

May 30, 2026

Dear Ihduhapi Community Members,

There's a special energy felt this time of year from the shores of Lake Independence as the land awakens and camp comes to life again.

The trails begin to fill with footsteps. Cabins are prepped. Life jackets and canoes are checked. The grounds start to fill with new growth.

You can almost feel the anticipation building for the meaningful moments that are just around the corner here at Camp Ihduhapi: the shy camper who will find their voice in a cabin circle; the teenager who will discover their leadership potential under the canopy of the woods; the friendships that will form in unexpected places and last far beyond the summer.

You are a vital part of each moment, story, and experience.

Here at camp, we believe that nature is the greatest teacher, but your generosity is what provides the classroom — helping to ensure that our mission to build confident, connected, and courageous young people remains accessible to everyone in our community.

As we count down the days until the docks fill and campfires are lit, I'm excited to share what your support is making possible this year:

- **Celebrating 96 Years of Adventure:** 2026 marks the 96th summer of Camp Ihduhapi, a testament to our community's enduring impact and evolving tradition of excellence in outdoor youth development. Here's to another 96!
- **Lodge Renovation Project Underway:** We are excited to begin work on renovating the lodge. This multi-phase project will help the lodge better serve our summer campers and visiting groups in the spring, fall, and winter months. The first phase of the project will consist of refinishing the floor of the main room, updating bathrooms and showers, and adding an ADA accessible bathroom.



- **Camp Superkids' 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Milestone:** This summer marks 60 years – six whole decades – of our signature Camp Superkids program! We are honored to continue serving kids with asthma and providing them with great outdoor adventure experiences, with necessary medical support and education available to ensure every camper can thrive at camp without worrying about their health.

- **Expanded Service Leaders Programming:** With rising popularity in our YMCA Service Leaders program, we have seen a growing demand for more options – particularly ones that don't go out on trail. To meet this need, we have expanded our Service Leaders session offerings, connecting more teen campers with the opportunity to give back to the Ihduhapi community, while being able to take part in traditional camp activities as well.



- **Essential Annual Fund Support:** The ongoing generosity of our amazing community of donors (like you!) continues to support our Annual Fund, which helps fund scholarships so that cost is never a barrier to accessing our programs and offerings. We continue to count on this support, especially with rising operational costs and increasing demand for financial assistance. This funding also supports essential capital improvements like the Lodge – the heart of camp – which needs further investment to remain a community space for the next 96 years.

These updates represent more than just projects or programs; they represent the growth of a community and the strengthening of a legacy that you help sustain.

Looking ahead to summer and beyond, we're filled with gratitude and excitement for all the moments to come — the big ones, the quiet ones, and everything in between that make Camp Ihduhapi a true home away from home.

Thank you for being such an important part of it all. We're honored to have you alongside us as a partner and friend, helping us keep this beloved place and all it stands for shining bright.

Here's to another unforgettable summer!

Gratefully,

*Eric Fallon*

Eric Fallon  
Executive Director, YMCA Camp Ihduhapi

