



Press Release

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Camp Fire USA & Camp Wathana receive help from Masonry Union

Holly Michigan, Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council put a call out for help to repair a collapsing chimney in the largest lodge at Camp Wathana and the local Masonry Union Apprentice Program answered. Camp Wathana is Camp Fire USA's 250 acre youth camp located in Holly Michigan. Without the needed repairs, the Watona Lodge would be unusable to children in the upcoming overnight camping season.

The BAC Trowel Trades, Local #1 of Michigan International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers of Warren are set to come out to Camp Wathana on May 11th with 10 workers from their Masonry Apprentice Program to repair the collapsing chimney. Not only will they volunteer their time and talents to help the Camp Fire Kids, but they will donate all the needed supplies to the camp. Linda Tarjeft, Camp Fire USA's Executive Director says "Without this repair, we would not be able to use the lodge all summer with the kids. We are so thankful that the Masonry Union could spare the time to help us get the lodge back up and running for the kids." The estimated cost of the project is over \$12,000.00, which will all be covered by the Masonry Union. The Watona Lodge will be used to facilitate recreational programs for at-risk and under privileged kids this summer with the Summer Resident Camp Program. The valuable volunteer hours put in will benefit the youth in Southeast Michigan and make Camp Wathana a more beautiful place for kids and families.

Camp Wathana has been running programs since 1926, this year we served over 600 youth in the programs and activities. Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council has been serving the Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio with youth development programs since 1910. They build caring, confident youth and future leaders. Today, they service youth through Traditional Club Programs, Pre-School Reading Program, Self-Reliance Classes, Summer Camp and their new Before and Afterschool Childcare Program. If you would like more information on how to support Camp Fire USA programs, please contact Camp Fire USA at 1-800-860-5840 or visit their website at www.campfiresem.org.

Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council has been providing youth development services in Southeast Michigan since 1910. Camp Fire USA is all-inclusive, welcoming children, youth and adults regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic, disability, sexual orientation, or other aspects of diversity.

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