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Dear Kirkmont Supporter,

Early in November I attended the annual conference of the Presbyterian Camp & Conference Center Association. After greeting one of the leaders of the Kirkmont Center master planning team with a camp-appropriate hug, she asked, “How is Kirkmont Center?” I responded, “Kirkmont is going to make it. Kirkmont is becoming regional camp with a national reputation.” She took a step back in surprise and said, “In the five years we have been working with Kirkmont Center, you have never said that. Whenever we have talked, you have reminded us to tell you when it is time to give up and quit.”

That exchange states the theme of this letter of gratitude: *Kirkmont Center is going to make it. Kirkmont is becoming a regional camp with a national reputation.*

Seven years ago the Presbyterian churches that owned Kirkmont Center for 50 years transferred the property to a new nonprofit called Kirkmont Center, Inc. The first years were tough, yet you have made an investment of almost \$600,000 in making the facilities safe, complying with codes and regulations, and improving Kirkmont’s capacity to serve.

Thanks to your giving and the generous midyear challenge match from First Presbyterian Church in Tiffin, the Kirkmont staff has been able to respond to facility challenges. This year a wastewater pipe was clogged with roots—the pipe was replaced

and a plan made for regular maintenance to avoid a recurrence. A new Vulcan convection oven replaced an oven that had been partially disabled because of potential propane leaks. An aging commercial-size water softener was replaced. Two on-demand hot water systems were replaced. Components of the wastewater treatment system were replaced. When we find a problem, we fix it.

Kirkmont Center took a step forward in who she serves. Kirkmont hosted three new groups of youths from low-income neighborhoods from three different metropolitan areas during the fiscal year that ended September 30. Kirkmont also has been busy since the successful summer camp season.* For example, in October Kirkmont hosted groups on 22 of the 31 days.

We have many ideas going forward. We want to build a new outdoor learning center. We want to replace the Maumee bathhouse and craft-and-nature center with a new bathhouse attached to a large, general purpose room. We want to execute the vision for a collection of Kirkmont stories, a larger vespers site, a bluebird trail, a butterfly waystation, a tree census, and more nature and STEAM programs. Kirkmont has only two full-time and two part-time employees. We no-kidding want to hire our first full-time Camp Director in nine years and our first full-time Field School Director.

Thank you for bringing Kirkmont Center into a new era as a regional camp that is maintaining its culture yet busy each day of the year. As with most years since becoming a nonprofit, summer camp fees will not increase in 2018. We depend on your continued support to increase the capacity of Kirkmont to serve.

Thank you for understanding and supporting the mission of Kirkmont Center.

Buzz Reed

For the Board of Trustees, Staff, Summer Staff, and Volunteers

*Guests since the 2017 summer camp season include a VBS, two weddings, two church picnics, two colleges to provide team training for dorm Resident Assistants, the senior class of a Cleveland STEM high school, the Fall Artists Retreat, a local Chamber of Commerce leadership retreat with challenge course, a retreat for the residents of a women's shelter that included the challenge course, a memorial tree planting, two nights of star gazing with the new telescope, several retreats of church groups (including women, men, youth and a nontraditional church), our first "Day of Quiet" for adults, a junior class on spiritual retreat from a Catholic high school, a local Montessori school, a quilt retreat, a Koinonia weekend, several clergy who stayed in Habitat House to plan for Advent or to simply renew, several caregivers who made respite stays in Habitat House, several scout packs and troops, several family retreats and reunions, and a group of OSU students who use a weekend at Kirkmont to train by running the trails.

Eight Ways to Give

1. Send a check to Kirkmont Center, 6946 County Rd 10, Zanesfield, OH 43360. There are three standing options for designation: the Capacity Fund, to increase Kirkmont Center's capacity to serve; the DeLair Family Campership Fund, to send a kid you do not know to camp; the Pay-It-Down Fund, to reduce Kirkmont's debt.
2. Set up automatic payments to Kirkmont Center from your bank account.
3. Click on the "Donate" button at kirkmontcenter.com to use the Presbyterian Foundation for online giving using a credit card or bank account with low processing costs. You can make a one-time gift or make a sustaining gift weekly, monthly, or quarterly.
4. Give appreciated securities, which eliminates capital gains taxes and provides a charitable deduction for the market value of the security. Check with a tax professional, then call Kirkmont Center for transfer options.
5. Use a donor-advised fund (again, check with a tax professional) for an immediate deduction and give to Kirkmont Center when you wish.
6. Include Kirkmont Center as a beneficiary in your will or estate plans.
7. Enroll in Kroger Community Rewards (pending).
8. Enroll in AmazonSmiles (pending).