# The Huckonian

The 2020 Annual Report Edition

## A publication for alumni and friends

## **51 YEARS OF HUCKINS HISTORY**

## Jody Hutchinson Skelton

by Abby Brown, alumna and current staff parent

mbracing change is a common Vespers theme at Camp. On Sunday and Wednesday nights, girls in their pajamas gather as quiet cabin groups at the Lodge. Campers take their seats and sway together crosslegged on the floor, pastelcolored xeroxed lyrics sheets in hand and all eyes are on the group in front as they sing favorite folk and pop songs. Skits are performed, poems read, and songs are sung; each element of the Vespers is thoughtfully stitched together to bring to the



community a message that change is a good, necessary, natural part of life. Change may be hard, but it can be embraced if done with care, bravery, enthusiasm and love.

Depending on which decade you attended camp, your Vespers sheet might have the lyrics to David Bowie's "Changes," "Landslide" by Fleetwood Mac or The Chicks, or "Rivers and Roads" by The Head and the Heart. Just as your Vespers sheet might contain different songs, the changes that you notice at Camp — whether between summers or between your last summer and a visit decades later — may be different. However, Camp Huckins and what truly makes Camp "camp", never changes. Girls jump off the tower, learn to paddle, sail and craft and stand on benches and sing their hearts out. And, most importantly, girls learn to make friends and embrace their authentic selves.

Jody Hutchinson Skelton experienced and led Huckins through many changes in her 51 years at camp. The list is long, wide and deep, Jody can describe in detail all of the changes whether large or small. There have been physical changes like the building of the ropes course, the addition of cabins, and the construction of the sports dome and chapel. There have been programmatic changes like adding Big Change between 2nd and 3rd sessions, changing campers' banquet to the camper talent show, and adding to the variety of themed program days over the decades. No matter the change, the motivation for it has always been to support Huckins' priorities and improve the camper experience, which are forever intertwined.

The Leadership Division is one change that Jody describes as the most impactful during her tenure. Zaven Vorperian, director from 1964 to 1989, was the first to

propose the idea of a Leadership Division which moved the 9th grade "W" Program out of the Senior Division and combined it with the CIT program. Jody worked with Zaven and then with Judy Snell (1989-2003) to further this idea, and the completion of the Alden Howard Leadership Division in 2012 brought this vision to fruition. According to Jody, "completing

the Alden Howard Leadership Division in 2012 was critical to our focus on leadership growth in our girls and young women. The Huckins legacy of home-

Camp celebrates the little things, which, as it ends up, are actually the most important things.

grown counselors, program staff and Division Leaders is a direct result of this emphasis. Empowering young women to step outside their comfort zones and to take leadership roles is at the heart of our mission."

Camp celebrates the little things, which, as it ends up, are actually the most important things. The whole camp



Spring 2021

shouting an "Alamen" for a camper's first jump off the tower can be life changing. The bravery it took to jump, followed by collective acknowledgement of the achievement by others, is the backbone of Huckins culture. Recognizing accomplishments in ourselves and others is what Huckins is all about. Jody describes recognition as one of the most important things we can do at Camp and one of the things that will never change. The magic of an award card — writing it out, announcing it, cheering for it and receiving it — can never be underestimated.

When asked about her biggest accomplishments as camper, counselor and director Jody didn't hesitate. As a camper it was learning how to waterski and playing on the camp softball team. As a counselor, it was her first change day when campers were saying goodbye and didn't want to leave. That moment solidified her desire to work with children. And, finally, it was the many times as a Director when she stood at the back of the Lodge during Vespers and as campers were filing out at the end, a camper would stop, give her a hug and say "thank you". "They weren't thanking me for Vespers, but they were thanking me for camp."

Society has changed a great deal over the last 51 years, but Huckins has stayed true to what is most important: giving girls opportunities to learn to trust themselves, to make new friends, and to learn how to get along in a group setting. The rituals, traditions and ceremonies at Camp anchor the community and provide stability during change. The Candlelight ceremony, aside from moving from the waterfront to the chapel, has remained the same since Jody's first summer in 1970. Girls gather together, acknowledging the importance of each other and their shared experiences before leaving the next morning.

The magic of the Huckster ceremony remains even though the green Huckster dangle bracelet changed to a silver loon necklace. Jody explained that

## The rituals, traditions and ceremonies at Camp anchor the community and provide stability during change

during the first year of the new Huckster necklace, a wise counselor had the idea of dipping the necklaces into the lake after the ceremony. This created a new magic around the Huckster ceremony which helped ease the change. People will embrace change if you can work together to make it happen and have them join with you to make magic around the change."

Jody stated "With Heather Kiley as our new Executive Director, Carroll County YMCA/Camp Huckins is prepared to continue thriving and to meet the challenges of the future." Times will change, but Camp and the feelings we have for Camp will remain constant and true.

## **Welcome New Board Members**

## Sarah Day Guzman

Sarah is a former camper and counselor whose fondest memories and friendships were made at Huckins. After graduating from Middlebury



College, Sarah worked at a nonprofit in Boston. She later completed her MBA at ESADE in Barcelona, Spain and then joined PepsiCo in Mexico City to lead a foundation program on nutrition and physical education in Mexican public schools. Sarah stayed with PepsiCo and has lived in Texas for the past fifteen years with her husband, Francisco, and two children Ian (11) and Laura (8). In her current role, Sarah leads marketing for PepsiCo's Hispanic Business Unit. Since May of last year, she has been working remotely from Maine and enjoying the outdoors daily with her family. Sarah is honored to join the Huckins Board and looks forward to contributing to the next chapter of the Huckins story.

## Amily Dunlap

Amily is a former camper, counselor, and staff member of Huckins. She has four boys (and a new puppy) and resides in Amherst, NH. One of their



most favorite weekends each year is Huckins Mother-Son. Amily has spent most of her career in alumni relations and development. Currently she is the Director of the Groton Fund at Groton School. Prior to that she spent over a decade working at Harvard University. She began her career at the Williams College - Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program. Amily holds a BA from Trinity College (CT). In her spare time, she likes to ski, sail, hike, travel, and laugh with her Huckins friends. She is thrilled to join the board and support the mission of Huckins.

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## CARROLL COUNTY YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Depew, Chair Brookline, MA

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Freeport, ME Heather (Daley) Lamberton Bronxville, NY

Kathleen Mulkern Glen, NH

Nat Peirce Fryeburg, ME Leslie Hughes Smith Boston, MA

## CAMP HUCKINS YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYEES

Heather Kiley Executive Director

Mark Cadman Associate Director

Maddy Clapp Program and Operations Director

Kara (Smith) Couture Director of Community Outreach

Jeremy Fullerton Facility Coordinator

Sue Fullerton Finance Manager

Angela Lavoie Registrar

**Stephanie Paine** Director of Advancement

Michael Pfluger Director of Maintenance

Joel Weeman Director of Food Services

## Note from the Director Summer 2020 ... Full of the Unexpected

y first year with CCYMCA/ Camp Huckins has been full of the unexpected. The pandemic created significant challenges, some of which were the implications of cancelling our 2020 onsite programming. The plans for my introduction to the Huckins community and onboarding into the Executive Director role changed quickly. I spent a lot more time with spreadsheets and met alumni, staff, family and campers through virtual events. Rather than planning for staff training and check-in days, Jody and I were focused on how to continue delivering to our mission and how to serve our local community, campers, families, staff and alumni during such an unprecedented time!

In my previous work I spoke often about how it's easy to be at our best when things are going as planned. It's times of challenge and uncertainty that require us to put our values into action, striving to do our best when we aren't exactly sure what to do or how to do it. This past year was a powerful testament to the strong foundation CCYMCA/Camp Huckins is built upon, the commitment to our mission and the people that make up this community!

I've learned a lot during the past 12 months, but one of the lessons I am most grateful for is this community's consistent courage and creativity in making things happen. Presented with significant unknowns, Huckins mindfully turned to action. There were moments I was worried about how we could do it all, and Jody would confidently tell me not to worry because the Huckins community would step up.



And she was right. With your help, we provided meals to local families. We created and delivered virtual camp and fall after school clubs. The Board made Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging a strategic priority, and staff devoted time this summer to learning and discussing how to bring that lens to our work. We are grateful to all that shared your expertise and your resources to support these efforts, and to all who continue to support us as we prepare to re-open this summer.

So yes, my first year at Huckins was full of the unexpected, including unexpected gifts. The opportunity to work and play with Jody, for meaningful conversations with staff, Board Members, and volunteers. The opportunity to experience the strength of this community through tremendous challenge, to see it at its best and lean into that strength as we work to re-open. I am grateful to be a part of CCYMCA/Camp Huckins, and grateful for your support as we move forward to take on new challenges in support of our mission.

It is the mission of the Carroll County YMCA through its many programs, to strengthen the Spirit, Mind, and Body of youth, families, and communities.



## Letter from the Board Chair

by Anne Depew



took advantage of a chilly September afternoon to kayak around the island. Despite the beautiful sunshine and the sparkling water, I was feeling unsettled and sad — the strange summer was over, the pandemic was raging and I was missing my far-away family. When the wind shifted, I caught the distinct smell of Camp and I suddenly relaxed into a confidence that despite everything having changed in every area of life over the last year, the foundational lessons of Huckins that I lean on each day provide the strength and structure to light the way to the future.

That light beckoned us all year. The success of our search for a new executive director, hiring Heather and having Jody and Heather collaborate through most of 2020 defined the year. Their partnership in ensuring the success of the transition in leadership was focused on their deep commitment to the organization. Given the stresses of the loss of a summer of campers, having two experts focused on how best to carry us through and position us for the future was a privilege. More importantly, the grace they exhibited to Huckins and to each other was inspiring. At some point, we'll be able to gather in person to celebrate. Until then, thank you.

The light flickered a bit in the spring when we decided that the summer of 2020 would not include having campers on site. In true Huckins fashion, the flicker was temporary. Our amazing staff stepped into the challenge with their positive, can-do approach to problem solving. They have worked so hard all year and carried us through. The board created a COVID committee and met often to guide and support the many decisions that involved reacting quickly and strategically to what felt like constantly changing guidance. Board members and many volunteers stepped up to meet increased demand for everything from oversight of planning and projects necessary to meet public health regulations, to fundraising and development needs, to how best to fund operations and react to economic uncertainties. Families and donors were understanding and generous. Thank you to everyone who continues to support all of our work. A special thanks to Eleni Eliades who completed her term as board chair and to Leslie Guenther who cycled off the board after many years of dedicated service.

Reacting to the pandemic was not the only focus for board work this year. The board voted unanimously this summer to set diversity, equity and inclusion as a strategic priority. We continue to learn and explore how best to ensure that Huckins leads by example and with humility towards more diversity, a grounding of all decisions in equity and broad inclusion. If you would like to participate in this work, please let me know.

My year was enhanced by less "formal" Huckins interactions. For example, when I was looking for masks in April, I bought them from my co-counselor from the 80s and her current Huckins-camper kids on Etsy. When I needed some positive energy and exercise, I joined a regular Zoom class given by one of my camperhood heroes. When I needed to vent, I called my dear friend from Cabin P. When I needed to connect, I logged into Zoom reunions. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our community and to spread Huckins' love in every way. Each interaction makes a difference. If you need to hear how much Huckins benefits from your positive energy, incredible support and unwavering dedication, let me know — we can Zoom!



Leslie Guenther (89) with former student, and Camp Huckins camper and staff member Atupele Machika (19)

## 2020 Hucksters

**5 years** Hucksters who participated in our Virtual Huckster Ceremonies this summer.\*

Chloe Baker Andrew Barr Kira Barton **Tessie Batchelder** Anne Bergeron Emma Biddle Frances Boak Katrina Bois Eva Buckley Madison Bunnell-Parker Tianna Calderon Sarah Chang Julia Chirco Hazel Conlow Abigail Denise Sophia Dowling Liliana Duque Katelyn M. Erdlen **Bella Eringros** Rebecca Erwin Mackenzie Gabel Jolie Gertsen Emily Girouard

Huckster Ceremony in 2021

Eloise Goedkoop Ginger Gooch Sage Gorman Grace Grabowski Miranda Higbee Tessa Higbee Jenna Holland Emma Huckabone Lauren Klebba Sadie Latchaw Caroline LeClair Cameron Lizier-Mahoney Margarita Llamas Elliot Lund Jill Lyons Beatrice May Alexa McCormick **Riley McLoy** Kylei Merrow Chloe Mills Eleanor Moody Ella Parker Stella Peacock

Harriet Pearce Elsa Pueschel Alden Purtell Anne Quinn Sophia Ravencraft Bryn Ryan Phoebe Sartory Madison Sayen CeCe Schelter **Emily Seavey** Elizabeth Shoff Alexa Snyder Elizabeth St. Louis Ella Stolzenthaler Merrill Tode Mia Vakoc Vanessa Van Dyne Roza Vardaxis Kyra Whitehead Madison Woods **Riva Zellars** 

Double Hucksters (L to R): Kelly Burns, Ali Dischinger, Abigail Elsbree, and Lizzie Elsbree

## Other 2020 Hucksters and Milestones

51 years Jody Hutchinson Skelton 30 years

Beth Coffey McKay

**25 years** Sue Fullerton **15 years** Kim Brownell Maddy Clapp Christina Fenton Barr

## 10 years

Kelly Burns Mia Christenson Maggie Cissel Ali Dischinger Abby Elsbree Lizzie Elsbree Julia Foley Lily Keans Sam King Emmie MacDonald Eliza O'Donnell Maya Steinberg Lily Packard Ryan Passas Anna Wiebus

Jill Lyons's Huckster Project

\* Many 2020 Hucksters chose to wait to participate in the

## by Stephanie Paine, Director of Advancement

ach spring all our new Hucksters receive a letter asking them to consider a donation to Camp in honor of their 5th summer at Camp. Girls are encouraged to donate money that they have earned, perhaps through a part-time job, by babysitting, or by doing chores for family or friends, and we ask that they write us to share how they earned their money.

This year, Huckster Jill Lyons reached out to Jody and Heather to ask if she might do a fundraiser through Customink, an online printing company that allows individuals to create fundraisers and sell customized clothing and products. Her idea was to create a beach towel to sell to the Huckins community through social media. Jill designed the towels using the Huckins 1928 logo and set a goal to sell 150 towels. We posted the fundraiser on some of our Huckins' affiliated social media platforms and the rest is history! 426 towels and \$4845 dollars later, the results of the month-long fundraiser far exceeded Jill's original goal. When asked what advice she might give to future Hucksters, Jill encourages



them to think outside the box as they consider their own Huckster projects and donations. "You should never underestimate how much people love Camp!"

Thank you, Jill for your support of Huckins, and we look forward to seeing you at Camp this summer. And to all of you who bought towels, thank you (and don't forget to pull out your Sharpie to label your towel before Camp!).

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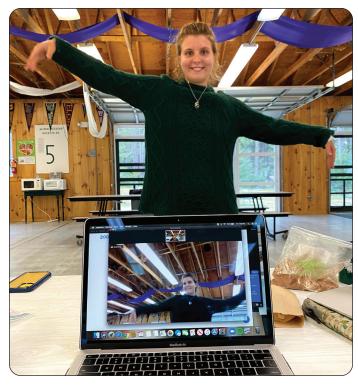
## Summer 2020

by Jules Holland, current staff member

Ithough we were unable to hold our traditional camp sessions this past summer, the Huckins community remained engaged, connected, and of course, rugged, wholesome and true. In creative Huckins fashion, campers and staff quickly adapted to an online camp format, eager to see new and old Nellie faces during daily Zoom sessions and pre-recorded instructionals. Ever present flexibility of both campers and staff kept the Huckins spirit alive and strong amidst the pandemic.

Huckins@Home welcomed four sessions of campers who joined in from across the country. Campers actively connected with counselors and friends to learn new crafts and activities, sing favorite camp songs, and join weekly evening vespers. Some of our reimagined program day favorites included Disney Day (where we all built Fairy Houses with Tinker Bell and Captain Hook), the Women's Empowerment Lunch (when campers dressed as their favorite role-models), as well as Game Day, Pride Lunch, and the ever-popular Harry Potter Day. We all know that the Huckins Spirit is "deep in our hearts, down in our knees, and all over me," but this summer we learned that the Huckins spirit is also sparkling through our computer screens, connecting us all from our own homes.

This summer, we also had the special opportunity to spread the Huckins spirit to a broader community through Virtual Kids Kamp for Ultimate Kronos Group (UKG). Onsite Huckins staff ran a parallel virtual camp for children of



Sophie Johnson, Huckins@Home counselor, doing activities on Zoom with her cabin group

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2020 staff meeting via Zoom

UKG employees. Counselors provided four sessions of live and pre-recorded content and multiple daily Zoom cabin meetings to UKG campers around the country. UKG campers loved the STEM challenges, virtual escape rooms, and book clubs, as well as learning to juggle and to create an erupting volcano.

In addition to providing daily remote camp experiences, both onsite and remote staff spent time evaluating and strengthening the leadership program, as well as considering and redefining Huckins' approach to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The entire staff connected regularly in virtual meetings to discuss how better to align Camp's practices with our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. Melissa Lawlor, the Director of Equity and Inclusion at Brewster Academy led two DEI trainings this summer, and Executive Director Heather Kiley facilitated conversations and additional training sessions. The entire Camp Huckins staff — from Junior Counselors to Senior Leadership — are committed to working to improve and grow in these areas so that we can become a more inclusive organization for all campers and staff members.

Finally, on-site staff were hard at work to prepare Camp for the return of campers in 2021. Staff tackled numerous projects, including cleaning the bike trails and ropes course paths, painting cabins, sheds and tables, building a new gaga ball pit at the sports field, taking inventory in the camp store, and creating and installing a new inclusion sign at the Camp entrance. After an unconventional yet wonderful Summer of 2020, the staff is ready and eager to welcome campers back in June of 2021.

## Over 500 alumni attended Virtual Reunions in 2020

## **Feeding the Community**

by Joel Weeman, Director of Food Services

or the last eight years, feeding the Huckins community has been my mission. From 2013 to 2019 that was an enormous but mostly straightforward task. Every summer, once the kinks of first session smoothed themselves out, the work of feeding our community became a groove that could be counted on like the changing of the seasons. Three times a day the dining hall filled and emptied, the food came in, the food went out. Our team became a welloiled machine that performed the kitchen "dance" like seasoned pros. For nine weeks, it didn't matter what day it was or even what year it was. The only thing that mattered was what the menu said.

Then 2020 arrived and as we all know; it became clear that this was no

ordinary year. The routines that had been in place for years, decades even, were quickly erased. Feeding the Huckins community suddenly looked very different. Our on-site community shrank by close to 90% and my staff went from 14 to 4. As we readied the kitchen to feed our Huckins at Home staff, we wondered if we could use our facility to feed more than just 40-50 people. Was there a need in our local community? After reaching out to our friends at the Ossipee Dinner Bell, we were put in touch with the NH Food Bank and it was determined that, yes, there was a need. The NH Food Bank, in conjunction with the USDA, traditionally

## Community Impact 2020

### Local

- Squeaky Sneakers: 57 participants
- Short Sports: 7 participants
- Middle School Virtual After S'Cool Program: 12 Students, 8 Staff
- Food: 3000 meals over the summer to local families

### **Greater Community**

Summer:

- 394 campers from UKG (Ultimate Kronos Group)
- 73 Instructional Videos Created
- 243 Live Sessions
- Fall:
- 106 participants from UKG
- 16 Club Leaders (All Huckins Staff)



Sue Fullerton (21) and Sophie Johnson (20) helping distribute meals to Freedom families

works with schools to provide the Summer Food Service Program but in 2020 the local schools did not have the staff to continue delivering meals to families in need as they had so diligently done since the start of the pandemic. We decided that this was something that we could take on once the school year ended. We are grateful to the Robert and Dorothy Goldberg Charitable Foundation for allowing us to redirect funds from a previously awarded grant towards this effort.

Feeding "our community" took on new meaning as we started providing breakfast and lunch five days a week for any family that needed it. With the help of our incredible volunteer drivers, we brought meals to pick up sites in Madison, Tamworth, Freedom and Conway. Anyone was welcome to come and pick up a meal, no questions asked. On average we were able to provide 400 meals a week to our neighboring communities. Our walk-in refrigerator, normally filled with enough food to feed 500 people, was suddenly filled with coolers and ice packs of all shapes and sizes waiting to be loaded and delivered. Our practiced ways of past summers were quickly replaced with learning how to package a whole lot of food-to go and how to translate our experience in crafting handmade, nutritious food in mass quantities to smaller, portable, storable items. We are so grateful to have been able to use our skills and our kitchen to meet a need with our local families and thankful for our small staff that so seamlessly switched gears.

2020 will certainly have a notorious legacy, but in the Huckins kitchen it will also be remembered as the year that we broadened our view of our community. Our Huckins philosophy of service to others expanded as we served over 3000 meals beyond our celebrated white gates.



## All About the Alumni ...



Three current campers helped their community by making fleece tag blankets for "Loving People Back to Life," an organization which supports people struggling and recovering from addiction in Boston's methadone mile. Pictured are **Hanna Lesse, Nina Wied,** and **Ashley Moulton**.



Jody and John Skelton (20) on the cross-country trails with Peter and Jill King (21).

Please send us news about your accomplishments — or brag about someone else — fellow Huckonians want to know! Email Kara at kara@camphuckins.org.

Audrey Fusco (18) is a member of her school fundraising club in South Hamilton, MA. For the month of March, the club will raise and donate funds to Eric's Camp Fund in honor of Lily Jordan, a former Huckins camper. Eric's Camp is dedicated to giving kids with cancer the opportunity to have a fun summer and provide fun crafts throughout the year.

At the start of the pandemic, **Kim Mavor Hollowell (82)** made Huckins masks to sell in the camp store. They were very popular with the staff living at camp last summer.

**Lily Packard (21)** made the fall Dean's List as a freshman at Georgia College and State University.

Jennifer Stebbins Thomas (06) participated in SLEEPOUT 2021 on March 26th to raise money for Waypoint, an organization that is trying to end Homelessness for NH youth.

Helen Pelletier (80) retired after almost 15 years at Maine Comuninity College. She was celebrated on Zoom. Becky (Birrell) Smith (88) read and sang a letter from Jody.



Lee Leonard Velez (78) and daughter, Christina Velez (08) reunited with Cariol Schultz Martin (92) and daughter, Mariana Fernandez-Martin (21) to donate lacrosse equipment to Christina to bring back to Spain to support youth lacrosse. Both mothers went to Huckins, attended the University of New Hampshire, studied in Spain met husbands in Spain; became Spanish teachers and both have a daughter and son who are bilingual.



Jules Holland (21) and Maya Steinberg (21) shared some pandemic adventures in the beautiful American West.

Update your Alumni Information

alumni in the system.

## **CampMinder**

Huckins strives to keep our database up to date and complete. Please take a minute to check that we have your current contact information, relationships, and alumni history. Campminder allows you to connect with other

Please go to www.camphuckins.org/alumni/426-2/



Where in the world is Jody?

Jody Skelton (20) is visiting Megan Loosigian (95) in Vieques Puerto Rico! They went on a bioluminescent bay tour and then horseback riding! Lots of adventures and of course, lots of swimming!



**Scott Guenther** (86) and his yellow Labrador, Nahla (a certified Avalanche Rescue Dog), were highlighted recently in the Washington Post for their

work for the not-for-profit Jackson Hole Search Dogs. https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2021/03/12/ avalanche-rescue-dogs/

everyone from all around the country.



Elina Muraka (21) was interviewed by NewHavenArts.org about her future political ambitions as she waited to see Vice President Kamala Harris on her recent visit to New Haven.

Sandy Pfaff



**Molly Ness** (93) delivered a TED-like talk for Fordham University on her work to #endbookdeserts.



Jules Holland (21) visiting Hailey Weisel (19) in Marin before heading back to in-person college!



Eli Pier (14) met up with Jennifer Strollo (11) in Atlanta, GA. Jen works in IT for GE and Eli is getting her Master's in Public Health at Emory University.

**Anne Colby Zachos** (June 20,1934-July 2,2020)



Di Jackson Gow has been leading virtual exercise classes on Zoom three times per week since last March. She now has about 25 regulars who include Helen Pelletier, Liz (Sanborn) Ventre, Anne Depew, Sue Rogers just joined,

Sandy Pfaff, Heather (Sweet) Sherman, Peggy (Ahearn) Shroeder, Mar-

garet (Edgell) Core, Carol (Blondell) Tuttle, Susan (Blondell) Lindblad,

and Jody has been making such guest appearances, so it has been fun to see

Krista Marschner (97) photographed Julia Young, Virginia Hudson, Seth Kassels (Abenaki Head Ski Coach and YMCA Camp Belknap Co-Director), Paige Hunt, Harper Hunter, Ava Roriston. The last 3 are all going to be new campers this year. Julia will be a senior and Virginia, assistant ski coach, a W sending out Huckins hearts.

Memorials





Linda Shayne (Spitzberg) Levine (April 10, 1955-September 15, 2020)

Fredricka Kilburn Joy (May 24,1932-December 6, 2020)

Susan "Lily" Elizabeth

September 21, 2020)

Rick Shaw (February 1, 1941-January 28, 2021)

Margi Rosenthal (March 25, 1967-December 1, 2020)







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## Welcome to the Huckins family! Weddings and Babies



Ruby Faye was born on September 27, 2020 to **Lindsay Wetmore (06)** and Russell Murachver. She joins sister Liv, 3, at home.



Bowen was born on October 20, 2020 to **Courtney Chisholm (06)** and Massey. Bowen joins big sister, Piper, 2, at home.



William was born on October 5, 2020 to Laurence Cadoret (06) and Reed Kipp. William joins big sister, Penelope, 2, at home.



Mary Straub was born on October 15, 2020 to **Samantha Gillis (08)** and Michael Busenhart.



**Emalyn Loh (10)** with Huckins friends at her wedding in August 2019. (Left to right: **Lara Thibodeau, Lauren Browning, Diana Lansinger** and **Barona DiNapoli**)



Caleb was born on January 22, 2021 to **Alicia Barrows** (07) and Rob Chiamulera.



Gunnar Henry was born on November 16, 2020 to **Kaitlin Gangl** and Jeffrey Alden. Gunnar joins big sister, Pip, 3, at home.



Arlo Oliver was born on September 27, 2020 to **Nicole Veilleux (06)** and Levy Lucy.



## **Get your Nellie Gear!**

Nellie's General Store is opening soon! There will be some exciting new items and old favorites. You do not want to miss out!



Nellie's General Store will be open online May 3rd-May 17th.

## www.camphuckinsshop.com

Questions? store@camphuckins.org

## **Get Social!**



Facebook YMCA Camp Huckins

**Twitter** @CampHuckins

LinkedIn Camp Nellie Huckins Alumni group

**Instagram** YMCACampHuckins

# What ever happened to... Laura Howson

started at Huckins as an upper Middler in cabin L in 1992 and was at camp through my SC summer, took a few years off, and returned for two summers after college. My last summer on staff was 2003, but I still return to the shores of Ossipee as often



as I can. Huckins is truly a second home to me, a place where I made amazing forever friends and a place where I continue to learn from the incredible people who make up its community. I want to pass on the values and traditions of Huckins that I gained from camp, so these days, you usually will find me helping at family camp and various other camp activities and events.

After graduating from Boston College (and between summers at camp), I freelanced as a graphic designer in a variety of industries. During graduate school at Emerson College, I signed Lindt Chocolates as a freelance client, developing seasonal campaigns and visual merchandising solutions in the retail stores until eventually joining the corporate team full time. I was the art director for seasonal campaigns, product photoshoots and packaging design and took on the role of designing retail stores throughout the US. During this time, I lived all over Boston, spent a couple years in Portland, Maine, and recently returned to Charlestown, Ma. In late 2019, I took on a new role designing workplace interiors as part of the Real Estate team of Fidelity Investments. The pandemic has brought with it a slew of new challenges for workplaces. I have spent much of the last year working on solutions to bring employees back to the office safely and strategizing how to implement changes to create new work environments for the future that provide flexibility, social interaction and wellness.

Keeping the Huckins spirit alive and well, I am hoping

Our Fall 2021 Huckonian will focus on this Huckins alum... can you guess who it is?



that my niece will be coming to camp in the next year or two. We are already singing all the camp songs!

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## Navigating the Re-Opening of Camp

by Mark Cadman, Associate Director

n a warm July day this past summer, Camp Huckins looked very different than it would on a regular day in a typical "camping" summer. While some of our on-site staff were busy preparing for their Huckins @ Home virtual sessions, our dedicated Kitchen team was hard at work putting together meals to be distributed to local families. We all felt a sense of pride about the good work we were doing, yet at the same time we recognized the careful planning and preparation required in anticipation of welcoming campers back for the 2021 summer season.

Since that day back in July, our planning expanded and gained momentum as we continue to work with national, state and local experts to shape guidance and best practices for re-opening. There is no doubt that Camp will look a little different, but the feelings, traditions, and memories made will be just as important as ever.

The Huckins Re-Opening Task Force has met weekly since July and continues to re-imagine all facets of camp life during the time of COVID. In conjunction with the COVID committee of the Board of Directors, the Task Force has worked diligently to assess all parts of the Huckins operation, considering and reworking policies, procedures, and practices in order to open camp safely. From cabin set-

## **ADDITIONAL RE-OPENING EXPENSE**

Item	Estimated Costs
COVID-19 Testing	\$250,000
Food Service & Dining Changes	\$53,000
Staffing Related Expense	\$65,000
Added Handwashing & Restrooms	\$32,500
Temporary Housing Costs	\$45,000
Additional Medical Supplies	\$14,500
Tents	\$45,000
Capital Improvements to Facility	\$500,000
	<u>\$1,005,000</u>

up and daily schedules to health care and food service, this group has drafted plans for a safe and successful return to camp. These draft plans are currently being reviewed by the Huckins Medical Advisory Group, an alumni group comprised of physicians, nurses and an epidemiologist.

Here is a snapshot of improvements you can expect this summer:

## Bathhouse Improvements

- One way traffic flow
- Improved ventilation with added exit and additional screening
- Metered faucets
- Interior floor matting to improve sanitation and cleanliness

## Revised Change Day Procedures (including Camp Store)

- Drive through drop off including testing, health screening and luggage drop
- Options to pre-order Camper Care Bundles from our online store. These will then be delivered and waiting on your camper's bunk!

## Food Service and Dining Hall

- Improved ventilation in the Dining Hall
- Addition of a large 40' by 100' tent to allow for ample spacing between tables
- Staff served buffet lines, including one way traffic flow
- Body thermometers, located on entry, for daily screening

## **Healthcare Improvements**

- Additional Registered Nurses on staff
- Surveillance testing program for all staff and campers
- Renovations to our health center to allow for more isolation space
- Revised sick call and medication administration process
- On-site, symptomatic COVID-19 testing capability

## **Cabin Improvements**

- Additional exits on all cabins for improved ventilation
- Exhaust fans in all cabins.



## Staffing

- Modifications to staff training and schedules to prioritize social/ emotional supports for campers and staff as we return to community living for the first time since COVID
- Additional custodial staff to improve cleanliness and sanitation
- Additional administrative staff focused on camper and staff wellbeing, including a new Director of Community Life and a Program Department Division Leader

## **Other Facility Improvements**

- Renovations to the Sports Complex for improved ventilation and acoustics
- Additional temporary handwashing and bathroom facilities across Camp
- Designated Hand Sanitizer Stations across Camp
- More tents across camp for added outdoor program space

Jeremy Fullerton (21) is installing an exhaust fan in Cabin Big A

# CCYMCA/Camp Huckins 2020 Annual Report



## CCYMCA/Camp Huckins 2020 Summary of Financial Position

The 2020 fiscal year was arguably the most challenging year in CCYMCA/Camp Huckins history. The decision to cancel on-site programs and to refund all program tuitions left Huckins in a vulnerable position. The staff and Board of Directors collaborated to explore multiple funding models to ensure Huckins could not only survive the pandemic but also retain our staff, actively serve our community, and end the year in a position of strength to re-open in 2021.

This financial summary provides an overview of how operations were funded in 2020 and our operating expenses. Highlighted throughout the Huckonian and Annual Report is the record giving to the Huckins Fund (our annual fund)—both in terms of dollars raised AND in terms of the number of donors. We are grateful to camp families that donated back tuition dollars, staff and alumni that donated their time and made additional gifts, to new donors, and donors that increased their giving in support of our work. Without your support, we could not have pivoted so quickly to serve our community in new ways. Thank you.

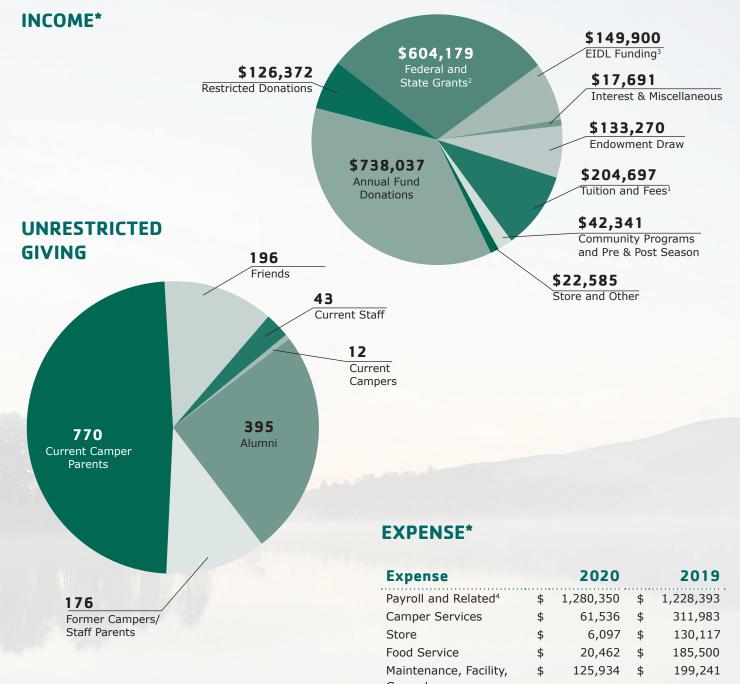
We also want to highlight the efforts of Board Members and staff in securing federal and state grant funds. Securing these funds, including PPP funds, required us to learn quickly and act thoughtfully. All 2020 PPP loans were forgiven. The only debt CCYMCA/Camp Huckins took on was the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). This loan of \$149,900 was accepted and specifically designated to fund COVID related facility improvements to support 2021 re-opening. State and private grant dollars supported the summer local food delivery, operating expenses, and our first virtual After S'Cool clubs for NH middle school students.

Navigating the financial complexities of 2020 was a challenge that required the help of the entire CCYMCA/ Camp Huckins community. We are so proud and grateful.

## **INCOME\***

Operating Income	Actual	Notes		
Tuition & Fees <sup>1</sup>	\$204,697	Virtual Camp & After School Programming for Families of Corporate Partner		
Store	\$22,585			
Community Programs	\$42,341	Fall Virtual After School Programming (State Grant) & Community Programs		
Annual Fund	\$738,037			
Operating Grants <sup>2</sup>	\$604,179	Federal and State Operating Grants		
Interest & Miscellaneous	\$17,691	Timber sale		
Endowment Draw	\$133,270	Board approved 4% of 3 year rolling average of endowment, excluding scholarship endowment.		
Total Operating Revenue	\$1,762,800			
Other Income/Expense	Actual	Notes		
Economic Impact Disaster Loan (EIDL) <sup>3</sup>	\$149,900	designated for COVID specific facility renovations		
Restricted Donations	\$126,372			
Fees & Depreciation	\$(229,979)			

## **FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**



#### Footnotes:

- 1. Tuition and fees generated from private company to provide virtual camp program in the summer and fall.
- 2. Federal and State Grants includes Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), CARES Act Relief Funding, and NH Empower Youth Program Grant.
- 3. Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) was earmarked for projects connected to safely re-opening camp in 2021.
- 4. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, there were no

reductions in year-round staff, and almost all seasonal summer staff salaries were paid.

5. 45% of these were scheduled or completed before the traditional summer camp program was cancelled. 26% were projects related to the safe re-opening of Camp in 2021. The remaining 29% were expenses related to a failing water well and equipment purchases, covered by a restricted gift.

Expense	2020	2019
Payroll and Related <sup>4</sup>	\$ 1,280,350	\$ 1,228,393
Camper Services	\$ 61,536	\$ 311,983
Store	\$ 6,097	\$ 130,117
Food Service	\$ 20,462	\$ 185,500
Maintenance, Facility, Grounds	\$ 125,934	\$ 199,241
Community Programs and Pre & Post Season	\$ 3,226	\$ 50,858
Admin and General Operating	\$ 81,605	\$ 203,159
Scholarship Program	\$ -	\$ 148,424
Investment Fees	\$ 28,979	\$ 27,499
Advancement Related	\$ 17,462	\$ 45,029
Capital Expenditures <sup>5</sup>	\$ 208,498	\$ 398,349
Total Expense:	\$ 1,834,149	\$ 2,928,552

\* 2020 unaudited numbers

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## Honor Roll of Donors

e love you donors, oh, yes we do ... "Together we were able to get through a year without camp, a year without revenue. We are so grateful to our 1580 donors who made almost 2000 donations and raised over \$864,409 dollars for our Huckins Fund (unrestricted giving), Annual Scholarship Fund and our General and Scholarship Endowment Funds. Together we kept Camp Huckins strong and financially stable. ALAMEN!

## 1928 Society (\$20,000 +)

Anonymous Judith (Macurda) & Jim Oates Susan & Matthew Ryan (5) Anne (Colby) & Kimmon Zachos

## **Green & White** Society (\$10,000+)

Sarah Bird & Rob Roriston (5) Ellie Gordon 5 Sarah (Dav) & Francisco Guzman (5) Robert B King Melnick Family Charitable Fund Caitlin Mulligan (5) Laurie (Coughlan) & **Doug Sanders** 

## **Nellie Huckins** Society (\$5000+)

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## Huckonian (1000+)

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## Vespers (\$250+)

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Anonymous Kaitlin Gangl Alden Genn & John Anzaldi Kirsten (Savage) & Michael Arendes Erin Clark & Janelle Bainter Jen & Scott Baker Elizabeth Barley & Andrew Piec **Brooke Barnes** Debbie & Chris Baughman Amy & Mark Belanger Olivia (Joyce) Benesch Kristin (Powers) & George Bennett 5 Anne Benson & Colin Dicke Kate (Beckett) Berger Linda Bloch 5 Stacie & Mark Bracken Caitlin Brensinger Megan & Christopher Brinzey Jen Brountas Kristen (Parthe) & Ken Brown 5 Abigail Brown & Alex Steinberg 5 Elizabeth (Cummings) Bryson Sarah & R.J. Buckley (5) Maxine (Wolfe) & Mark Cadman (5) Becki & Bryan Cameron Elizabeth & Scott Cardone Jennifer & Michael Casey (5) Erin & Warren Channel Collette & Thomas Chilton (5) Diane & Gregory Chorebanian Alyson & Justin Christian Louisa (Bartle) & Austin Clayton (5)

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## Gifts in Memory of

Anne (Colby) Zachos Megan Twadell-Riera Charles Bickford William Upton Marilyn Borchers Joyce & Harold Buckingham Kathy & Brad Cook Judith Corbit Nancy County Lisa Cross & Chuck Tilgner Arthur Ellison Cynthia Jones Dorothy Krasner Robert Lord Thomas H. O'Brien Nan O'Connor & Ellen Litman Elizabeth O'Connor Martha Pennell Karen Prazar Joan (Durkee) Reed Kathy & Jon Ross Ann Snow **Dorothy Stokes** Kathy & Ernie Tsouros Carolyn Vinica Linnea & Samuel Zachos Alice Zachos

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Lindsay King Wallin, Jamie King and Campbell Walli Judy Hajjar

Gail Paine Stephanie Paine & John Pier

After S'Cool Clubs Paige & Natalie Duncan

Akira Baruni Helen Allen Beedy

All the counselors and staff Bea Sanders

All the wonderful Huckins girls! Kate (Golden) Wood

Audrey Vorperian Melinda Giustina

Bethany Landry Williard Linda (Foster) & Jim Landry

Caitlin Roeltgen Rebecca Perkins

Charlotte Politi Jennifer (Politi) Keneally

Colby Hoffman Tom Hoffman

**DeWitte Kersh Jr.** Eleanor Veitch

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Ella Caddeau High School Graduation Meg & Patrick Caddeau

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Heather Kiley Katherine (Laing) Turner

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Handwerk Family Lily Handwerk Phoebe Handwerk Gillian Hayami Kris (Beck) & Alex Henry Emma Keleghan Jill & Peter King Robin & John Kinzer Ann & Fred Knight Emma (Loosigian) & Michael Laham Joanne (Howard) & Steven Landry Carolyn (Goodwin) & Mike Leary Susan Leathers Pamela (Bisson) MacDonald Carol (Schultz) & Jose Fernandez Martin **Debbie Norris Matthews** Patricia McCarthy Gail & Kevin Mulligan Joanne (Henagen) O'Connor Teri (Moag) Olson Kristen Olson Claudia Palmer Lizz (Brackett) Peacock Liza (Bruno) Perry Eleonor (Eckerson) Peters Molly & Katelyn Pine Betsy Monell Rainie Judith (Sawyer) Rogato & Jenna Rogato Kaitlin Rok Hamish Rowsell Julia Sanders Sarah (Riley) Silva Sarah Simmonds & Timothy Ziobro Evelyn Sload Katharine (Coffin) Sparks Dana (Capasso) Stivers Margaret (Ramsden) Talbot Erin (Nicholas) Thomas Valerie Tobia & Isaiah Breton Stephanie Turner Christy Taylor Tuthill-Todd Cristina Velez Sarah Walton Jared Ward Char McKinnon & Herb Whittemore Margaret Garvey Lauren Bicknell Elizabeth Kennedy Samantha Van Putten Lee Ann (Leonard) Velez

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Eliza Dodge Olivia & James Dolce Shea Dolce Kelly Dolce Kathryn (Perkins) Donellon Nina Doonan Isabel Doonan Meghan Dorsey Melanie Dostie Sara Doverspike Lizzy Dowd Laurilyn & Anthony Dowling Jody (Litvin) Doyle Martha Doyle & Thomas Dadmun Kristina Drew Laina & Rob Driscoll Elaine Driscoll Annette Duclos & Anders Engen Liz & Dave Dufault Susan & Robert Duffey Amanda Duffy Megan Dulac Paige & Natalie Duncan Linda & Christopher Duncombe Amily Dunlap (5) Alyssa Dunlap Marsha Durbano & John O'Callaghan Shirley Dutton Janna Dwyer Kate (Snow) & Steve Dwyer Chapin Dwyer 5 Elisabeth Dwyer 5 Jeannette Eaton & Peter Sniffen **Betsy Eaton** Caroline Ebben Melissa Eberly Bradley Edgell Michael Edgell Winnie & Josh Edmed Robin Macdonald Edstrom (5) Michelle Bosse & John Egan Ann (Astrachan) Eggleston Carrie & Christian Ehrbar Jess (Brandt) & Ben Eisner 5 Mary Elcock Jodi & Jonathan Elder Elizabeth Elfman (5) Leigh (Cole) & Brian Elliott Maddie Elliott Arthur Ellison Laura & Christian Ely Marjorie Eno Katelyn Erdlen Julia Erdlen Natalie & Max Eringros Eirinn Erny & Gregory Kozlowski

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## Why I volunteer

Marybeth Sullivan, alumna and co-founder of the Young Alumni Engagement Committee

Camp taught me the importance of 'doing our capers.' One small act, done by many, keeps bookshelves organized, beaches raked, and boats bailed. All these little acts enable us to



enjoy all camp has to offer. I see volunteering as my alumni caper. Some years all I can do is clean up the bookshelf. Other years, I can do a bit more. No matter what shape it takes, I know volunteering time, skills, or funds enables others to enjoy all camp has to offer. Selfishly, volunteering gives me a chance to hang out with camp people. My very favorite kind of people.

## **2020 VOLUNTEERS**

### Social Media Interns

Amy Brennan Molly Denning

### Summer Volunteers

Kim Brownell Jill King Peter King Karen Shackford John Skelton Kathy Vittum Bruce Vorperian

### Committees

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## Giving Tuesday and the Belknap/Huckins Give Back Challenge

### by Stephanie Paine, Director of Advancement

On Tuesday, December 1st, the Huckins and Belknap communities participated in the fourth annual #GivingTuesday Belknap/Huckins Give Back Challenge. The stakes were higher than ever this year as the winner would receive the new Give Back Plague to proudly display at their camp for the year. Huckins alumnae Marybeth Sullivan and Sarah Day Guzman worked with Stephanie Paine and Kate Kerin of Belknap to design the plague and to create the messaging and strategy for the day. Using Venmo as well as online giving, 572 members of the Huckins family made donations totaling more than \$46,000 in this one-day challenge. In all, there were 732 donations between our two camps, surpassing all of our previous #Giving Tuesday records. We are so very grateful to our friends at Belknap and to all of our many wonderful Huckins supporters. Stay tuned for photos of the new Give Back Plaque in the Lodge.

**Emily Davidson Riley McLoy** Lauren Meaney Patricia Melander Jessica (Rogers) & Charles Mellon Alison (Goslee) Memoli Leah & Justin Merrill Mary Merrill & Peter Thibault Scott & Amanda Mertens **Emily Flashner Meyer** Lisa & Stephen Migliaccio Melissa Miguel & Scott Amero Olga & Max Milendorf Sandra & Andrew Millar Yael Miller Gene Miller

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#### Tyler O'Connor

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Rebecca Skelton

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Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. If your name is misspelled or omitted, please accept our sincere apologies and let us know by calling 603-539-4710.



## LEGACY SOCIETY HIGHLIGHT

## **A Huckins Family**

by Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, alumna

ou can tell a Huckins family a mile away...when 90% of their t-shirts are from camp, or so the saying should go! Huckins not only holds a special place in my heart, but it has come to mean so much to my husband and two children as well.



I remember telling my husband about Huckins in the early days of our dating life. And after our first child was born — a son — we got ready for Family Camp. My husband wasn't so sure that he and our son should be heading off to an all-girls camp, but he humored me and immediately fell in love. From that day forward, our family has embraced the beauty and magic of Camp. Like so many other

women, Camp was where I learned to truly be myself, to take chances, make new friends and develop my independence. Camp and camp friends supported me through the highs and the lows of life and, as the saying goes, have been a constant and true presence in my life.

When the time came for estate planning and the complicated decisions about how and where our estate would be disbursed, we shared with our lawyer the things that mattered most to us. As we considered what we hope our legacy will be, beyond that of taking care of our children and family, we thought deeply about how we might support future generations. In some small way, we wanted to ensure that all children could have access to programs that support and nurture them, regardless of their ability to



pay. Huckins, of course, was at the top of that list.
This last year has reinforced with us the reasons why
this investment in our collective future is so important.
As our country and the world combat a global pandemic,
and as communities across our nation take on important
conversations about racial injustices and inequities, I have
never been prouder to be part of the Huckins community. The
leadership, dedication and spirit of this special place has never
been stronger and it gives me great hope about our future.

I hope that as other Nellie women and families think about the possible ways they can support the future of Huckins and our global community, they will consider joining me in the Camp Huckins Legacy Society. Future leaders are born at camp, and we can help to ensure that everyone has that chance.

## HUCKINS LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS 2021

Anonymous (2) Mary (Tuttle) Albertelli Sarah Bird Meredith (Haff) Breiland Priscilla Brodeur 💙 Abby Brown-Steinberg Christie Cannell Amanda Craig Y Tracey Cordy Rebecca (Levy) Corwin Annie (Perley) Dandy Charles Depew ¥ Heloise (Gilmore) Depew Judy Dodge 💙 Ralph Dube 💙 Connie (Jones) Griffin

Patricia Heneghan 💙 Kim (Mavor) Hollowell Anna Kristine Johnson 💙 Katherine Lafferty Robin (Cranage) Lapoint Joanie Rogers Leopold Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman Elizabeth (Coffey) McKay Carly Susan (Rockstroh) Mitchell David Murray Molly Ness Rosalyn Novak-Houston Jane (Cayford) Nylander Gail Paine

Stephanie Paine Helen Pelletier Sally B. Roberts Margi Rosenthal ♥ Priscilla Rowe Alice (Barber) Sabol Jody (Hutchinson) Skelton Ellen Simmonds ♥ Tom Simmonds Leslie Hughes Smith Elizabeth (Sanborn) Ventre Audrey Vorperian Anne (Colby) Zachos ♥

♥ Deceased

## Legacy

## by Rupi Kaur

I stand on the sacrifices of a million women before me thinking what can i do to make this mountain taller so, the women after me can see farther

If you have Huckins in your estate plans or would like information on how to do that, please contact Stephanie Paine, Director of Advancement at stephanie@camphuckins.org. Help us keep Huckins strong for generations to come. YMCA Camp Huckins 17 Camp Huckins Road Freedom NH 03836-4403

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED





## **YMCA Camp Huckins**

## 2021 CALENDAR

June 4th-6th Alumni Work Weekend June 27th - July 10th 1st Session July 11th - 24th 2nd Session July 25th - August 7th 3rd Session August 8th - 21st 4th Session August 23rd - 27th Family Camp August 27th - 29th Mother/Daughter Weekend August Option September 1st - 3rd Women's Wellness September 1st - 6th Labor Day Family Camp September 10th-12th Mother/Son Weekend September 17th -19th Mother/Daughter Weekend September Option SAVE THE DATE!!! AUGUST 21st, 2022 JODY's Retirement Party

## **UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS**

### Alumni Gatherings by Decades

April 6th | 8pm Virtual Gathering for Alumni 40s, 50s & 60s on Zoom

April 20th | 8pm Virtual Gathering for Alumni from the 70s & 80s on Zoom

May 4th | 8pm Virtual Gathering for Alumni from the 90s on Zoom

May 18th | 8pm Virtual Gathering for Alumni from the 2000s on Zoom

New Camper Information Sessions Sunday, May 9th | 5:30pm Monday, May 10th | 6:30pm Wednesday, May 12th | 7pm

> Staff Parent Zoom Monday, May 17th | 7pm

VISIT CAMPHUCKINS.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION