

Lakeview Ministries, Seymour, IN

Ministry Readiness Study



Summary of the Case

INTRODUCTION

God has been providing experiences of growth, inspiration, and recreation through Camp Lakeview's outdoor ministry since 1965. Over the decades, the Lord has blessed and expanded our work to include people of all ages who gather at three camp facilities throughout the year. Today, Camp Lakeview is Lakeview Ministries: Camp Lakeview, Lakeview Villages, and Lakeview Springs. It is the preeminent outdoor ministry in Southern Indiana.

OUR EXPANSION HISTORY

In the late 1990s, the leadership of Camp Lakeview created a new strategic plan. Camp Lakeview's mission statement had remained unchanged since the beginning of camp, but the new strategic plan made a few important tweaks that launched the ministry into a greater mission field. These tweaks added the phrases "people of all ages" and "year-round" to the mission statement. These seemed like small tweaks, but they launched an expansion program that is still going on to this day. Three separate capital campaigns followed and accomplished amazing things:

- Summer camp attendance quadrupled!
- Creation of an entirely new second camp, Lakeview Villages.
- Began hosting year-round retreat groups and now welcomes more guests to camp during the retreat season than during the summer camp season.
- Acquisition of a third site, Lakeview Springs, for future ministry growth opportunities, specifically to focus on family and adult ministry to fulfill the "people of all ages" addition to the mission statement.
- Camp Lakeview rebranded to Lakeview Ministries as we now operate multiple sites.

OUR MINISTRY

Lakeview Ministries provides three key experiences: growth, inspiration, and recreation. These ministry experiences are found first in our summer camp and family camp weekends facilitated by our staff, and secondly, as we host guest groups of all sizes, ages, and uses. Our mission statement directs our interactions with all visitors.

Christian Growth	Through worship and discipleship, Lakeview will deepen our relationship with God and our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Christian Inspiration	Lakeview will strengthen and motivate all to live as Christ has commanded and modeled.
Christian Recreation	Lakeview uses God's gift of His amazing creation in providing the setting for fun and fellowship.

OUR FUTURE

Lakeview Ministries' future centers on the further development and expansion of the experiences we provide in our ministry. The following improvements will allow us to create a place for even more people of all ages throughout the entire year to experience the mission of camp and improve the quality of those experiences.

Ministry-Wide Improvements (\$2,625,000):

- Sewage System Replacement for Camp Lakeview and Lakeview Villages
 - This replacement will resolve serious issue with the current systems and allow Lakeview Ministries to continue operations while meeting all Indiana State Department of Health regulations.
- Construction of Additional Full-Time Staff Housing

- Equipment Purchases
- Startup Funds for Base Camp

Camp Lakeview Improvements (\$1,750,000):

- Construction of Recreation Center
- Dining Hall Renovations

Lakeview Villages Improvements (\$950,000):

- Construction of 6th Village Cluster
- Construction of housing for seasonal Program Assistants
- Renovations to the point at the Village lodge to add amphitheater capabilities
- Paving of roadways and parking areas

Lakeview Springs Improvements (\$2,175,000):

- Entrance, parking, and roadway infrastructure
- Utility hub and distribution of utilities to areas of initial development
- Construction of family campground, bathhouse, and pavilion
- New drainage, water features, and program areas in the valley

OUR INVITATION

God has done amazing things over the years at Lakeview Ministries, and the mission to provide a Christian experience of growth, inspiration, and recreation has remained at the heart of all that we do. It is a place where youth and adults gather, where faith is strengthened, and where relationships are built in Him. Through expansion and growth, more individuals, families, and groups are served. This new campaign will allow us to minimize the numbers of kids unable to go to camp because of long wait list, create additional needed programming options, and finally host groups on a regular basis at our Lake Springs property, allowing even more people to worship Christ and hear His Word. Partner with us as God continues His work through Lakeview Ministries.

THE MINISTRY READINESS PROCESS

As we begin the process to pursue this bold vision, we want your feedback! Lakeview has contracted with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to lead a Ministry Readiness Study over the next few months. LCEF will provide expert consultants to walk us through this process, which will provide clarity and valuable input as we prepare for a capital campaign. This happens in three ways:

- Forum Meetings - These group meetings will share the vision for expansion and sustainability and ask for your input and feedback.
- Survey - This online survey will take about 10-15 minutes of your time and will help us gather valuable input and feedback on the vision.
- Interviews - Some of you may receive a call to set up a one-on-one, in-person interview with the LCEF consultants.
- We're thankful for your participation in this process, which will help shape the campaign to raise funds for this exciting vision for Lakeview.