



Ray Bird Ministries, Inc.

Camp Ray Bird

P.O. Box 3717

South Bend, IN 46619

January 2019

Dear Friends,

We've officially started our 100th year of ministry and are encountering exciting, new opportunities! Over the last 20 years, our programs have been reaching more kids with the Gospel and making a bigger impact in their lives. Our growing ministry has also meant a growing facility. We've added 16 cabins, 109 acres, several renovations, and more! Through God's provision and the hard work of many, we've made serious strides in improving what was already a special ministry.

Over the last 18 months, the staff and board of directors have been strategically thinking, praying, and listening about how God is leading us to improve our ministry for the future. One of several areas we feel very strongly about improving is our facilities. Our long-term plan was refreshed and reworked to move us forward in stewarding this resource so we can take advantage of opportunities to make an even greater impact. One of the greatest opportunities we have is for staff and leadership development using a special area known as the "office".

Built in the 1920's, the office was originally the care-taker's house. Two additions in the 70's and 80's kept it serving as home and haven to many camp leaders. In the late 90's it was re-purposed as the main office, and over the years, has become much more than an office. It's where we welcome visitors, train our staff, develop young leaders, and care for campers. It's also a safe place where we talk with hundreds of campers and staff about God's truth and His love and concern for us in the midst of life's difficulties. Some of the most significant ministry opportunities happen in the office, but those opportunities have big limitations because of issues with the facility. This leadership training and development area is the most frequently used building on camp, but the least suitable for the job. To address these problems and to create even richer opportunities to make an impact for Christ, we are embarking on the *Looking Forward* campaign—a plan to redesign and rebuild our current office into a new Ministry Hub. We're excited to share the details with you because you are a real part of our ministry!

On March 14, 2019, at the Century Center, in South Bend, we will have a special dinner and presentation of the *Looking Forward* campaign. We are inviting everyone in attendance to join us in celebrating 100 years of ministry and helping us reach our goal.

Please review the information and begin praying about your involvement. We would be more than happy to chat if you have any questions! Thank you so much for being a part of this ministry!

In Christ,

David Mui, Executive Director

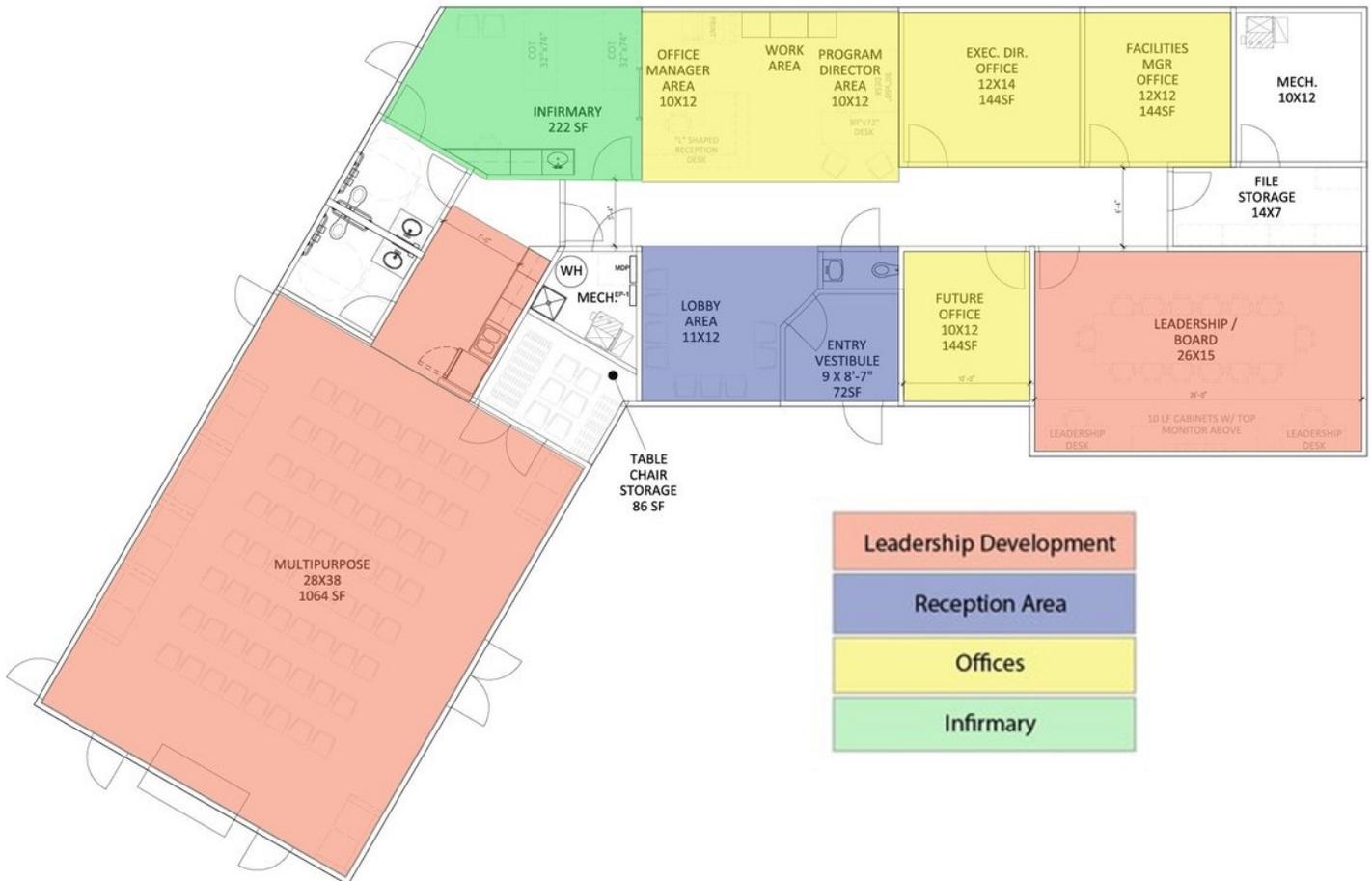
Keith Walatka, Board of Directors President



Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry and Looking Forward



MINISTRY HUB RENDERING OPTION B

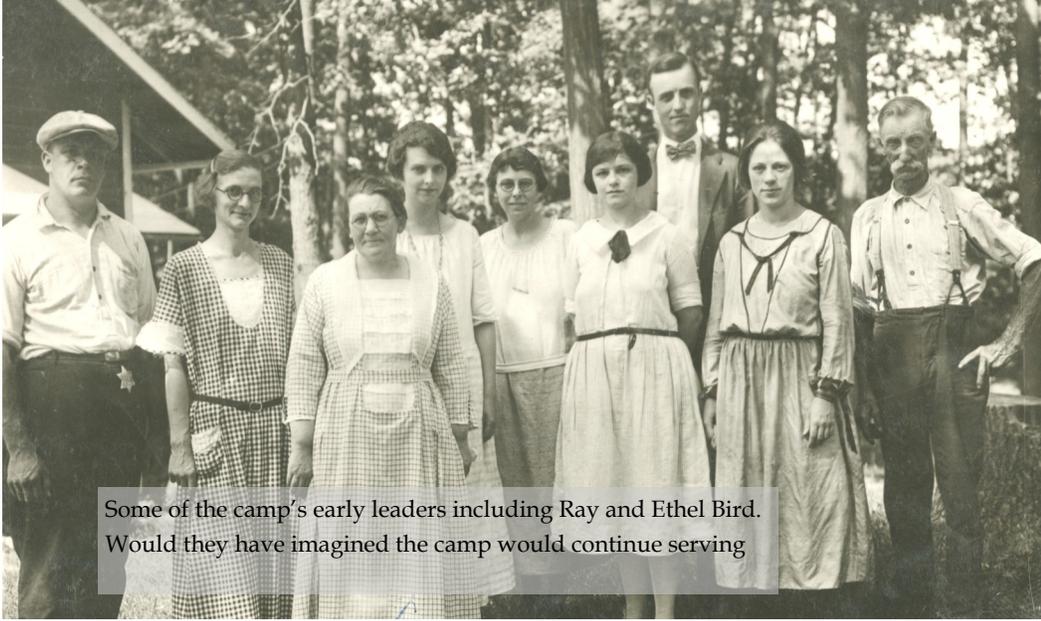


100 YEARS EST. 1919 CAMP RAY BIRD



Celebrating 100 Years of Ministry and Looking Forward

Looking Forward Campaign



Some of the camp's early leaders including Ray and Ethel Bird. Would they have imagined the camp would continue serving

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www.raybird.org

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Looking Forward Campaign

Dear Friends,

2019 is a special year for us, marking one-hundred years of God using our camp to share the Gospel and to make an impact in the lives of low-income children. The coming months will hold some exciting opportunities to celebrate the past and look forward to the future. As part of Camp Ray Bird's 100-year anniversary, we are embarking on the "Looking Forward Campaign". The Looking Forward Campaign is a plan to redesign and rebuild our camp office into a true Ministry Hub.

The office is much more than its name would imply. It's an essential space for training and equipping our leaders, ministering to the most sensitive needs of our campers, and a place for our staff to experience Christian community. This important space is the most frequently used building on camp, but is the least suitable for the job. Inside this edition of the Potter's Wheel newsletter, we're laying out our plans and giving you all the details of what we hope to accomplish.

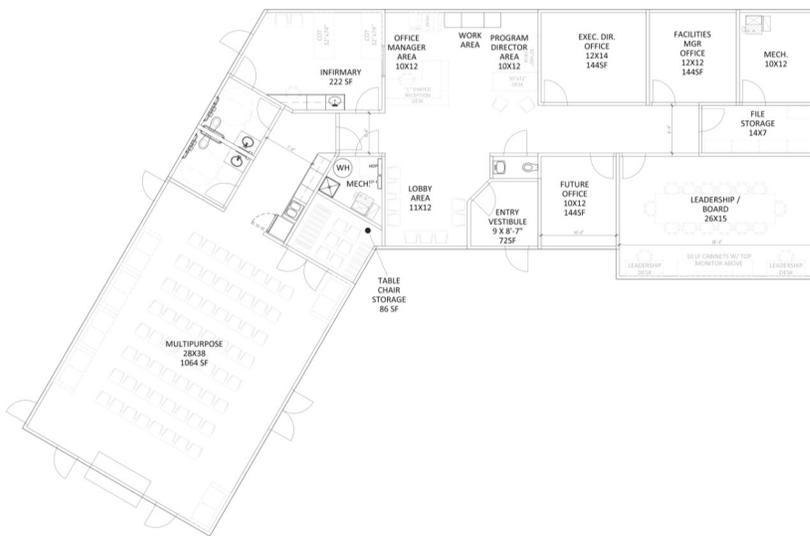
After a century of amazing work in the South Bend area, we hope God will continue to reach the lost and minister to low-income children through this special place. Thank you for being a part of that story.

In Christ,

David Mui, Executive Director

Redesign and Rebuild

The Ministry Hub



CAMP RAY BIRD - MINISTRY HUB
CONCEPTUAL FLOOR PLAN - 3,950 SF
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'

Project Features

Leadership Development Area

Large (60-pp) and small (16-pp) multipurpose rooms for leadership/discipleship training, staff and volunteer lounge, programming, shared work space, and space-for-rent.

Reception Area

Welcoming, non-chaotic space with obvious traffic flow. Larger capacity for influx of visitors.

Camper Infirmmary

Space to promote safety and comfort. Line-of-sight from main office for supervision.

Office Space

4 office spaces for immediate use, 1 for future staff.

Outdoor Gathering Space

Large (160-pp standing) green space, centrally located and positioned for audience view.

Parking and Traffic Flow

Improved traffic flow and parking capacity for camper registration and pick up.

Features	Current Office	Ministry Hub Project
Total Interior	1,600 sq ft	4,000 sq ft (250% ↑)
Leadership	413 sq ft	1454 sq ft (350% ↑)
Reception	85 sq ft	144 sq ft (170% ↑)
Infirmmary	87 sq ft	156 sq ft (180% ↑)
Offices	4 offices, 346 sq ft	5 offices, 672 sq ft
Outdoor Gathering Space	Poor audience view and within vehicle traffic area	Comfortable green space, aesthetic landscaping, and appropriate size and location
Parking and Traffic Flow	24 parking spaces, unmarked, some spaces steeply sloped, congested traffic flow	35 parking spaces, marked, improved traffic flow for safety

Stretch Goal

What is a “Stretch Goal”?

A stretch goal is a fancy way of saying, “If God provided over and beyond our main goal, then this is how we’d use the extra money.”

The Ministry Hub project is a big project for us—the biggest building project since we rebuilt the lodge in the 70’s. That being said, it’s also part of a larger plan for our over all facilities and grounds. Renovating the lodge would be the next step in the larger plan.

Raising funds for the Ministry Hub is our first priority and our main focus at this point, but future lodge renovations

Stretch Goal: Lodge Renovations

Dining Hall

Renovate the dining hall including a 200 sq ft expansion, updated tables and chairs, and updated bathrooms.

Kitchen

Improved service/delivery entrance for the kitchen.

Meeting Area (AKA Fireside Room)

Install new carpeting, update walls, improve lighting, update bathrooms.

Exterior and Utilities

Cost and Timeline

Cost

Ministry Hub Project: \$500,000

Stretch Goal (Lodge Reno.): \$120,000

Current Funding: \$218,000

Gifts Needed: \$282,000

Timeline

Thursday, March 14, 2019

Looking Forward Campaign Event

September 2019

Earliest possible construction start date

April 2020

Respond

Whew...that’s a lot of information! Please take time to process it and get in touch if you have any questions. God has put this on our heart and has grown our desire to see it happen over the last 18 months. It’s amazing to see that He has already provided \$218,000 of the needed \$500,000! Please consider how you can be involved in our 100th anniversary through the Looking Forward Campaign.

RSVP for March 14th
Fundraising Dinner

Give a
1-Time Gift

Make a
2-Year Pledge

How We Get There



1-Time Gifts	Running Total	2-Year Pledges	Running Total
1 gift of \$100,000	\$100,000	1 pledge of \$875/mo	\$21,000
plus 1 gift of \$75,000	\$175,000	plus 2 pledges of \$240/mo	\$32,520
plus 1 gift of \$40,000	\$215,000	plus 4 pledges of \$180/mo	\$49,800
plus 3 gift of \$14,000	\$257,000	plus 6 pledges of \$150/mo	\$71,400
plus 5 gifts of \$6,000	\$287,000	plus 10 pledges of \$100/mo	\$95,400
plus 6 gifts of \$3,500	\$308,000	plus 15 pledges of \$50/mo	\$113,400
plus 10 gifts of \$1,500	\$323,000	plus many pledges <\$50/mo	\$125,000
plus 20 gifts of \$600	\$335,000		
plus 50 gifts of \$400	\$355,000		
plus 100 gifts of \$200	\$375,000		

Prayer Requests & Praises

Praise

- God has already provided \$218,000 toward our goal of \$500,000 for the Looking Forward Campaign.
- We continue to follow-up with campers through Snail Mail lessons and Mini Camps.
- We've continued long-term relationships with

Prayer

- That God would guide this camp, especially as we work to improve the facilities and grounds to make greater impact in our campers' lives.
- That as campers do their Snail Mail lessons, that God's Word would become seeded in their hearts.
- Pray that campers and their families would connect to a local churches.
- We've already started hiring for the coming summer staff. Please pray that God would

The Mission of Ray Bird Ministries is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with Michiana children and teens, nurture those believers, and prepare them for participation in local churches. Ray Bird Ministries specializes in serving families who could not otherwise afford meaningful camping experiences.

THANK YOU to our Board of Directors: Phyllis Hueni, Linda Burrell, John Rader, Randy Meert, Keith Walatka, Don Wierenga, David Mui, Kristen Haubold, Shawn Titus,

Donations were made...

In memory of Robert Parsons

(Sue & John Shirrell, Douglas & Pamela Callantine)

In memory of Marguerite Monroe

(DeAnn Latson, Carol Buczkowski)

Looking Forward Campaign FAQs

HOW MUCH DO YOU NEED BEFORE CONSTRUCTION STARTS?

We will be excited to start construction as soon as possible, but from early discussion about this project, our board wanted to avoid long term debt. To start construction we'll need to raise at least 70% cash in-hand and have the remainder committed through pledges.

WHY AREN'T YOU RENOVATING THE CURRENT OFFICE?

The solution for the current office has been the biggest piece of a larger plan for our facilities. The board, operations committee, and staff started the process 18 months ago and spent many hours thinking, praying, and listening to discern how God would want us to approach the need. Renovating the current office seemed possible, but costly for the level of improvement it would bring. Redesigning and rebuilding brought much more value and opportunity for life impact. As we were praying and considering our options, God started to provide. A major gift of \$100,000 and several other large gifts and pledges confirmed we were headed in the right direction.

WHAT WILL YOU DO IF YOU RAISE MORE THAN ENOUGH MONEY?

WHAT WILL YOU DO IF YOU DON'T RAISE ENOUGH MONEY?

Our first goal is to reach \$500,000 to complete the Ministry Hub Project. However, if we raise more, we know exactly what to do with it! Our next step in the long-term plan is to renovate the lodge (\$120,000).

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CURRENT OFFICE?

This is the largest campaign we've ever taken on. Our hope is to meet our goal by mid-summer so we can start construction as early as possible, but we have a plan if that does-