# YMCA Camp Minikani 2022 Gratitude Report





**Thank you** for your enthusiastic support of YMCA Camp Minikani and for providing the opportunity to generations of kids who have called Minikani their summer home. Thank you for being a valued member of the Camp Minikani family.

In 2022, our Camp Minikani community created life-long experiences, memories, and friendships – for more than 7,614 children through our summer camp and school groups programs. Camp Minikani's natural beauty, passionate counselors, and inclusive culture were needed by both children and their parents.

Thank you for your generous gift to support 2022 summer camp. Please know your donation helps Camp Minikani serve youth safely, successfully, and with care and compassion. We are very grateful for each of the generous donors who ensured 115 campers received approximately \$100,000 in access assistance to join camp. This includes 52 campers who started their Minikani journey this year.





## The Value of Camp

For 103 years, Camp Minikani has served as a cherished summer destination. Away from screens, Minikani kids explore new fields, nurture their talents, find their direction, motivate themselves and others, and build life-long friendships. The character development and intrinsic values like empathy, determination, and resiliency honed at camp will be an indispensable and formative part of their life moving forward.

# Testimonials from the Summer

"\*----\* is autitstic and the staff was AMAZING. They made accommodations to let her take a tour of the camp, let her set up her cabin early, and made food accommodations for her as well. We will be back! This was a wonderful experience!!"

"It was a wonderful experience full of growing opportunities. Kudos and many thanks to the wonderful staff who truly make Minikani magical!!!"

"\*----\* really loved it and felt so independent. The experience really expanded her confidence!"





### **Summer 2022 Recap**

- 1,312 Day Campers were introduced to Camp Minikani, enjoying traditional camp activities like archery, sailing, swimming, arts and crafts and one's unique to our camp like Runt Hunt, Kangaroo Court and Avenging Angels.
- The quintessential Minikani experience, Overnight Camps included 1,677 kids for one- or two- week immersive stays at camp.
- The year-round Leaders in Training (LT) program includes trips to Superior hiking trail, service trips around Milwaukee including YMCA Miracle League, and onsite intensive leadership preparation. In total, we are serving 186 LT youth in all three LT categories (1's, 2's and 3's).
- The Explorers program included trips to Rhinelander, sea kayaking the Apostle Islands and expeditions to backpack in Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, creating personal growth for 339 youth.
- Our counselors are always Camp Minikani's strongest asset! After "growing up" as Minikani campers, they are at the right age to positively impact the next gereation of campers. They always model the Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility for each camper.

### **Looking Ahead**

We are welcoming 4,100 local students this school year in our Environmental Education program. We're building deeper partnerships with local schools to bring more children to Camp Minikani – creating a pipeline of students who are shaped by camp's values, by attending year after year. We hear from so many former campers and staff about how their camp experiences shaped personal and professional successes for years to come.

We're looking forward to opportunities to see you, year-round, at Camp Minikani:

- Cookie House Dec 3, 2022
- Winter Break Camp December 27 30, 2022
- Spring Break Day Camp March 27–31, 2023
- Pancake Breakfast April 30, 2023
- Family Camp May 26 29, 2023



### **Thank You**

For 17 years, my family has made our home on the shores of Amy Belle Lake. I have the joy of leading incredible staff and volunteer teams and seeing camp positively impact my own children.

I'd love to connect to learn more about you and your family's Minikani story and memories. Please reach out to me with any questions or to chat. I'd love to share future visions for even greater impact at Camp Minikani.

"We are so very thankful as parents that camp is a safe place for all, regardless of color, gender and economics."

We deeply appreciate all that you do to build and preserve the Camp Minikani experience, together, creating memories that our youth will never forget.

Gratefully,

Eli Fyksen Executive Director efyksen@ymcamke.org 262 236 7640 Greg Valde Board Chair valdeg@uww.edu

# Thank you to each of these donors who generously made a gift between September 1, 2021 and August 31, 2022 to support Camp Minikani!

### \$10,000+

Anonymous
Perry and Julie Bump
Henry H. Uihlein & Marion (Polly)
S. Uihlein Foundation
RINKA+
YMCA of the USA

### \$5,000+

Greater Milwaukee Foundation-Camp for Kids Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation Otto Bremer Trust Bruce Rasmussen

### \$1,000+

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#### \$250+

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## **Under \$250**

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Debbie Legato

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