

Camp Y-Wood Cabin Fund Case Statement

Fire Destroys a Building, But Not the Spirit of YWCA Camp Y-Wood:

In late May of 2010, an arsonist burned down the 15' x 20' Main Cabin at YWCA Camp Y-Wood. It was just weeks before camp was set to open for the season.

Thanks to the many volunteers who contributed supplies and muscle to clear away debris, camp opened on schedule, providing a safe, active and enriching experience for children throughout Greater Lawrence. It's what Camp Y-Wood has been doing since 1958, when the YWCA purchased the 22-acre site on Captain's Pond in rural Salem, NH.

Focusing on Rebuilding:

Now, the YWCA is seeking your support to triple the size of the Main Cabin, to create a welcoming central meeting space where children can join together for activities, especially on rainy days. The new building will also feature indoor bathrooms [a first at Camp Y-Wood!], and it will be insulated, so that we can add spring and fall programming.

For the safety of our campers, construction will begin when camp closes for the season, in late August. Our contractor, Jeff Woods Construction of North Andover, estimates completion will take between 60 and 90 days, depending on how the weather cooperates.

Cost and Timeline

- Total Cost: \$183,000
- Amount Raised So Far: \$120,070
- Amount to be Raised: \$62,930*

Summer Fun = School Success:

Did you know that a 2007 study of seasonal learning conducted by John's Hopkins University found that enriching summer programs hold *the key* to stemming learning loss, helping to reduce the opportunity gap between low income children and their more affluent peers? Those non-academic experiences – learning to swim, the chance to pilot a kayak, exploring arts and crafts, all while learning to get along with others – serve as bridges, helping **kids enter school the following fall more ready to learn and succeed.**



Most of the youths who attend Camp Y-Wood are being raised by single moms earning less than \$15,000 per year. We're committed to keeping camp affordable, at \$160 per week, and we offer scholarships. The fee includes transportation; pick-up and drop-off times are convenient for working parents. And, by design, sessions are small --limited to 30 participants. That way, every child can participate fully.

Your support for the Camp Y-Wood Cabin Project will provide a summer of fun and a lifetime of opportunity for so many children living in Greater Lawrence.

**In order to prevent dipping into our Rainy Day Fund, we seek to raise the full amount.*