

Lions Camp Merrick, Inc.



May 29, 2020

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Art Payton Board Member

Heidi A. Fick Executive Director

Camp Office:

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Fellow Lions,

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, Lions Camp Merrick, located in Nanjemoy, Maryland, will be unable to host its regular camp program and rentals until the COVID-19 crisis and social distancing is over. Lions Camp Merrick hosts week-long camps for diabetic children, children who are Deaf or Blind and children from low-income households.

Not only will hundreds of children miss out on the joys and learning experiences of the camp programs, this also means that the expected revenue from campers and group rentals are lost for this camping year. We have reached out to our camp families to inform them of this very sad decision and to inquire if they want their deposit to be refunded, applied to summer 2021 or donated to LCM to help us through this difficult time. Early in the year deposits from "regular camp" and rental groups were needed to cover current expenses. Approximately \$20,000 of deposits from camp/rentals were used to pay expenses and now may have to be refunded

If you haven't visited us, Lions Camp Merrick consists of over three hundred acres of wooded land, has about a half mile of Potomac River waterfront, has an access road that's about a mile long, a pool, a pier, a "ropes" course, a dining hall, twenty or so other buildings and associated infrastructure. That's a lot to maintain.

It costs approximately \$20,000.00 per month to maintain and operate the camp (without campers). This includes payroll, insurance, utilities, maintenance, and other costs. We have worked with our insurance company to adjust our policy to reflect our current situation, which will provide some savings. We have made efforts to reduce utilities by closing buildings and shutting down equipment we are not using. We are assessing our ability to maintain three full time staff and we were awarded a PPP grant that has helped cover payroll and utilities as we worked thru this difficult situation.

Lions Camp Merrick, Inc. Fed. E.I. # 52-1289731 and is recognized as 501 C-3 Donations are tax deductible.

All the camper and rental fees for the year are lost yet salaries, insurance, utilities, maintenance, etc., still have to be paid. Lions Camp Merrick solicits your generosity in helping fund the fixed costs of operating the camp and we greatly need your assistance to help us through this difficult year.

Checks can be made out to the order of: Lions Camp Merrick and mailed to Lions Camp Merrick, P.O. Box 56, Nanjemoy, MD 20662

Donations can also be made via a PayPal link on our webpage: http://lionscampmerrick.org/

Thank you for your generosity and we hope to see you at one of our future Lions Appreciation Days!

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Dennis Maguire President

Lions Camp Merrick

Dennis Magnere

Heidi Fick Director

Lions Camp Merrick

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PS: During this time when more people are shopping online please remember Amazon Smile will donate .05% (5 cents on \$100.00) of your qualified order to the charity of your choice.

You can use this url to log into Amazon Smile and have your order count toward LCM. Thank you!

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