



CHARIS HILLS CAMP

Dear families,

We think of you often and pray your family is doing well. Our staff continues to work here at camp in the off-season working on maintenance items, keeping up the grounds, caring for animals and looking at ways to improve our program. This also means we spend time with our board assessing the past year.

Our Board: Charis Hills Board of Directors met recently. Reviewing the camp's financial situation it has become apparent that we need to raise the price of camp tuition. Camp tuition fees have never covered camp operations. We have relied on donations and leasing the camp during the off-season. COVID certainly did not help this as we had to decrease our enrollment and the vast majority of our lease groups canceled. Charis Hills Board of Directors has determined that our fee structure has been insufficient to cover costs and all camp operation costs continue to increase. We have not increased fees in several years and yet food, gasoline, butane, insurance, recreational equipment... almost everything has been rising. **Our Board has set the tuition fee for a week of camp at \$ 2200.00.**

Our Costs: This fee increase is not because of staff salaries. Our employees are well below standard salaries for camps in this area. In addition, camp has relied on Rand and volunteers for camp maintenance help but it is now necessary to hire a full-time maintenance person and kitchen manager. Many special needs camps choose to use volunteers to care for their campers. We hire and train our staff to a high standard. We feel this training is vital to your camper's success. Given our high standards, this tuition fee increase is necessary to continue to have camp.

Discounts: We realize that this may present difficulty for some families. We are able to continue to offer an early bird enrollment discount of \$200 as well as referral discounts...etc. Families are also able to set up a payment schedule for tuition payments. We are working to find additional resources and raise funds for scholarships. **Please see the attached [Ways to \\$AVE](#) document with important links for scholarships and resources.** Remember the Charis Hills Scholarship deadline is April 1st so don't delay.

We thank you for your understanding. If you have questions, feel free to contact me. We look forward to working with all of our campers again in 2025.

Rand Southard
Exec. Director
infocharishills.org