Lake Delaware Boys' Camp

Directors Report



Dear Friends of LDBC,

It gives us great pleasure to send our warm greetings to the entire Lake Delaware Boys' Camp family: our campers, staff, alumni, campers' families, and so many more who cherish the ideals of LDBC. We have put together this newsletter to share the joy and vibrant life of camp with you!

Since its founding 116 years ago, the mission of LDBC has been to build the physical, spiritual and intellectual values of our campers. We can tell you that this mission of positively impacting the lives of boys is as important, and vital as ever and is happening with great success. Each summer we see our boys return home from camp with increased strength and fitness, confidence, and self-discipline.

Looking back, 2024 was a wonderful summer at LDBC. We had a record number of 22 boys graduate. Their spirit and leadership was invaluable, and among other things contributed to some of the finest parades we have ever seen at camp. LDBC was undefeated in our athletic contests with rival camps, with eight victories and no losses.

We could not be more excited about the 2025 LDBC season about to begin. This 2025 camp season will have more LDBC graduates than ever as camp counsellors on our Tactical Staff, who you can meet in this Report. Lake Delaware Boys' Camp will be the featured performers at the Andes Community Day Celebration, which is a major Catskill summer festival, on Saturday, August 2nd. What an exciting and fitting way to end the camp season! We hope many of you will be there.

Lake Delaware Boys' Camp is dependent upon the grace and generosity of our supporters. We are deeply grateful for the devotion to the mission of camp by the Gerry family, loyal alumni, parents and friends of LDBC. We respectfully ask you to consider the effect of LDBC upon your life and the lives of others as you consider your financial support of camp.

We also request your assistance in recruiting boys who would benefit from the incomparable experiences of attending LDBC.

Finally, we ask your prayers for LDBC and for our campers that they will be blessed, in the words of the Camp Prayer: with friendship, joy, and peace.

Very truly yours, Jim and Sue Adams -- Camp Directors

WORK WEEKEND COMING UP – May 16-18, 2025. It is that time of year again. RICK HILBERT is organizing many work projects to get camp spruced up for the 2025 camp season. **THANK YOU RICK!** We are excited to be able to JOIN everyone this year!! All are welcome from Friday at noon onward. Let us know if you can join – so we have enough food! **jimandsueadams@gmail.com or text 315-521-8869.**

2024 END OF THE YEAR HONORS:

• CHARLES DODSLEY WALKER MUSIC AWARD:

Malachi Robinson, Jack Cunningham and Kweku Arthur-Mensah

• MONOGRAM pins 2024 = 11:

- 1. Ade Adedeji
- 2. Michael Idehen
- 3. Jonathan Iheanacho
- 4. Samuel Iheanacho
- 5. Jayden Lopez
- 6. Jimmy McQuade
- 7. Somto Ndukwe
- 8. Erik Palm
- 9. Oluwatitofunmi Takunboh-Salako
- 10. Menyene Udofia
- 11.Zion Zuleta
- COMMANDANT'S CUP = Major Kweku Arthur-Mensah
- ELBRIDGE T. GERRY BAND AWARD = Zion Zuleta

Tim Fischer, Somto Ndukwe and Malachi Robinson

- EDWARD H. GERRY A COMPANY AWARD: Capt. Reece Fosu
- ROBERT L. GERRY, JR., B COMPANY AWARD: Capt. Hayden Spies
- **100% Pins 2024 recipients = 7:** (13, 14 & 15 yr olds)

Medara Udofia. (14)

Thomas Harned. (14)

David Ojesanmi. (15)

Tim Fisher. (15)

Ebo Arthur-Mensah. (13)

Nati Titus-Edwards (15)

Tom Geertgens. (15)

ADDITIONAL CAMPER FOUNDERS AWARDS 2024

• BRONZE FOUNDERS:

Captain Aco Reece Fosu

Captain Bco Hayden Spies

Capt. Band Brian Cunningham

Capt. Band Jack Cunningham

Capt. Sacristan Emmanuel Whitley

Lieut. Health Officer Jack Fedan

Lieut. Band Malachi Robinson

SILVER FOUNDERS:

Major Kweku Arthur-Mensah

STAFF 2024 DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARDS:

• BRONZE DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD:

Capt. James Pert

Capt. Fraser Bray

Capt. Kojo Arthur-Mensah

• SILVER DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD:

Mjr. Devin Fosu

Mjr. Kyle Lamberson

Mjr. Tomas Dulson

Mjr. Nolan Maul

• STAFF DISTINCTION OF 4 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CAMP:

Assistant Director Major. Kaitlin McQuade

• BEST TENT SCORES:

 3^{rd} place = Tent 4

 2^{nd} place = Tent 2

1st place = Tent 5.....BEST TENT 2024

• 2024 PLAQUE SCORES

A CO: 53.4985 B CO: 45.5005





WITH MUCH GRATITUDE

Many times throughout the years, wonderful human beings who have been blessed by Lake Delaware Boys' Camp GIVE BACK!!!

They give back in many different ways: Donations, Work Weekend Volunteers, Serving on LDAA Board, Donating extra supplies, Golf Outing organizers, Basket raffle donations, as well as answering calls for specific needs. We are definitely risking the mistake of leaving some folks out but we do need to recognize the following:

- Camp grad -- CHARLIE HOUNSELL has delivered to camp a beautiful new Display Board stand for Company Street, Disc Golf Set and many more gifts.
- Camp grad -- **PETER DASSLER** donated a brand new American Flag for our camp's Flag pole in remembrance of Gov. Harold A. Dassler.
- Camp grad -- **JIM RAUSCHER** donated \$500 towards our request for dollars to purchase new PICNIC TABLES
- Camp grad -- **JORY LUCHSINGER** donated a couple of US flags and several belts.
- Camp grad -- RON FRIGENTI donated extra silverware
- Camp grad -- BRUCE MONOGHAN sent us a whole bunch of belts.
- Camp grads -- TOMMY FINN and CHRIS KANE purchased several brand new sabers.
- Camp grad -- JOHN CUNNINGHAM brought us an extra dresser for camp.
- Camp grad -- LARRY HINRICHS purchased very nice Aco and Bco flags which we have hung in our new Mess Hall. Larry also had historic camp movies restored.
- Camp grads -- the twins **FRED & BILL HOLZCAMP** have repaired and replaced more items at camp than we can actually list here.

Camp mom and grandma -- **HELENA HUNDLEY FISH** donated a whole lot of silverware, as well as belts, got her friends to donate belts and then Helena also purchased two new dressers for staff.

And the **BOVINA FIRE DEPARTMENT** delivered silverware to the camp.

Let's Introduce our 2025 former camper TACS:

I am Kojo Arthur-Mensah, and I am entering my Junior year at SUNY Binghamton. My major is Integrative Neuroscience. My goal is to get into Medical School and one day become a physician. I am excited to spend my third straight summer working on the staff, I loved my time here as a camper and love my time as a counselor just as much.

I am Dylan Gravina, and I am going to college at SUNY Binghamton majoring in Police Science. I would like to go to Law School. LDBC is and forever will be a special place in my life. I am extremely honored and proud to be part of the staff again this year.

Hello, my name is Kyle Lamberson, and I am majoring in Marketing at the University of Maine. I am also currently working towards my pilot's license, which is quickly becoming my dream career. I have spent a large chunk of my life at LDBC and there is no place in the world I'd rather spend my summers, and I am incredibly grateful for all it has done for me.

My name is James McGovern, and I am a student at the University of South Florida my major is in Health Science and I hope to be a nurse. I feel great about being on tactical staff I'm very excited for the season and just to be back at camp.

My name is Tyler Susu, and I am going to college at Rowan University, and my major is Chemical Engineering. My career goal is to become successful in my field and hopefully run a business in it. I am thrilled to serve LDBC by being on the staff.

My name is Frank Caravita, and I am going to college at Syracuse University majoring in Chemistry and participating in the Army ROTC Program. I would like to go to Medical School. LDBC is the most important part of my upbringing, and I am so glad to cross the street this summer.

Hello, my name is Kaiden Palacios, and I am going to college at the University of South Florida majoring in Health Sciences and I would like to go to Physicians Assistant school. LDBC forever will be a special place in my life. I am extremely grateful and to be part of the staff this year.

IN ADDITION – our staff members represent England, Hungary, Scotland, Mexico, Ghana and Poland this year.

LDBC 2025

PARENTS and ALUMNI WEEKEND

FIRST THE GOLF OUTING



Join Our 17th Annual

Lake Delaware Boys' Camp Golf Outing & Grads/Parents Weekend Kick-off Gathering



Where: The College Golf Course at Delhi

85 Scotch Mountain Road, Delhi, NY

Who is invited: All Grads, Parents and Supporters of LDBC.

Players of all skill levels are invited and encouraged to

participate:

When: Friday, July 18, 2025

What's Included: Lunch: 12:15 pm

Golf - Tee times will start at 1:30 PM

Scramble Format

What's the Cost: \$110.00 for Lunch, golf with cart, appetizers & prizes.

What if I can't make it for golf? If you are not playing golf but would like to join us for Lunch before or appetizers after the golf at the golf course, let us

know. The cost for joining in on these activities is \$20.00 pp

Thank You for your Support

Lake Delaware Alumni Association

Sign up Now - Golf Registration Deadline - July 5, 2025	
Name:	
Contact Information (Email or Phone #)	
I would like to play with (opt.): Name(s):	
Lunch, golf with cart, appetizers & prizes	\$110.00pp □
Lunch and/or appetizers only Name (if different from above)	\$20.00pp 🗆
The camp is supported by donations. If you have not given this year you can inclunow. I would like to make donation to camp now in the amount of \$	ude a donation
Total amount enclosed \$ _	
For more information contact: Clifford Sporn, 609 209-3887(text or leave a me	essage);
doccliff.s@gmail.com Please complete this entry form and return it with your donation to:	
Please complete this entry form and return it with your donation to: Lake Delaware Alumni Association, Attn: Frank Enders, Treasurer,	

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

PARENTS AND ALUMNI WEEKEND --- SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2026

9 am—1 pm Parent Registration at the Table by the Flag Pole

across from the Chapel.

11 am –1 pm CANTEEN open in Field House – parents check their camper's

accounts

Noon Alumni Picnic and Annual Meeting being held at the Ancrum grounds

1:00 p.m. Lunch for Campers in the Mess Hall2:00 p.m. Field games for campers and family

3:30 pm Parents' Meeting in Chapel with Camp Director

5:10 pm Police Call – boys in tents to clean their areas

5:30 pm Retreat

5:45 pm PICNIC SUPPER for Campers with Parents on campgrounds
7:15 pm LDBC Talent Show --- All are Welcome on Company Street

8:30 pm Cots up ---- Parents and Guests **leave** camp area

PARENTS AND ALUMNI WEEKEND -- SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2025

10:00 am Chapel Service for all

11:00 am Coffee and donuts in the Field House 11:00 am-1 pm CANTEEN open in the Field House

12:00 noon Alumni Annual Meeting in St. Joseph's Chapel

1:00 p.m. **BANQUET in Mess Hall** available for all -- \$10 Adults, \$5 Kids

(Campers free)

1:30 p.m. **ALUMNI DRILL DOWN**

2:15 p.m. BASKET RAFFLE DRAWING

3:00 pm Drill Down 4:00 pm Dress Parade

5:30 pm Evening Meal for boys in the Mess Hall

7:00 pm Evensong in St. Joseph's Chapel

GENERAL INFORMATION:.

Camp is for the campers and staff. It welcomes all to the Weekends – Parents/Grads and Closing. Same rules apply when visitors are on campgrounds as apply to the campers and staff.

- a. NO smoking or alcoholic beverages in the Camp Battalion area.
- **b.** Please leave camp area by 8:30 p.m.

NOTE: We must insist that **NO PETS** be brought to Lake Delaware Boys Camp.

The following blurb was from LAST YEAR --- so let's make sure we do even BETTER this year!!! Get your Baskets together for the Parents Weekend Raffle. Thank you to Lori McGovern for being the Parent Association LEADER extraordinaire! But – please note that this will be her last year in this position – so please think about stepping up! lmcgovernpj@gmail.com THANK YOU!

Thank You LDBC Families!

Many thanks to our amazing families! This year we raised almost \$1,400 with our raffles!

NEXT YEAR LET'S DOUBLE THAT NUMBER!

Would you like to volunteer or do you have a simple fundraising idea? Please email me and lets chat!!



lmcgovernpj@gmail.com





THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Donors to LDBC Calendar Year 2024 (not including members of the Gerry Family) 131 Donors gave \$131,133.

ANGEL

John Colgrove (\$25,000)

FOUNDER (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Joseph Collins Decker Advertising Thomas Dougan James McQuade

BENEFACTOR (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Church Pad LLC Dominic Fosu Bruce and Pat Given Brad Harned

Billy and Barbara Holzkamp

Mark Michael Glen and Diane Miller Leonard Ogbeuwu

PATRON (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Ade Adedeji Christine Bradley

Boys & Girls Club of Geneva

Hal Burrall William Dassler

Geoffrey and Carol Dunham

Frank Enders Robert Fero Richard Fischer Douglas Geertgens Peter Given Kevin Lamberson Victor Larson

Scott McQuade Craig McGovern K. Arthur-Mensah Frank Mondello Paypal Giving Fund Akintunde Ola Aaron Palm

Aaron Palm Joseph Scalero Gordon Smith Cliff Sporn Matthew Sporn Robert Spies

SPONSOR (\$500-\$999)

Ricardo Anthony

Joanna Baptiste
Gary Beck
Ouch Chliaka
Michael and Patricia Cole
Gladys Dunham
Jalaolu Fapohunda
Suzette Farrier
Ronald Frigenti
John Hlavka
Charles Hounsell
Ted Luchsinger
Jackie Padmore
Annalinka Pankey
James Rauscher
Meghan Schnippert

James Smith St. James Church, Lake Delaware Ubong Udofia

SUPPORTER (\$200-\$499)

James and Sue Adams
Anuoluwapo Adewusi
Richard Coriasco
Raymond Conley
Guy DeFeis
Richard Fischer
Michael Hepburn
Chiari Leonardi
Richard Lindahl
Vincent Licata
Jory Luchsinger
Randall Moeller
Louisa Nwogu

LDBC Parents Association

Johnson Odeyemi
Carol Ogunmuylwa
Sanni Omowunmi
Folasade Oyebode
David Roberts
Adonys Rodriguez
Service Spring Corp.
Rosemarie Stumpf
James Trowbridge
Ann Vasco
Richard Waring
Anny Yau

FRIEND (\$1-\$199)

Adejumoke Adewale

Nate Abbott

Glen Amzler

Paul Amyot

Edward Arnold

Steven Bleuze

Edmund Bienkowski

Ray Byrnes

Sherry Boyle

Steven DeTeresa

Plummer Cambridge

John Cunningham

Tunde Dada

Nicholas Frigenti

Carl Girard

Kwame Hammond

Richard Henseler

Helen Ross Hundley

Andrew Idehen

James Johnson

Carolyn Kircher

Jessica King

Myriam LaRose

Jane Luchsinger

Leslie Leviness

William Logan

Herb McGrail II

Chris Meyer

Brian McElligott

Kathrine Moschiano

Bruce Monaghan

David Ojesanmi

Bisola Ogunkoya

Samuel Oladimeji

Zack Pereza

Kyle Prescott

Milton Robinson

Rick Reggio

George and Ann Rowe

Fred Sargent

Robert Stumpf

Nate Trowbridge

Ronald Wolters

Jefferson Sargent

William Snell

Chiebere Uko

William Warder

Richard Vargus

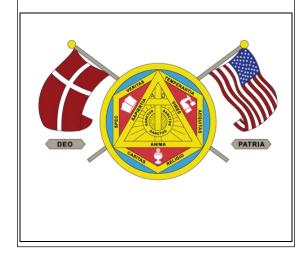
LAKE DELAWARE BOYS' CAMP PRAYER

O God who hast made and preserved this camp and sent us here to learn Thy Will: accept and sanctify our prayers by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit. Teach us to live together in comradeship, joy and peace.

In our camp life, give us the spirit of honor, understanding and perseverance; in our prayers, the power to draw nigh to Thee; and in our games true sportsmanship.

Bless the founders and benefactors of our camp, Robert and Cornelia Gerry, for all that they have given us, and recompense them with the riches of Thine everlasting Kingdom, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.







Lake Delaware Boys' Camp

In Memory

The following grads/campers have passed on.

Edward Dunham	G53	
Peter Enders		G75
William Fedorko		G42
Harington Gordon Jr.		G45
Robert D. Ahlborn	G58	
Clint Graffam	G50	
Roger Rowe		G63
Peter Sporn		C73
James Reilly	G85	

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer.

Grant them your peace:
let light perpetual shine upon them; and in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EVERY YEAR CLOSING WEEKEND is filled with excitement and pride as we recognize those who are graduating, announce the end of season plaque scores and present awards. This year, the Saturday of Closing Weekend (August 2nd) our Battalion will be marching in the Andes Community Days Parade. The grads love receiving a welcome into the LDAA and folks like George Meyers and Richard Burdett made this happen for many summers. A couple of years ago, Eric Schubert took this over as well as Marjorie Adams and her daughter Eden. Eric makes these beautiful wooden plaques for each grad and Marjorie and Eden provide graduating class photos for the campers. THANK YOU.



A Good Read

Letter of Support received from Racheal Fosu, mother of two LDBC campers.

"In March of 2015, my sons were accepted to Lake Delaware Boys' Camp (LDBC). In June of 2015, just before they were due to report to camp, their Dad, Dominic died unexpectedly whilst still recovering from a stroke he had 2 years prior. It took everything in me to part with them for 5 weeks the following summer; 2016, but they wanted to give it a try. The first summer of grief, 3 where there used to be 4, it was now just me. I had to begin the process of allowing them to start on their journey to manhood without their Dad showing them the ropes. After our home and home church, LDBC became one of the three places on this Earth responsible for ensuring that my sons became strong, disciplined, Christian men who value humanity, faith, family and self during an excruciatingly painful time in their lives. Today they hold the humane, Christian, military values that were instilled in them at LBBC sacred and have all intentions of passing them down to the generations they create. Little did we know God had sent LDBC into our lives knowing my sons would need it even before their Dad died.

My older son, Devin, joined camp later than most boys. The 2 years prior had been very hectic filled with caregiving for Dominic starting 2013 when Devin was only 9. He had watched his father go overnight from a fit, engaged, jolly father to partial paralysis and very diminished speech. He was disoriented and unsure about how he would find a place that late in this structured summer camp where military responsibility was earned, and promotion occurred from one camp season to the next. He strategized and found his place quickly thanks to the mentorship of camp leadership Colonel Adams and General Adams and to the older boys and staff he looked up to.

A behind the scenes player, he chose to start volunteering in the chapel behind working to make sure ts held 8 times a week flowed smoothly from incense burners, to candles, to hymns to organization of boys on program in the service and everything in between. His operational mind clicked in and over the next 4 years he rose through the ranks to receive the St Joseph's medal twice and a Founders medal in his graduation year. When he got to camp at 12 some told him he could not earn a Founders medal because of his late start. His quiet, stable, consistent leadership proved otherwise.

I believe only 30 to 40 campers have received that medal in the past 10 years. LDBC enabled him to create his own path and one for his brothers behind him. He had no LDBC legacy, he had no Dad to show him the ropes. Yet still this place, Father D and Father VB, helped him find himself enough to become the first ever Captain Sacristy. Devin is immensely proud to have been recognized in a place where he finds the most peace, the chapel at LDBC. Healing for him happened in the backroom of that chapel as he listened to the service from a different vantage point than most, behind the scenes. The chapel will always be a special place for all of us, not because it is fancy but because it is deeply spiritual. With his camp career being shorter, Devin did not feel like his time at LDBC was finished so he applied to be a Camp Counselor. He returned as the youngest Counselor and spent three years in a row becoming Major Fosu in his final counseling year where he held responsibility for campers and staff. He was awarded a second Founder's medal.

My younger son Reece attended LDBC when he was 8 years old. The only year they did not attend was in 2020 due to the pandemic. Reece prefers to now be called Emmanuel his middle name evidence of his affinity to his faith and Christian values. Emmanuel grew up at LDBC. His first year he learned how to swim and was super excited to show me how well he had progressed midway through camp at our first Family weekend. He quickly fell in love with enjoying the simplicity of being a young boy, having bug bites and competing as teams in all things LDBC.

I marveled at how he would come home each summer clearly more mature than 5 weeks earlier when he left. I marveled at how he spent the rest of year walking around the house doing military drill moves and talking nonstop with his tent mates and LDBC brothers about the summer and anxiously awaiting his next rank for the following summer. I marveled at how he planned out what things he would do more efficiently the following year and how he packed his trunk more efficiently each year, taking only the essentials from year to year.

Emmanuel is very competitive naturally. I watched him first struggle to figure out what his niche was and misbehave a little as young boys do in his early camping years. The beauty and magic of LDBC was its patience and gentle guidance from older campers, camp staff and management that helped him find his place at LDBC. When he did, he locked in and told himself he would create a record of Drill Down wins after his first win. Then I watched him execute that always praying strongly and practicing for 4 weeks before each competition. I watched him win the famed, high stakes Drill Down back-toback and then three-peat which I do not believe has been done since 1909. To win he had to drown everyone out (except for the Major issuing commands), follow his instincts only on trick commands, flawlessly move in unison with his musket rifle in a pressured situation to beat out all other campers whilst being eagerly watched by visiting parents and scrutinized by all watching staff. His goal for his graduation year was either to be Major or lead his company. He got to lead his company and had already planned to win the Company plaque if he had that rank, they did. For him leading a company of boys and being what older boys had been for him 7 years earlier was priceless and where his healing happened. To watch him go full circle over those 8 years has been truly a blessing, a pure joy. I can definitively say that being an LDBC family, spending uninterrupted family time in this disconnected place helped us connect in ways we never imagined. I have been re-trained by and fallen in love with LDBC, and now value disconnected time to connect. This is a practice that we have now agreed to do as a family each year now that our time as a camping family at LDBC is finished.

What I value is that my sons now know for the entirety of their lives that they need not be dependent on cellphones for connection. They have been able to willingly embrace technology free 5-week summers and now demonstrate a healthy balance and usage of their phones. This will serve them positively in life as their peers struggle to exist without phones for 24 hours. At LDBC, less is more, and simplicity is valued, again a value that my sons now hold dear.

They now embrace the fact that they can sleep on a wooden floor in a simple sleeping bag in a flapped tent for weeks or in a comfortable bed and be just fine either way. In fact, as graduates, they now fondly miss the intense brotherhood bonding time where human interaction is valued over all else.

Being a part of a legacy that has existed since 1909 is priceless to my sons and to me. We all feel the most spiritual when we are in those woods, cut off from cell phones and technological encroachments. The legacy that includes leading in various dimensions of our world quietly and impactfully serving others and our country is cherished at LDBC. I am proud to say my sons are now a part of that legacy.

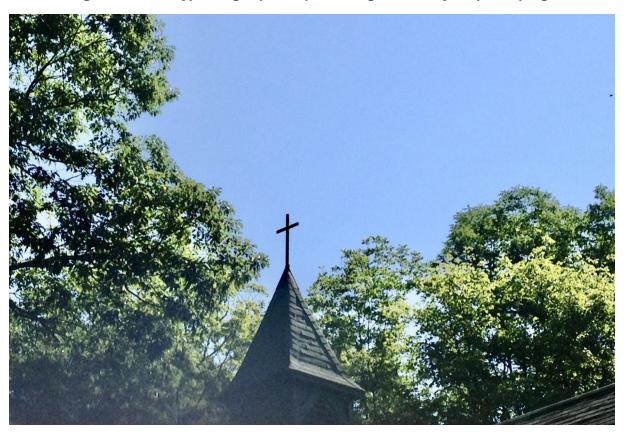
Twenty-five 3-hour drives in both directions were more than worth it and great for soul searching. Nine years later, my sons have evolved from confused, angry, grieving boys aged 12 and 8 to young men taking their places in this world with their LDBC family and brothers on all sides. Devin is soon to be a senior at a prestigious business school studying Entrepreneurship and thriving. Emmanuel, thanks to recruiting during the summer at LDBC and our extended LDBC family is soon to be a junior at a prestigious boarding school excelling in academics, leadership and basketball on full scholarship.

I can only hope that this place remains in existence forever and that more boys get to experience the true gift to the world that LDBC is. Our family will never be able to repay LDBC for what it has done to heal us nor for what it will be for generations to come in our family, wild dogs, porcupines, no cell service, canons and all! I have had some of my proudest moments as a widowed Mom at LDBC. I can truly say LDBC helped bring me back to life in the summers on my young, widowed motherhood journey. I wish Dominic could have experienced it, I know it would have impacted who he would be today. I know he would have been proud of what his sons have become thanks in part to LDBC."

Respectfully submitted, Racheal Ankrah-fosu

LDBC Changing Lives Since 1909

O God who hast made and preserved this camp and sent us here to learn Thy Will: accept and sanctify our prayers by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit.



LDBC

P. O. Box 31 Delhi, NY 13753 City, ST ZIP Code