I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:13

Camp CUMCITO

At Camp CUMCITO (City Union Mission Camp in the Ozarks), boys and girls used to scorching sidewalks and angry young hearts. Each summer, more than 650 campers from impoverished and homeless families enjoy bright sunny days filled with swimming, fishing, hiking, arts and crafts, and other exciting adventures. They sleep in clean, safe beds and get all the wholesome food they can eat. Most importantly, in chapel and at campfire during quiet time with caring Christian volunteers, dozens of youngsters gain their lives to Christ and learn that with Him in their lives, they can accomplish big things.

Help Complete New Multipurpose Center

Our visionary mission still needs to secure $234,000 to cover the cost of building The RIDGE, so we ask you to partner with us and help provide a unique camp experience.

If you’d like to help financially, tax credits are available to assist with the Multipurpose Center’s tax liability and who make gifts of $5,000 or more contribute to the capital campaign. To learn more, contact Donate Chapman at donate@cityunionmission.org or (843) 478-8000, ext. 1476.

We’re also inviting businesses, churches and individuals to gift a “Shower” for the furnishings and equipment on the list below. For details on how you can help, please contact Lauren Dollar (at) 474-8380, ext. 149, or in person. Instead of giving to another gift registry, we encourage you to give for the items for this list. Thank you for making The RIDGE a reality for exciting and enriching campers!

New Multipurpose Center “Shower List”

- Lunchroom tables $8,800
- Furniture for lodging areas $3,700
- Archery & paintball equipment $3,900
- Institutional kitchen equipment (pots, pans, etc. – inquire for specifics) $2,000
- Round dining-hall tables & chairs $5,070
- Storage shelves & cabinets $2,100
- Wall-mounted flat screens & chairs $1,900
- Shelves (white, red, blue) $1,900
- Storage (shelf, backpack, destination, roses, station) $500
- Archery & paintball equipment $500

Campfire & Devotions 7:30 p.m.

- Bible Skits & Songs 8:00 p.m.
- Swimming 12:30 p.m.
- Arts & Crafts 5:30 p.m.
- Round Robin Games 2:30 p.m.
- Flag Raising 7:30 a.m.
- Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
- Lunch 12:30 p.m.
- Dinner 5:30 p.m.

The RIDGE Offers Enhanced Camp Experience

Our new multipurpose center at Camp CUMCITO will be completed just in time for the arrival of our first campers. And the new facility promises to make their experience more exciting and comfortable than ever before. In addition to a rock-climbing wall, the covered gym will offer space for active games in inclement weather. The building also includes an infirmary with a private exam room and two quarantine rooms, as well as the ability for our staff to access Internet resources. The dining room and kitchen are both new and improved, and the facility will more adequately serve all our cabins of campers. Called “The RIDGE,” the name describes the purpose and function of the new center: Recreational, Infirmary, Worship and Guest Education.

A Change of Heart

When 14-year-old Imani* first came to City Camp, she wanted nothing to do with our adult staff and volunteers. Although she often bragged about the trouble she was getting into and listened attentively to discipline, her heart was not open. Scott Good began to share her heart, and the consistent love, care and guidance he showed gave her the courage to open up. She continued to embrace God’s transforming love and grace that summer at Camp CUMCITO. During times of Bible study and chapel, the relationship between her and Scott deepened. The boy she thought was an angel was her best friend. Imani returned home and stepped off the bus in tears and hugged her mother. “I love you,” she ran into her mother’s arms yelling, “I love you!” And the relationship between mother and daughter continued to blossom after that.

From Bitter to Sweet

Jasiah came to City Camp believing no one liked him and that he had no value. One staff member saw him in an unkind way and with loving words that we wanted to be his friend, others children wanted to be his friends, and most importantly God loved him and wants to be his friend too. Slowly his behavior and demeanor began to improve. He was acting out less and paying attention in devotions—and then he finally got it. He ran up to his counselor—his own quarterback looking at his glasses—and said, “Mom Love, God loves me and I’m valuable to Him.” In time, his transformation was breathtakingly beautiful. He went from being the bully to defending the bullied. His anger turned to a passion for justice. Instead of snapping at someone, he would say, “I love you.” The boy who had come to camp angry and bitter no longer wanted. He was replaced with a confident young man who knows the value of being a child of God.

Volunteer Opportunities

For children and youth we also offer City Camp through our Vanderberg Youth Center (VYC). Local urban-core children attend five days a week for safe, fun activities and outings. We depend on our summer interns and other volunteers to provide the loving care for these precious boys and girls.

Throughout the year, youth are also invited to weekly programs at the Vanderberg Youth Center. Here staff and volunteers continue building relationships and helping the children by tutoring and being role models for living the kind of life that will bring success and pleasure to the Lord.

Please pray for these children and, through your gifts and partnerships, help make these summer and year-round programs opportunities for them to grow in the knowledge of God’s love through faith in the Son, through material items and financial support.

For His glory,

Randy J. Chapman
Executive Director

From Dan’s Desk

With the financial support of countless donors, City Union Mission has taken children from the urban-core to the beautiful wooded hills of the Ozarks since 1934—making 2015 the 81st year of our camp ministry. Literally thousands of children have spent summer weeks being loved and cared for by trained staff and volunteers. At camp we strive to make children feel loved, cared for and with loving words that we wanted to be his friends, others children wanted to be his friends, and most importantly God loved him and wants to be his friend too.

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Executive Director

Dennis Chapman
Executive Director

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Consider Charitable Gift Annuities
A charitable gift annuity enables donors to receive an enhanced and guaranteed income for the rest of their lives. If you would like more information about this practical financial tool, contact Dennis Chapman at dennis.chapman@cityunionmission.org or (816) 474-9380, ext. 1476.

Vanderberg Youth Center

Our Vanderberg Youth Center allows our staff and Christian volunteers to build nurturing and empowering relationships with children who are living in our Family Shelter and New Life Center—or in nearby neighborhoods—throughout the school year. Through programs designed to help boys and girls ages 7 to 17 prosper academically, socially and spiritually, we’re laying a foundation of hope for their futures.

- Our City Corps after-school ministry offers tutoring, recreation, field trips, life skills, spiritual development and devotionals for elementary and secondary students.
- One day each week, students in our Family Shelter receive help with their homework assignments. Shelter Tutoring is provided by trained Student Impact Volunteers.
- Twice each week our Youth Chapel services offer Bible studies and other activities that help boys and girls in our Family Shelter learn and understand the Gospel and how it can strengthen their lives.
- In addition to a healthy recreation, our Basketball Program helps young athletes learn that God is with them in every situation and how to demonstrate character in all aspects of their lives.

Help Young Campers Do Big Things!

Imagine more than 80 volunteers every week—working an average of 87 hours a week—and that’s the magnitude of loving service we need to make Camp CUMCITO possible.

We're grateful for our community of volunteers who collectively give over 7,200 hours of time each summer at camp. If you’d like to be part of this caring group, below are the opportunities for assisting our staff and young campers.

- **Bus monitors** to accompany children to camp on Monday and back to the city
- **Cabin staff** to care for and encourage young campers at Camp CUMCITO
- **Lifeguards** to keep swimmers safe at our Camp CUMCITO pool

For more information on programs provided through our Vanderberg Youth Center, visit www.cityunionmission.org.

Your Compassion by the Numbers

January–March 2015

- **731** Meals Served (daily avg.)
- **461** Homeless Sleeping Overnight (daily avg.)
- **2,351** Patients Seen (for medical issues)
- **290** Chapel Service Attendance (daily avg.)
- **116** Salavations and Rededications

**Financial Update:**

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For more details and requirements for these positions, visit www.cityunionmission.org. For more information, call (816) 329-1425 or email campworkers@cityunionmission.org.