



Youth Recreation Camps

Presentation to GOFERR Legislative Advisory Committee

June 17, 2020

Economic Impact of NH Camps

Data from American Camp Association 2016 Economic Impact Study

Licensed Youth Recreation Camps: 160

Full-Time Employed: 300

Seasonal Employed: 5,500

Payroll: \$32,210,000

Operating Expenses: \$88,210,000

Capital Expenses: \$17,250,000

Visitor Spending: \$7,560,000

Direct Contribution to NH Economy: \$113,030,000

Populations Served

Data from New Hampshire Camp Directors Association 2008 Economic Impact Study

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS served: 148,626

NH Program Participants: 66,712 (45%)

FAMILIES represented in camp population: 72,771

NH Families: 37,064 (51%)

Approximately 1 in 3 children in NH ages 5+ are served annually by a licensed Youth Recreation Camp

2020 State of NH Camps

As of June 14, 2020

DAY CAMPS

46% are closed – 35 camps remain hopeful to open

RESIDENT CAMPS

91% are closed – 9 camps remain hopeful to open

Camps that have not yet closed may yet due to the challenges presented by state guidelines for safe operation.

2020 Financial Impact

Survey of all Youth Recreation Camps
as of June 14, 2020 – 74 of 160 licensed camps responding

82% DROP IN GROSS REVENUE (estimated \$120M – \$150M)

Estimate an additional 6-10% unrealized 2021 revenue
from 2020 tuition deposits carried over to 2021

47% REDUCTION IN OPERATING EXPENSES

Camps cannot reduce expenses equivalent to lost revenue; decreasing part-time and seasonal payroll is one of the most substantial cost-saving measures available.

LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES TO RECOVER FROM 2020 LOST REVENUE

Camps typically do not collect tuition until spring before summer season; expenses (property taxes, full-time payroll, utilities, insurance, etc.) remain constant year-round

Camps Have Unique Needs

17% of surveyed camps reported **“likely” or “somewhat likely” to not re-open in 2021** without financial support.

In some cases, **operating under 2020 Covid-related guidelines** is more costly than not opening due to overall population limits, testing requirements, etc.

Preparing to meet guidelines in 2021 for a post-Covid environment will be costly – improved healthcare facilities, added sleeping quarters, cleaning and disinfecting supplies, added staff, etc.

The **typical financial cycle** for camps cannot survive a season of lost revenue – fall, winter, and spring expenses depend on summer income.

Camps are Essential

The need for the **social and emotional development** that camps provide is heightened after a lost summer and a year living with the impact of the Covid pandemic.

Camps deliver a **substantial community benefit**, teaching environmental education and stewardship, citizenship, self-reliance, independence, and character.

As NH emerges from this crisis, camps will play a critical role in **helping children successfully reintegrate into society.**

Funding that sustains camp through 2020 and 2021 will be **returned directly to the New Hampshire economy** in the form of normal operating expenses and necessary improvements in anticipation of post-Covid operation.

Thank You

Your support is appreciated.

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