Camp Harbor View Annual Report 2014

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WELCOME TO CAMP HARBOR VIEW. This is where childhood is experienced, confidence is nurtured, and the path to the future takes shape in hundreds of different ways. Much more than just a camp, a place or an island— this is truly a defining experience.

Here, there is a **beginning**

FOR MANY KIDS AROUND THE BOSTON AREA, life is remarkably different from what many of us can imagine. They may have never ridden a bike, seen the ocean, or splashed in a wave. Many of them cannot leave their neighborhood without feeling some concern for their personal safety. We believe that the joy and innocence of childhood should not be denied to anyone. This is why Camp Harbor View exists.

WILDERNESS

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Here, there is **possibility**

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WHAT MAKES LIFE DIFFERENT AT

CAMP HARBOR VIEW? It's a completely immersive environment, where there's a sense of inclusion and teamwork. Physically and emotionally, our campers push themselves beyond their ordinary limitations, realizing with great surprise that they're capable of doing more than they ever thought possible. We continually show our campers ways in which they can embrace their potential, opening their eyes to exciting opportunities for their future. Events like the Partners Health Care Career Fair, and the STEM Fair (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), presented by EMC Corporation are examples.

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Here, there is **direction**

WHILE THE EXPERIENCE AT CAMP HARBOR VIEW IS FOCUSED ON

HAVING FUN, there is a fully-developed curriculum at work behind the scenes. It covers five important areas: Sports and Fitness, Aquatics, Leadership Development, The Arts, and Knowledge is Power. Studies show that a summer without educational activities adversely affects children—especially children from low-income families. The Camp's well-rounded activities combat this learning loss, and engage young minds with an optimism that carries forward. We're pleased to encourage our campers as they continue their learning, while they are with us and afterward. In 2014, we presented 36 Camp Harbor View alumni with post-secondary scholarships totaling \$160,000.

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Here, there is **balance**

WE'RE ALWAYS ENCOURAGING OUR CAMPERS TO PURSUE A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE, and this

begins with healthy eating. For eight years, we've partnered with City Fresh Foods to bring our campers three nutritious meals a day, focusing on organic and locally grown foods. This partnership has been a pillar of our Health and Wellness programming. In addition, we offer our campers insight into other relevant health issues, such as stress reduction, healthy behaviors and healthy relationships. Through our partnerships with Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary and the Forsyth Institute, our campers receive free vision screenings and dental cleanings and screenings.

Here, there is **pride**

OUR CAMPERS CREATE GREAT CHANGE WITHIN

THEMSELVES. Doubt and uncertainty are replaced with trust and acceptance. "I can't do that" quickly becomes "I can't believe I did that!"

A dramatic change also takes place with our campers who evolve, becoming leaders through our Leaders In Training (LIT) program. This program offers eight weeks of intensive leadership development and mentoring, including 75 classroom minutes each day devoted to math, English, and SAT prep. Additionally, monthly meetings and regular check-ins for LITs continue throughout the year.

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Here, there is **encouragement**



"Every summer, Camp Harbor View provides our youth with positive, productive opportunities that allow them to head back to school energized and engaged," said Mayor Walsh. "I thank the leadership, staff and volunteers at Camp Harbor View who dedicate time and resources to creating stronger pathways to success for our young people."

Marty Walsh, Mayor, City of Boston



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Here, there is **community**

TEAMWORK IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF

CAMP HARBOR VIEW, and our collaboration with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston ensures that we have the highest caliber leadership and staff. Our teamwork with the community is equally as vital, providing us with the resources and support that help us remain vibrant. Our program partners make many things possible at Camp Harbor View by bringing their own areas of expertise to our programming.

Here, there is **forever**

AT CAMP HARBOR VIEW, WE STRIVE TO CREATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY that extends beyond four weeks in the summer, and beyond the campers themselves to include their families. We break down barriers of age, gender, neighborhood and ethnicity to foster a feeling of connectedness, trust and mutual support that carries through to the programs at our year-round facility in Roxbury. Campers create bonds that last beyond the camp season and receive reinforcement throughout the year. So too, parents have an opportunity to connect with other parents and with camp staff at meetings and activities during our school year programming.

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Harborthon 5K & Festival



WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL for the support and participation of the community of donors who have made Camp Harbor View possible. Our donors are as much a part of the camp community as the families and youth we serve. In 2014, the strength of that community was highlighted at two annual events, the Beach Ball gala in June and the Harborthon 5K in July.

The Harborthon 5K & Festival brought together hundreds of participants at Camp Harbor View to enjoy a scenic run around Long Island. The event, presented by sponsor L.Knife & Sons, a Sheehan Family Company, featured Craft Brewers refreshments, musical entertainment, games and b.good barbecue fare.

Camp Harbor View Beach Ball Gala

THE 2014 BEACH BALL,

co-chaired by Roberta Weiner and Jack Connors. was a spectacular evening, with 500 guests filling the glass tent on Camp Harbor View's field for dinner, dancing, and entertainment. The program focused on impact and we heard from seven remarkable young people about how Camp Harbor View has impacted their lives. One message resounded throughout — Camp Harbor View is not just a place, it is a culture, a community, a family. Executive Director Cara Gould remarked, "Each child who comes to us is a work in progress. Most of them need a safe place and a caring adult to believe in them and encourage them to realize their full potential. Camp Harbor View is that place."

We are grateful for the steadfast support that makes a real difference in the lives of our campers.





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In **Memoriam**

Former Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino 1942 - 2014



Former Boston Mayor Thomas Menino will be remembered for many things. His ability to bring attention and a voice to the most vulnerable is perhaps at the top of this list. As co-founder of Camp Harbor View, his care and concern for Boston's youth lives on. The camp's dining hall which now bears his name will serve as a reminder to each child of how much he believed in them.

We will be forever in his debt.



Camp Harbor View Foundation c/o The Connors Family Office 200 Clarendon St, 60th Floor Boston, MA 02116

(617) 369-0070 | info@chvf.org | www.chvf.org



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