



Who We Are

True Friends is a nonprofit agency providing life-changing experiences that enhance independence and self-esteem for children and adults with disabilities. True Friends' programs include camp, respite, retreats, team building, therapy and adaptive riding, and travel; serving over 25,000 individuals annually. With locations near Maple Lake, Annandale, Eden Prairie and Bemidji, True Friends serves individuals in Minnesota and throughout the United States. **Our programming provides critically needed respite for our caregivers who continue to be in crisis due to the shortage of Professional Caregiver Support Professionals.**

Vision Statement

A world where experiences and adventures are open to individuals of all abilities.



Mission Statement

Provide life-changing experiences that enhance independence and self-esteem for children and adults with disabilities.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

True Friends strives each day to create a diversified, equitable, and inclusive environment. From the individuals and families we serve, to the guests we welcome, to those who carry out our mission, True Friends is committed to providing experiences where each individual belongs.

About True Friends

- Serve almost 6,000 individuals at Camp Courage
- Serve almost 25,000 annually at all locations and programs

Values

Empowerment, Experience, Integrity, Safety, Sustainability



“This is a great place,” Kari, a Camp Courage camper, said in a recommendation of True Friends. “This was my first time ever coming. I became a quad amputee last year, this place made me feel normal again. I was able to do every activity here. Never felt out of place.”

Bonding Request 2022

- True Friends is asking for \$10,000,000 million to build a new pool, two gyms, and a welcome center at Camp Courage. The project in total is \$20,000,000 million, True Friends is requesting 50% of the project cost.
- Phase I has been completed and funded by donors. In this phase, site plans and construction estimates have been determined. Environmental Phase I audit and site surveys are completed.
- Corrina Township has signed on to be our Public Entity (Fiscal Agent).



Bonding Preparation

- True Friends is using their land, therefore no land purchase is needed.
- Completed Capital Campaign Feasibility Study. Currently have identified up to \$4.14 million in philanthropy support.

The Need for Bonding Support

- The current pool, gym, and welcome center are over 50 years old and beyond repair.
- Existing systems such as water heaters and pool systems are outdated and inefficient.
- New pool will include modern splash pad features, zero-entry, and more.
- New gym will include 2 courts, stage for performing arts, and more.



This project is endorsed by

Camp Cambria
Foundation

Camp Sweet Life
Juvenile Diabetes Camp

U.S. Power
Soccer Association



“Camp Courage was built on the pretense of being a place that was made for us, and this place is still made for us,” said Billie, a long time Camp Courage Camper. “I used to tell my friends at school about it and I would say ‘It felt like a piece of heaven to me,’ a heaven in the sense that everyone is welcome, everyone is accepted, that is another thing that True Friends means to me, that’s the biggest thing that True Friends means to me, is overall you are accepted. Disability and all.”