

YMCA CAMP MINIKANI • SINCE 1919

CONTINUING THE LEGACY



A CAMPAIGN FOR YMCA CAMP MINIKANI'S SECOND CENTURY



CAMP MINIKANI

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

A campaign for YMCA Camp Minikani's second century

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DEVELOPING LEADERS
SINCE 1919



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YMCA Camp Minikani has been a home away from home to generations of campers since 1919.

Lasting memories and friendships have been made around the campfire, on the creaky wooden floors of cabins, and in the cool Amy Belle Lake on hot summer days. The Spirit of Minikani is ignited and carried with campers long after the summers of childhood have passed.

As we look to the next 100 years, we feel a responsibility to be good caretakers of the camp property and facilities. More than just buildings, a waterfront, or tree-lined paths, the physical environment of camp is where memories are created, friendships are formed, and campers discover who they are.



“Anyone who has been to Minikani knows it changes lives. IT ONLY TAKES A WEEK to build the leadership, self-confidence, and character that will stay with a young person for a lifetime. It is here where they learn critical skills and lessons that serve them today and well into the future.”

Name Name. Campaign Chair.
Minikani alum and parent



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LASTING



IMPACT

Every summer, more than 2,700 kids and teens spend part of their summer at Camp Minikani where they explore the natural world, make new friends and challenge themselves to learn new skills. It is through these challenges that kids develop confidence, independence, and resilience – critical skills for a successful adulthood.

Camp provides an opportunity to unplug from devices and connect to others, away from outside pressures and their

every day routine. While the times have changed over the last 100 years, the need for kids to have a place where they can just be kids is more important than ever.

In addition to summer camp, nearly 9,000 participants experience the Spirit of Minikani in family camp, conferences and retreats and specialty camps like Adoption Family Camp and Camp Soul: bereavement camp for children.

More than \$130,000 in camperships are awarded each year to ensure all children can experience the Spirit of Minikani, regardless of their family's financial situation.



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THE LEGACY

As generations of campers share memories of closing campfires and self-discovery during their summers at Minikani, we look forward to the next generations whose lives we have yet to change. We recognize the importance the physical environment has on the experience of our campers and know the time has come to reinvest in that environment.

The Continuing the Legacy Capital Campaign will ensure the quality of our buildings and property match the unforgettable quality of our programs. We also must improve the accessibility of our property, ensuring camp is available to all.

PLANS INCLUDE:

- New Dining Hall
- New Pool
- New year-round cabins
- Improved spaces for camp life
- Parking and gateway improvements

“Here I’d like to have a quote from someone who has a family history of camp. Maybe **2-3 GENERATIONS OF CAMPERS** who can talk about what camp meant to their family and the importance of the continued legacy. We need to ensure future generations of children can experience life-changing summers like the thousands of campers who have come before.”

Name Name, Three Generations of campers

EXIT

EXPLORER ROOM





BREAKING BREAD

NEW DINING HALL

The Dining Hall is the heartbeat of camp and where some of the most cherished traditions happen, from sharing community meals to the singing of grace and camp songs. Yet the current space is too small, too fragmented, and in need of updates. A new, larger Dining Hall will seat all campers in one space, creating the community that is so special to camp. With enhanced lake views and an architecture respectful to camp history, this new center for camp will uphold the traditions unique to Minikani.

Expanded and improved restrooms and a larger, thoughtfully designed kitchen will ensure a better and more functional experience.



MAKING A SPLASH

NEW POOL

As much as time in the pool is about cooling off and having fun, it's also an important social time for campers. Being around the pool is as important as being in it, but the existing pool offers limited space.

A new swimming pool will provide a more outdoor gathering and recreation spaces, creating more opportunities for campers to make lasting connections. The pool itself will provide zero-depth entry for our youngest campers, a diving well and enough space for swimmers of all ability levels. New locker rooms, separate from the dining hall, will improve comfort and safety.





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YEAR-ROUND OPPORTUNITIES NEW CABINS

Beyond the summer, Minikani provides Leadership Training and group retreat opportunities year round. But Wisconsin winters are long, creating the need for winterized cabins for those who stay with us during the off-season. We will replace our current Explorer Yurts with six cabins that will comfortably house guests all year, increasing our ability to serve more people. Like all cabins at Minikani, they will be built to create a sense of family and community.



FOSTERING CONNECTIONS DOWNTOWN CAMP

A series of outdoor spaces – known as Downtown Camp – serve as the core of our wooded camp. Campers and counselors gather for programming, recreation and bonding. Current boundaries are poorly defined and the facilities are in need of repair.

A purposefully designed Downtown Camp will create new central commons area that will serve as a unique gathering and activity space. We will create an amphitheater to host the creative performances our counselors and campers are so well known for. As campers move through the property, there will be a strong linkage to the new dining hall, Council bluff, and other camp paths.





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SPACE TO PLAY

SPORTS & FIELDS UPDATES

The current playing field serves parking needs on big event days and during drop-off and pickup times for camp, leaving it torn up every few days during the busy summer season. A new, clearly zoned sports court will create a new activity center for campers, while providing flexible space for overflow parking. It will also create safer circulation from the Pioneer Unit to Downtown Camp.

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE

NEW BATHHOUSES

Long days in the woods make for happy – but hot and dirty – campers. Our timeworn bathhouses are in need of replacement to ensure campers can find respite and comfort as they wash away the day and prepare for a new one ahead..





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BUILDING CONFIDENCE & TRUST NEW HIGH ROPES COURSE

Suspended high above the air, often beyond one's comfort zone, is where trust and confidence is built. A new High Ropes Course will provide the opportunity for campers (and year-round guests) to challenge and push themselves beyond their limits. They will learn to trust their own strength and in the team that supports them.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS GATEWAY/PARKING IMPROVEMENTS

There is great anticipation as families and guests arrive at camp. It is important to create a welcoming and safe first impression, especially for those who are new. Our current gateway is underwhelming, but more critically, the driveway and parking has a poor flow and poses safety concerns.

A new, tree-filled gateway will create a more inviting and intuitive entrance and driveway into camp. Improvements will create an easier and safer camp drop-off and pick-up, as well as increase parking capacity. As part of these improvements, we will relocate the maintenance shop to a more secluded area, away from campers and parents.





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MAKING VISION A REALITY

In order to ensure future generations of children can experience life-changing summers like the thousands of campers who have come before, we are seeking the support of people who care about kids and who care about camp... people just like you.

CONTINUING THE LEGACY

A campaign for YMCA Camp Minikani's
Second Century

NEW DINING HALL & SWIMMING POOL \$4,800,000

Dining Hall \$3,100,000

Pool \$1,700,000

CAMP LIFE \$1,230,000

Replace Explorer Yurts with 6 cabins \$300,000

Sports & Field Updates \$200,000

New Bath Houses \$730,000

PARKING/GATEWAY IMPROVEMENTS \$500,000

Entrance procession and parking \$200,000

Relocate maintenance shop \$300,000

TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL \$6,480,000



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LEADING



THE WAY

Our campaign is led by a dedicated, passionate team of volunteer leaders from across generations of camp. Together, we are eager to share the story of Camp Minikani's future and lead the way for future generations to experience the spirit and magic of camp.

Honorary Chairs

(NAMES TO COME)

Campaign Chairs

(NAMES TO COME)

Campaign Members

(NAMES TO COME)



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LEAVING



A LEGACY

Gifts of \$50,000 or more are eligible for a naming opportunity honoring the donors or in memory/honor of a family member or company of their choosing. YMCA Camp Minikani's Endowment Fund is also a way to leave a legacy for future generations, including through planned gifts.

To learn more about these legacy opportunities, please contact Jon McLaren at 262.251.9080 or jmclaren@ymcamke.org.

"EVERY DOLLAR invested in Camp Minikani is an investment in the life of a camper. Minikani is a safe, supportive place that provides campers with a world of opportunity and an insane amount of fun. We send them back out into the world with greater independence, confidence and perseverance."

Jon McLaren, Executive Director, Camp Minikani

YMCA CAMP MINIKANI

875 Amy Belle Rd
Hubertus, WI 53033
262.251.9080
minikani.org

