

Nearly Fifty Thousand U.S. soldiers have been wounded in the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan over the past 12 years. Their full reintegration back into their families, jobs, and communities is often made more difficult with not only their loss of limbs or other serious visible injuries for some, but many, many more of them are coping with the issues associated with “Invisible Wounds” of post-traumatic stress (PTS) and traumatic brain injuries (TBI.) 22 suicides a day, joblessness, incarceration, homelessness and divorce are all too often the by-products of their failure to successfully reintegrate. Far too many fail to ask for help and many more fail to get the help they need and deserve. Camp Liberty and our associates programs can help.

Camp Liberty’s extensive all-volunteer network and support programs help create an environment in which the Veteran feels more relaxed and open to learning about treatment opportunities and help. The Veterans can review the challenges they face and get connected with public and private support services. What differentiates Camp Liberty from other national recreation programs is their direct tie-in to the Eisenhower Center’s exceptional rehabilitation program called “After the Impact” and the Center for Neurological Studies (CNS) TBI screening systems. As the nation’s premiere TBI cognitive screening and rehabilitation team, CNS and the Eisenhower Center provide Camp Liberty with an option for treatment, education, advocacy, support and awareness for service members and Veterans coping with “Invisible Wounds.” No other program in the nation can match our collective team’s detection, treatment, and recreation and reintegration programs. To learn more about Camp Liberty and how you can help, please visit www.camp-liberty.org . The University of Michigan’s 2013 research on extended outdoor recreation for combat injured Veterans is on our website.

Sincerely,

Richard V. Briggs, Jr., Major, USAF (Ret)
Co-Founder / Board Member, Camp Liberty, Inc.



Breaking Down the Barriers to Successful Reintegration

Presented By Rick Briggs, Major, U.S.A.F. (Ret)
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The Primary Issues Preventing Successful Reintegration After Combat



▶ **Bottle Necks That Prevent Full Reintegration**

- ▶ **Combat Veteran self diagnosis does not recognize Post Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injuries for what they are**
- ▶ **They struggle to overcome the stigma associated with mental health issues**
- ▶ **They do not openly discuss their issues with anyone outside their immediate trust zone**
- ▶ **They do not trust the healthcare system or the government**
- ▶ **They do not understand that Invisible Wounds are treatable**
- ▶ **When they do ask for help they struggle with systemic barriers**
- ▶ **When they are offered the opportunity to go through in-patient treatment programs they decline or struggle with the decision to leave the family and the financial implications associated with being away from work**
- ▶ **They are concerned about their jobs, promotions, security clearances, and access to their personal firearms**

The Michigan Solution

- 1.) **Camp Liberty and Michigan DNR's Operation Freedom Outdoors utilizes accessible outdoor recreation opportunities to:**
 - a.) **Thank the Veteran and get them relaxed and enjoying themselves**
 - b.) **Build trust and rapport with the Veteran so they are more receptive to listening about Invisible Wounds as being treatable**
 - c.) **Educate the Veteran about associated treatment opportunities they have access to**
 - d.) **Include the family members in the healthcare access process and provide them guidance for assistance, training and counseling**
- 2.) **Refer the Veteran to:**
 - a.) **The Center for Neurological Studies advanced screening programs**
 - b.) **The Eisenhower Center's "After the Impact" program**
- 3.) **Provide follow-up and advocacy for after treatment and advancement forward by getting them properly established and rated within the VA comp and pen programs and other programs as necessary**



- MiOFO is a cooperative partnership between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Camp Liberty, Zero-Day, Eisenhower Center, the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, Passing Along The Heritage Foundation, Safari Club International Foundation, Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and more.
- The mission of MiOFO is to provide improved outdoor recreation opportunities for wounded veterans and individuals with health challenges; and, to coordinate a support network that facilitates their recovery through connecting with nature.
- MiOFO will focus initial efforts on DNR-managed Sharonville State Game Area and the neighboring Camp Liberty property. The properties are near several population centers: Ann Arbor, Jackson, Lansing, and Detroit.
- Veterans, partners, and volunteers will assist with habitat development projects to give a sense of accomplishment, pride, and ownership for the area.
- Several projects are underway at Sharonville State Game Area including: a facilitated hunting area with accessible trails and spurs for hunting pads and blinds, rustic trails for use with field grade mobility devices, an accessible canoe launch on River Raisin, and several habitat projects to provide food and cover for wildlife and enhanced outdoor experiences for visitors.
- Sharonville State Game area and Camp Liberty support diverse habitats that include River Raisin frontage, small lakes, wetlands, wooded areas and open fields.
- Featured game species at the Sharonville State Game area include wild turkey, pheasant, cottontail rabbit, ruffed grouse, woodcock, fox squirrel and white-tailed deer. Rare non-game species include the Indiana bat, dickcissel, grasshopper sparrow, Henslow's sparrow, eastern box turtle, tamarack tree cricket and more.
- The availability of this unequalled, publically accessible center for barrier-free outdoor experiences is expected to draw numerous outdoorspeople to the area, providing an economic boost to nearby businesses and facilities.

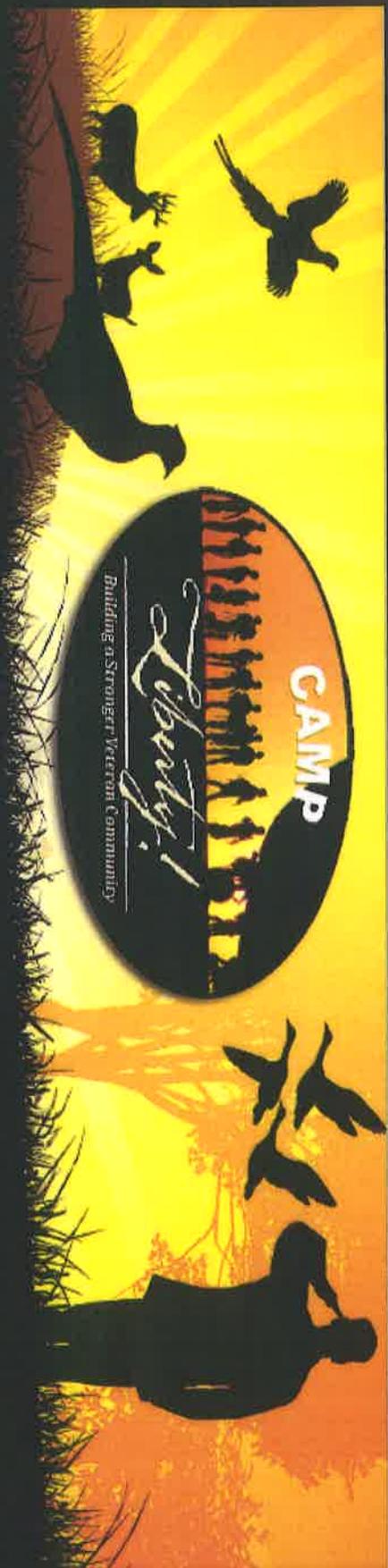




Map of the Operation Freedom Outdoors project area at Sharonville State Game Area and the Camp Liberty property in Jackson and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan.



ABOUT
CAMP LIBERTY
2014



INTRODUCTION TO CAMP LIBERTY

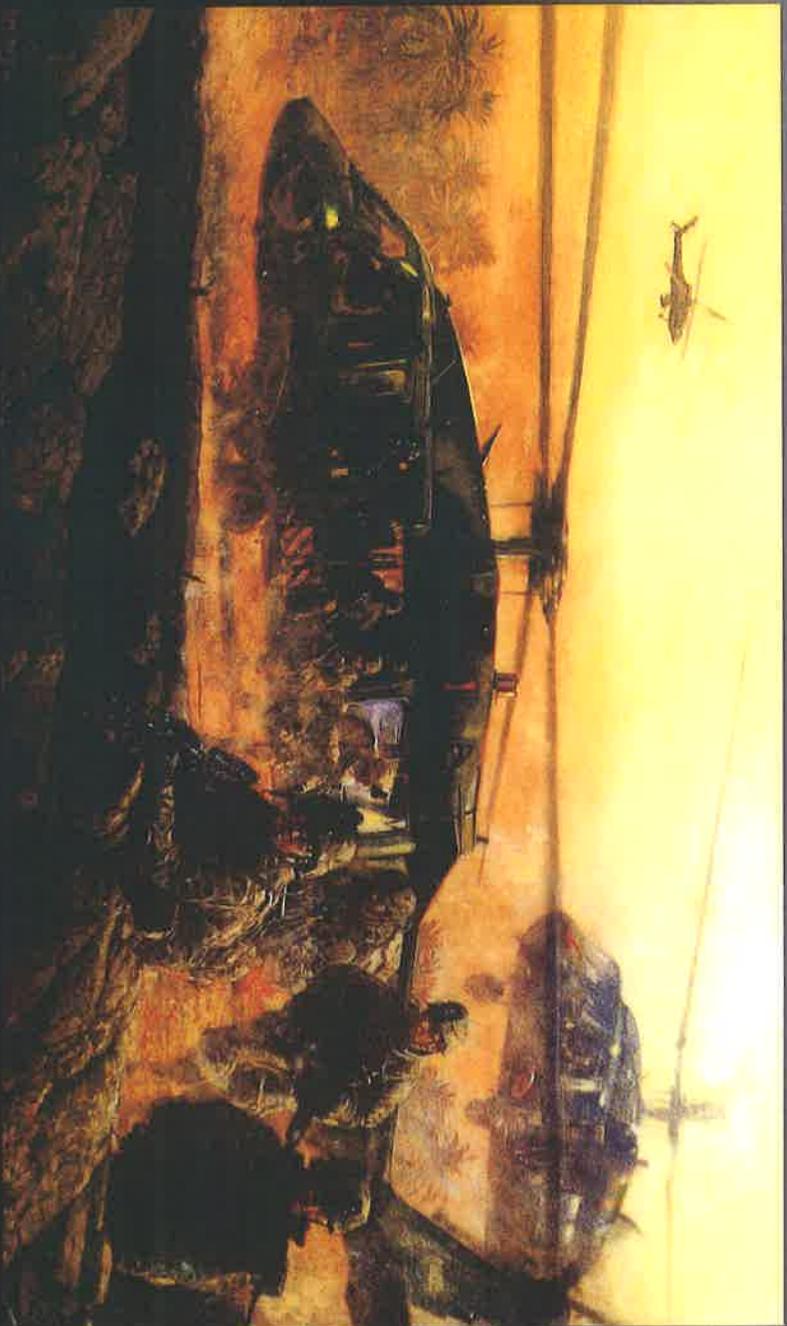
- **Founded in July, 2012**
- **Special focus on helping U.S. Military Veterans suffering with “Invisible Wounds” of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI’s) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD)**
- **IRS approved 501(c)(3) charity**
- **All Volunteer Program**
- **Dedicated to helping people facing health challenges**

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CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT MISSION

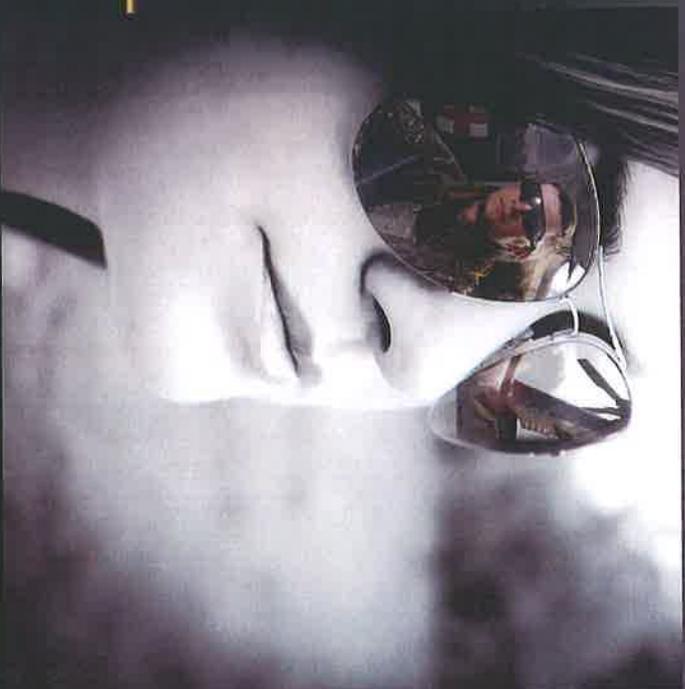
Camp Liberty provides programs designed to aid in the rehabilitation and reintegration of U.S. military service members, Veterans and their families, through inclusive outdoor recreation opportunities.



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT VISION

Camp Liberty programs focus on assisting those that are coping with traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorders. While primarily directing efforts towards working with Veterans, Camp Liberty's programs also help individuals of all abilities and other health challenges in getting back to and enjoying the great outdoors... It's a quality of life thing.

Bringing them home... Helping them heal.



CAMP LIBERTY – THE CALL TO ACTION

- Traumatic Brain Injury is the “Signature Wound” of the war on terror
- 2.3 million troops deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan
- 18% sustained TBI's with 65% of those Veterans sustaining co-morbid injuries and/or PTSD
- Unidentified and untreated “Invisible Wounds” are the leading contributor towards the 22 suicides a day as well as other issues of joblessness, divorce, homelessness and incarceration of our Veterans



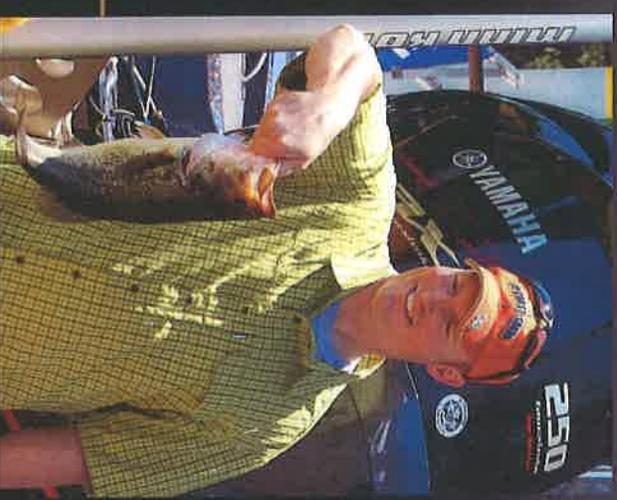
CAMP LIBERTY – MICHIGAN... THE DRIVING FORCE

- Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) - The leading cause of death in young people
- Michigan fields more community based, CARF accredited Brain Injury providers than 34 other states combined
- Annually, TBI's in America equal 6 times the number of Breast cancer, HIV, multiple sclerosis and spinal cord injuries cases **combined**
- TBI and PTSD are treatable... if we can get the Veterans to seek help and the system provides the treatments



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT REASON

We believe Camp Liberty can contribute to advancing the treatment of Invisible Wounds and improve the quality of life of our troops when integrated with our other health partners



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT APPROACH

- In association with its sponsors, donors, and wildlife partners, Camp Liberty provides access to free outdoor activities such as pheasant hunts, fishing tournaments, and sports events to say “Thank You” Veterans
- These activities provide the opportunity to deliver the message that TBI’s and PTSD are treatable while they are in a relaxed environment with other Veterans that have shared similar experiences. These troops are more receptive and the message is more effective
- Many Veterans will seek care for themselves or others they know that may be suffering from these issues when they learn the information from a source that they know, like and trust
- Public speaking at Veterans service organizations and civic groups
- We reach between 4000 and 5000 people each year with our message



CAMP LIBERTY – THE CONDUIT FOR PROVIDING HOPE AND PURPOSE

Two of the most important things we can give our combat injured troops are Hope and Purpose:

- 1.) Give them Hope that there is the opportunity to move forward from the struggles of having served in war, and
- 2.) Provide them with a Purpose for their lives going forward.



These Veterans have dealt with the uncertainties of combat and the life and death decisions they may have had to make. Very little seems important to them upon their attempted return to civilian life.

Camp Liberty, combined with an intricate network of partners from various fields, can help to facilitate making the transition from warrior to civilian a worthwhile, rewarding, and successful experience.

CAMP LIBERTY - RECREATIONAL THERAPY & EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

- The Eisenhower Center has contributed over \$200,000 to Camp Liberty because they believe in the potential for these programs to help in the treatment of people with TBI and PTSD
- A 2013 study by the University of Michigan shows that those that extended outdoor recreational programs help with 5 major areas of reintegration and well being
- Camp Liberty, through our property and programs, provides the recreational and educational elements needed to help facilitate rehabilitation



CAMP LIBERTY – VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- Public-private partnerships with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Zero Day, Inc., the Building Trades Council, Camp Liberty and other organizations
- Helped launch Michigan's unique Operation Freedom Outdoors (MIOFO) at the 4,500 acre Sharonville State Game Area
- MIOFO is a 5 year, \$5 million program to provide vocational education in the building trades and conservation management and to make our State Game and Recreation Areas more accessible and inclusive



CAMP LIBERTY – VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- Vocational construction management and building trade training through the Zero Day program
- Combat Veterans employed in conservation positions by Michigan DNR with the Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors
- Helped develop a certified guide program where Volunteer guides accompany disabled hunters and fishermen to special areas that have been designed to accommodate people with accessibility challenges



CAMP LIBERTY - ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS



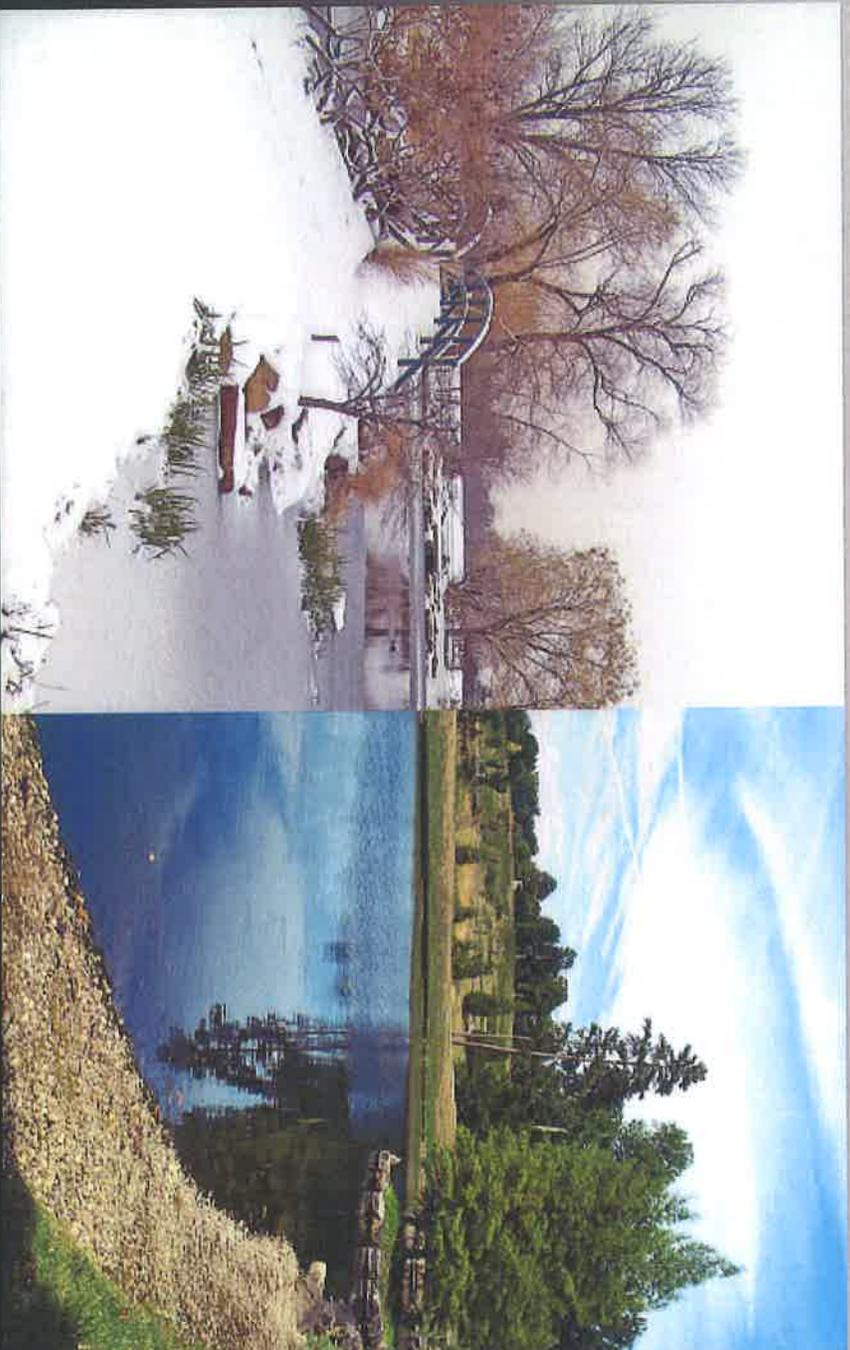
Camp Liberty provides five wilderness access track chairs that are used at Camp Liberty and deployed throughout Michigan for free use for those with mobility needs

THE RENOVATED "MAJOR KELLOGG" LIBERTY BRIDGE



Renovation made possible by the Bridge Construction Team created a coalition of dozens of contractors, donors, and volunteers that includes: David Rutledge and Monarch Welding & Engineering, Operators Local Union #324 Apprenticeship, Ironworkers Local Union #25 Business Agents, Retirees and Apprenticeship, J.A. Papalas Company, Connelly Crane, Allingham Crane and Compressor, Allstate Welding Equipment, All American Portable Toilets, Budd Engineering, MBM Fabricators, V&S Galvanizers, Michigan Cat, Painters District Council, Alro Steel, Boilermakers Local Union #169 Apprenticeship, Metro Gas and Air, Midland Tool, PPG Pittsburgh Paints and the Dr. Edward and June Kellogg Family Dentistry Foundation.

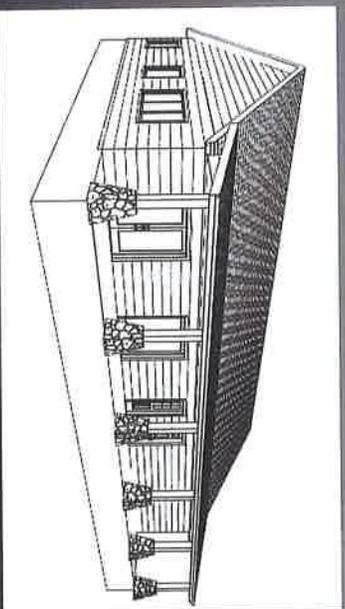
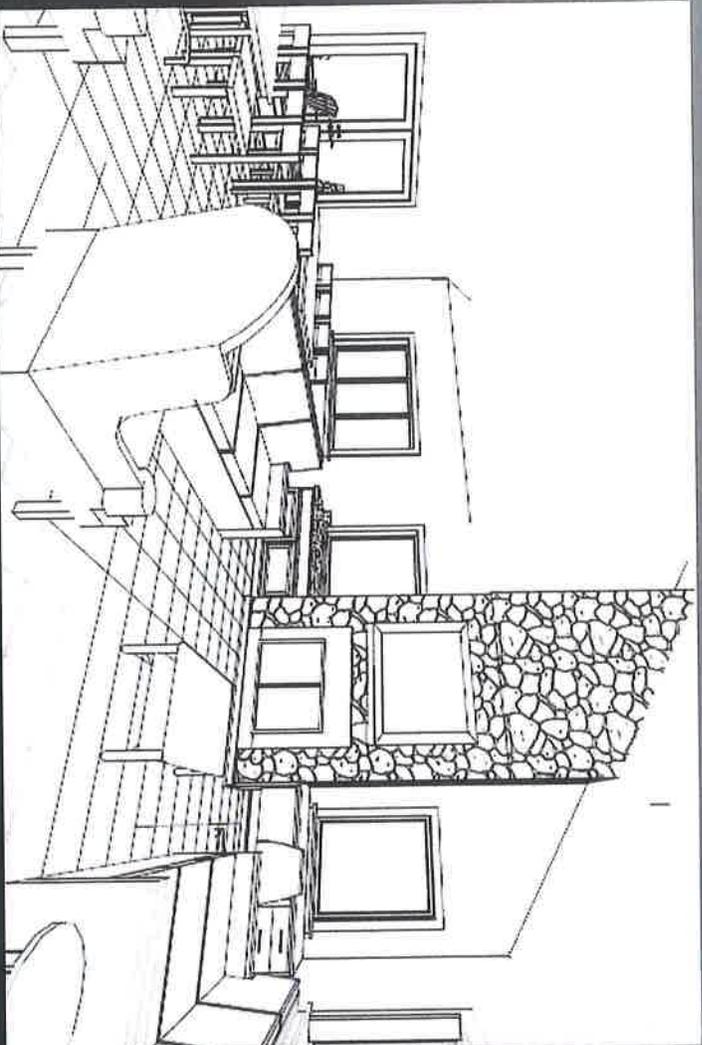
CAMP LIBERTY – BUILDING THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT



**Pond Approved Budget for construction in the spring 2015 by
U.S. Fish & Wildlife and Ducks Unlimited**

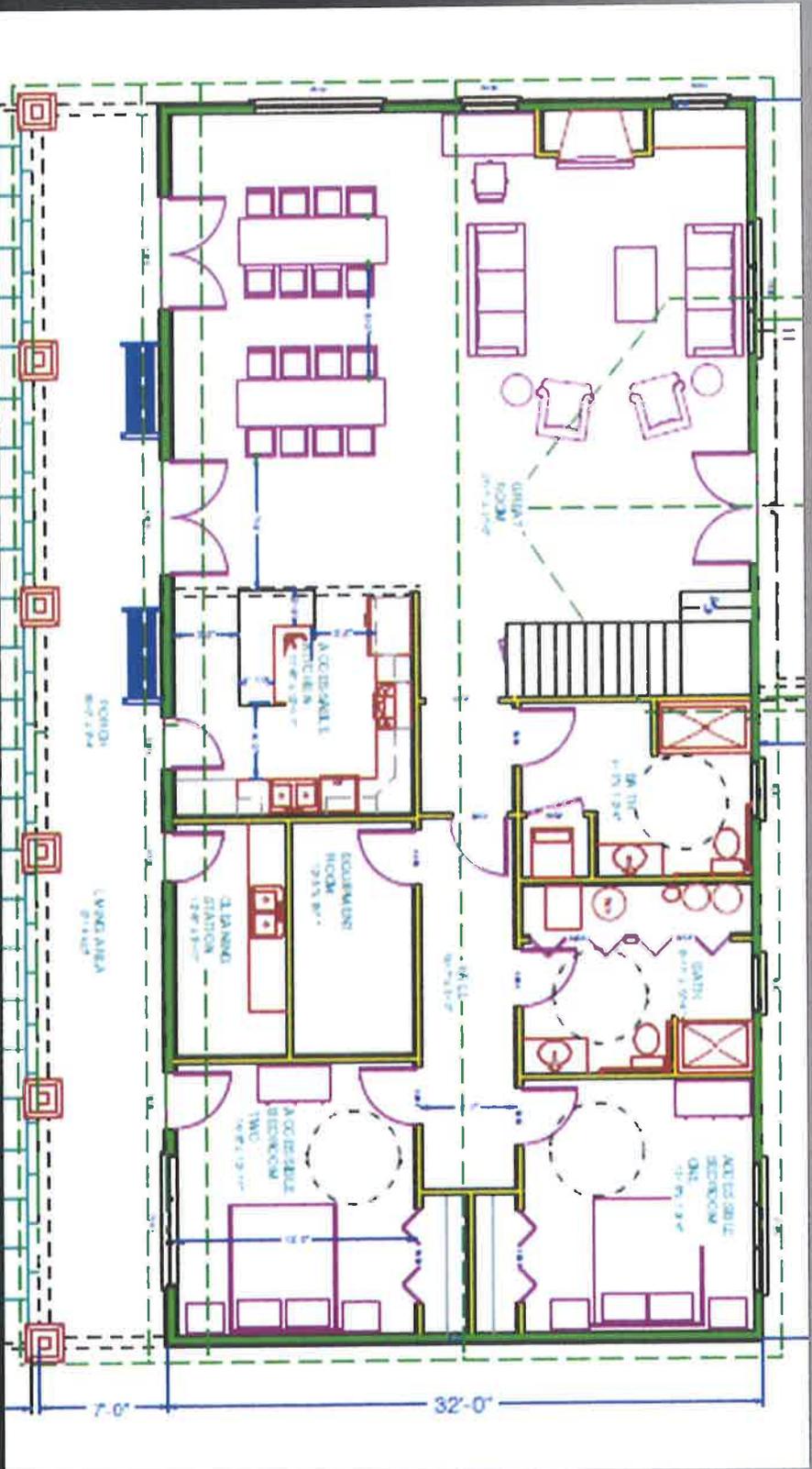
CAMP LIBERTY – PROGRAM CENTER & HOUSING

- Phase One - A 2800 sf Program Center is to be used to house recreational programs and equipment- Spring 2015



CAMP LIBERTY – PROGRAM CENTER & HOUSING

- Phase Two – Build Out a portion of the Program Center to allow transitional accessible housing for Veterans – Spring 2016



BOARD OF DIRECTORS - THE RIGHT TEAM



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1st Past President



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Carol Ann Fausone



John Cormack



Mike Harris



CAMP LIBERTY - THE RIGHT TEAM



Paul Richardsson Family



Robert and Sue Fuchs



Strategic Partners



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT ORGANIZATION

- Based in Ann Arbor, Michigan
- IRS 501(c)(3) not-for-profit approved
- Registered Charity with State of Michigan
- All Volunteers - No employees, No compensation
- Tax returns and corporate documents available upon request



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT PROPERTY

- 137 acres located between Manchester and Brooklyn, MI
- Adjacent to Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors (MiOFO) and their 4,500 acre Sharonville State Game Area that provides the opportunity to offer additional programs



CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT HABITAT

- Outdoor recreation paradise – hunting, fishing, hiking, kayaking, wildlife viewing
- The area that consistently produces the greatest number of record bucks in the state
- Nearly a half mile of frontage on the River Raisin – bass, pike, suckers, walleye, pan fish
- Native habitat for wild turkey, pheasants, ducks, coyotes, and small game

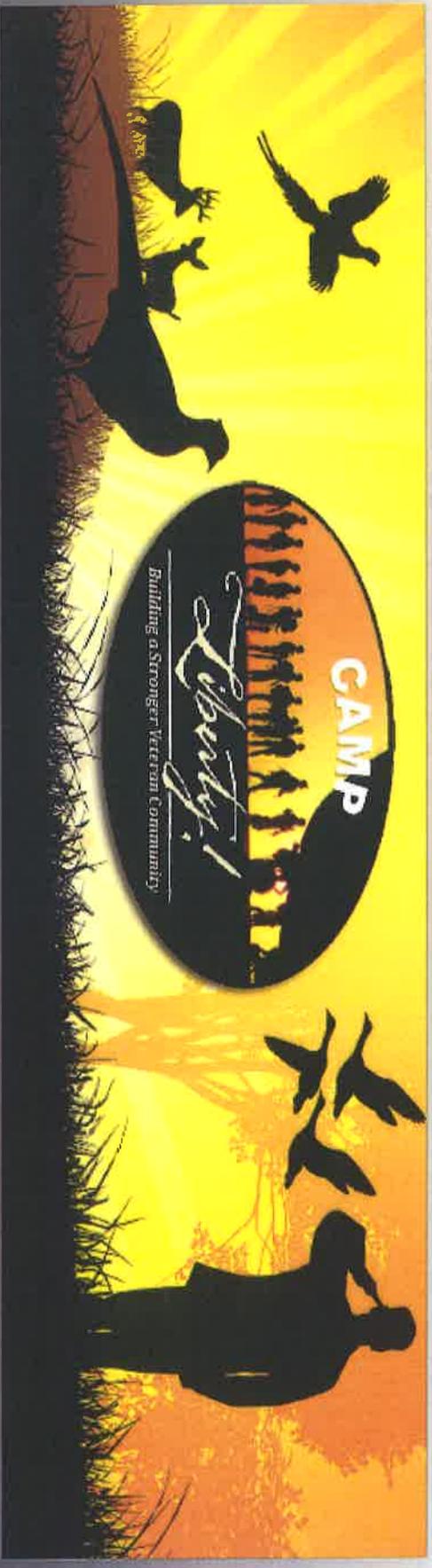


CAMP LIBERTY – THE RIGHT SUCCESS

- Successful acquisition of the property - \$400 K+ value
- Successful acquisition of five track chairs - \$70 K paid
- Successful implementation of a model conservation program - \$35 K+ paid
- Successful restoration of the bridge - \$180 K+ paid
- Successful funding for outdoor recreational and accessibility equipment - \$30 K received
- Successful start of an all-volunteer, nationally certified Search and Rescue Dog program

CAMP LIBERTY – THE NEXT SUCCESS

- Construction of the Program Center - 2015
- Implementation of increased programming out of the new indoor facility - 2015
- Phase Two Construction of over night accommodations in the Program Center for Veterans and family members -2016
- Total Program Center project value is \$400K with \$100K+ already raised
- Approximately 50% of labor and materials pledged



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CAMP LIBERTY AND
HELPING OUR INJURED AND DISABLED MILITARY
VETERANS AND OTHERS WITH HEALTH CHALLENGES