



Walk in Faith.
Give in Joy.

Follow-Up Appeal Funds to be invested at Camp Christopher to create a camp without limits for campers with disabilities to experience God in nature.

Imagine a camp where all are welcome regardless of abilities or disabilities. Catholic Charities' Camp Christopher has been serving youth and adults from across the Diocese of Cleveland for 95 years. Unique to Camp Christopher are the camp opportunities available to persons with disabilities. Here, campers with disabilities can enjoy the same camp experiences as other campers their age. They can play, craft, swim, canoe, and make friendships alongside their peers. And best of all, they can pray and experience God in the natural beauty of their surroundings.

The funds raised through the Follow-Up Appeal will be used to open the door to camp for more youth and adults with disabilities.

- **Camperships** will lessen the financial burden of families who want to send their children to camp
- **Cabin construction and renovation** will make camp more ADA compliant and accessible to all
- **Programs and services** will be enhanced to provide for special needs

The camps offered by Camp Christopher for campers with disabilities include:

- SumFun Day Camp | Ages 5-21
- Residential Discovery Camp | 18+
- Community Respite | 13+

All of these programs allow participants to enjoy the many activities that Camp Christopher offers with the benefit of adaptation by trained staff.

\$100,000 Challenge Grant Doubles the Impact of Gifts Made During the Follow-Up Appeal Weekend May 18-19

Your support as pastor is essential to the Follow-Up Appeal's success. Your invitation to parishioners to donate and DOUBLE their IMPACT through this matching gift offer will open the door to camp for more persons with disabilities. **All new, increased and additional gifts will be doubled** thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. Gifts can be made in the in-pew envelopes or online at www.CatholicCommunity.org/Camp.

Meet Nate. He loves his weekends at the Community Respite camp at Camp Christopher so much it has become a second home for him.

For Nate, Camp Christopher’s Community Respite weekends are the highlight of his month. As a nonverbal adult with special needs, Nate’s parents were hesitant to send him away for an entire weekend at first. But three years later, Camp Christopher has become a second home to Nate. “The staff treats Nate like a real person, not a disability,” says Jeannine, Nate’s mom. “With Camp Christopher we felt we finally found Nate’s world and everything that he needs, especially friends and wonderful staff that are more like family.”



Programs & Services for Campers with Special Needs

SumFun Day Camp for Children with Disabilities	Youth with Developmental Disabilities (ages 5-21)	Weekdays from 9am-4pm throughout the summer	1 staff member providing personal care and supervision for to up to 3 campers
Residential Discovery Camp	Adults with Developmental Disabilities (18+)	Monday- Saturday for multiple weeks throughout the summer	1 staff member for up to 5 campers
Community Respite	Adolescents and adults with disabilities (13+)	Sessions are offered one weekend each month. Campers may attend all or part of the weekend.	1 staff member for up to 5 campers

OUR VISION

At Catholic Charities, our vision is to live in a world where all people can share the blessings that our Lord has given us. To do this, we focus on the values of **FAITH, HOPE, LOVE,** and **COMPANIONSHIP** which serve as a reminder that we can see and know the Lord by helping others, like Nate.

FAITH We see persons with disabilities for who they are: children of God. By treating everyone as Jesus would, we are living and breathing His Word. This gives us the FAITH and strength to live as His children.

HOPE Together, we bring HOPE to the families who are struggling to support their child with special needs. Through the Follow-Up Appeal we have the opportunity to decrease these parents’ financial burdens so they can focus on loving and raising their families.

LOVE Christ teaches us that no person is separated from His LOVE. This eternal LOVE shines bright in the hearts of those with special needs, as they teach us that we are all made in His image and likeness.

COMPANIONSHIP Keeping in mind the Eternal Love that God has for us all, we form friendships and grow closer to Christ through others. Those with disabilities offer a special perspective of the Kingdom. When we set aside our differences and come together in COMPANIONSHIP, we please our Lord tremendously.