For generations, Lake Delaware Boys Camp (LDBC) has been more than just a summer camp—it has been a transformative experience shaping the character, discipline, and leadership skills of young men.

As an alumnus, I can confidently say that my time at LDBC profoundly impacted my life, equipping me with leadership and confidence necessary for success.

If not for Lake Delaware Boys Camp, I would not have had the opportunity to relocate and attend school in Geneva, NY. LDBC provided me with the structure, mentorship, and support that ultimately led me to apply and attend Hobart and William Smith Colleges, an opportunity that shaped my academic and professional future. The camp’s unwavering commitment to developing young men prepared me to embrace challenges, pursue leadership roles, and commit to a life of service.

LDBC instilled in me a deep sense of responsibility and self-discipline. The lessons I learned—through training, leadership roles, and a strong sense of brotherhood—continue to guide me today. If not for LDBC, I would not be the man I am today—a leader in my community, empowering and providing leadership and professional development to over 650 students annually.

The impact of LDBC extends far beyond the summer months. The friendships forged, the discipline instilled, and the confidence gained stay with campers for a lifetime. Supporting LDBC through this grant will ensure that more young men—especially those from underserved communities—have the same life-changing opportunity to grow into strong, capable, and service-minded leaders. I am forever grateful for LDBC’s role in my journey and wholeheartedly believe in its mission to empower the next generation.

*Dan M. De Nose, MPA*

**

**Author| Social Entrepreneur| Motivational Speaker| Leadership & Professional Development Consultant**