the off-season. He has joined our kitchen team, where his hard work and positive spirit continue to make a difference every day. We are thankful for everything Josh has brought to Bear Lake already, and we look forward to seeing the impact he will continue to have in the seasons ahead.





CAMPFIRE CHATS: STORIES THAT WARM THE HEART

Welcome to Campfire Chats, where we share the inspiring stories and unforgettable memories from our past campers. Each month, we'll also spotlight our Camp Champion, someone who embodies the spirit of Lions Bear Lake Camp. These are the moments and people that make our camp so special—stories that continue to spark joy long after the campfire's last ember.



Brady A.- VIB Camper

This was my second year at Lions Bear Lake Camp. I couldn't wait to go back to camp this year. One of my favorite things to do at camp is swimming in the Lake. I always have to take the swim test on the first day of swimming before I am allowed to swim in the deep end. I liked when we went camping on the huge hill. The best part about camping on the hill is that you get to sing along with your cabin mates to different songs. The arts and crafts were so much fun, I loved making the slime we were able to take home. I made so many new friends. We all got to do the courses with each other. Everyone got to do field games which were fun to compete in. The best part about the field games was "Red Light Green Light". I really hope to come back again to Lions Bear Lake Camp next year. -Brady Akers

Denise Temple- Camp Champion

Every camp has those people who quietly become part of its heartbeat. At Bear Lake, one of those people is Denise Temple. Denise shows up. In the spring and summer, you could find her in the kitchen with trays of cookies and baked goods, helping make sure campers had the kind of treats that feel like home. She comes to the annual Workbee ready to get her hands dirty and help prepare camp for the season ahead. When February rolls around, she's there for the Ice Plunge. And when crafters gather in the spring and fall, Denise is right in the middle of it, giving her time and energy without hesitation. She also notices the little things that most would overlook. Every time she's here, Denise loads up the camp's cardboard and takes it with her to recycle, turning something ordinary into another way to give back. It may not sound glamorous, but it speaks to who she is — someone who sees a need and quietly takes care of it. What makes Denise a Camp Champion is not just the number of ways she volunteers, but the spirit she brings with her. She has a way of reminding us that service is not always about the spotlight. Sometimes it's about showing up again and again, filling the gaps, and making sure things are better because you were there. Denise is proof that the heart of camp is not only found in the big moments but in the everyday acts of kindness that keep this place running. We are grateful for all the ways she continues to pour into Bear Lake.





SUMMER CAMP 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Summer camp has come to a close, leaving us with memories that will stay in our hearts for a long time. The laughter that once echoed through the cabins, the friendships that grew around the campfire, and the adventures shared on the trails and the lake all remind us of how special this season was. Here's a look back at the joy, the connections, and the unforgettable moments that made this summer one to remember.

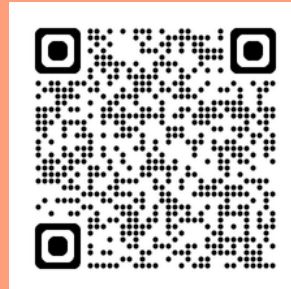




STAY CONNECTED AND GET INVOLVED

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

- **October 4th, 2025**- Ultra Marathon
- **February 7th, 2026**- 4th Annual Ice Plunge
- **April 11th, 2026**- Buffalo/Boar Wild Game Dinner
- **May 9th, 2026**- Annual Workbee



Your generous support helps us continue providing exceptional experiences for our campers. Every donation makes a difference, ensuring we can offer top-notch programs and maintain our beautiful camp facilities. Thank you for helping us make a positive impact!



CHECK OUT OUR CAMP
WISHLISTS!

FOLLOW US!



@LBLC_LAPEER
WWW.BEARLAKECAMP.ORG

Bear Lake Ultra Marathon

SPONSORSHIP *opportunity*



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 4TH, 2025**

**3409 N FIVE LAKES RD
LAPEER, MI 48446**



SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS/ LEVELS

Aid Station Sponsor \$1,000

- 4ft X 2ft Color banner hanging in the aid station (banner will be supplied by BLU and given to the sponsor after the race)
- Sponsor table at packet pick up (Friday Oct 3rd 5-8pm).
 - 1 entry to the current year's race.
- Company logo on the back of the event hoodie.
 - 1 event Hoodie (sizes S-XL).

Gold Level Sponsor - \$750.00

- Sponsor table at packet pick up (Friday Oct 3rd 5-8pm).
 - 1 entry to the current year's race.
- Company logo on the back of the event hoodie.
 - 2 event Hoodies (sizes S-XL).

Silver Level Sponsor - \$500-749.00

- Sponsor table at packet pick up (Friday Oct 3rd 5-8pm).
 - Company logo on the back of the event hoodie.
 - 1 entry to current year's race.

Bronze Level Sponsor - \$250-\$499

- Sponsor table at packet pick up (Friday Oct 3rd 5-8pm).
 - Company logo on the back of the event hoodie

Jr. Gold Sponsor - \$100-\$249

All sponsorship levels include:

- Company logo on a "Mile sponsor sign" located on the course.
- Sponsor literature in racers packet (supplied by sponsor 3 week prior to the race)

To Sponsor please contact:

Robert Lykins, Race Director and Ultra Marathon Runner
www.Cutcorob@yahoo.com 586.531.4684

LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Sponsor a Camper for \$850
per session, per week

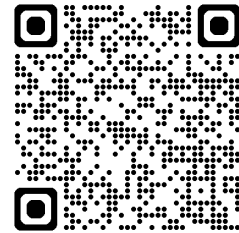


The Mission of Bear Lake Camp is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons, regardless of ability.

Sponsor a special child for one of our weeklong camps this summer:

Visually Impaired Youth Camp
July 13th-19th, 2025

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Camp
July 20th-26th, 2025



Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Sponsorship Session(s): _____

Number of Campers: _____

Total: _____



Lions Bear Lake Camp, 3409 N. Five Lakes Road, Lapeer, MI. 48446
(810) 245-0726 *** info@bearlakecamp.org *** www.bearlakecamp.org





DONATE TO LIONS BEAR LAKE CAMP

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Your generous contribution helps us continue providing life-changing experiences for children of all abilities. Every donation goes directly to supporting our programs, enhancing our facilities, and ensuring that Lions Bear Lake Camp remains a place of adventure, learning, and growth for generations to come. Thank you for your support in helping us fulfill our mission of empowering youth and fostering leadership in an inclusive, welcoming environment.

☐ Enclosed is my gift for \$ _____ to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

☐ Please bill me for \$ _____ as my gift to Lions Bear Lake Camp.

This gift is for:

☐ General Donation

☐ Visually Impaired & Blind Youth Camp

☐ Sponsor a Camper

☐ Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth Camp

To make a secure credit card payment please visit our website:

www.bearlakecamp.org under the “Donations Tab” and click “Donate” or scan the QR code.



This gift is in memory of: _____

This gift is in honor of: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

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