

## “Camp saved my life.”

At only ten years old, Alexis was often responsible for her five siblings. Her parents would disappear for hours most nights. They accidentally started their family as teens before dropping out of high school. Neighbors worried that Dad was dealing drugs or stealing to support the family. Both parents clearly loved the kids but had never benefited from effective parenting themselves. Neighbors “kept an eye out” for the well-being of the young family. One night Alexis was observed alone and crying on her porch. The next day, a neighbor approached Mom and offered to take Alexis and her sister to camp for the weekend. It was hard for Mom and Dad to say yes, but they knew it was the right thing to do. The girls returned from camp excited and glowing. They couldn’t stop talking about the friendly people, the food and all the activities they got to try. That first weekend led to a week at summer camp, then years of volunteering at camp and in their community. Alexis is now 28, happily married and the mother of twin boys. “Camp saved my life,” she always says. “It was the only place I got to play and feel free and feel hopeful. The people I met made a huge impression on me.”

For Alexis and so many others, the camp experience is life-changing. It is critical that Camp Cavell Conservancy continue to provide and protect this safe, nurturing, natural environment for them. We have made many improvements and are



working to do even more, but the harsh Michigan winter has been particularly hard on our aging facilities. **Will you make a donation today to ensure a safe, enjoyable camp experience?**

For many people exploring life in the outdoors is not a "given". At camp, the children, adults and families (including those dealing with disabilities, difficult times or limited resources) connect with each other and new friends. Adventure or quiet time by the lake, in the trees and within the camp community can restore spirit and quality of life. Your donation can help make this happen.

**If we RAISE \$20,000 by June 15, our wonderful Board members will MATCH IT!**

Your gift of any size is truly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Jill Laidlaw at (810) 359-2267 or [jill@campcavell.org](mailto:jill@campcavell.org).

**Donate Now!**

