

Greetings from Hoosier Burn Camp!

Thank you in advance for your interest. We have just sent applications to many deserving young burn survivors this year and look forward to host 70-85 campers. We have grown by roughly 10 campers each year, and invite you to apply for this life-enriching experience. 2008 will mark the 10th year of swimming, sliding down the dual 100 foot-long Black Holes, archery, riding horses, fire truck and hay rides, fishing, climbing on a 50 foot tower, canoeing, paddle boating, crafts, and campfires to name just a few of the activities they will have to choose from.

Hoosier Burn camp campers can take craft projects like basket making where they learn to cut reed to a proper size, soak and dye it to their favorite colors, and shape it into something they will amaze their families with and feel proud about. Guitar is also popular as the older campers learn how to play, and at the end of the week get the opportunity to perform in front of the rest of camp. Photography has been a big hit as we introduced a professional photographer to work with select campers each day, teaching them the proper skills of photo taking, and then developing their film in a dark room or computer. Not only are these activities fun, but they build confidence, stimulate listening and observational skills, and assists them in developing talents they can exonerate on back at home.

We have been blessed with a caring and dedicated staff, and many of them have been on board from the first year. Time and time again, our staff comments on how they planned to experience Hoosier Burn Camp for one year...but *they* grew so much from the experience they just keep coming back. The blend of experienced and fresh faces complement each other as the relationship development is fostered and enhanced each passing year.

Dates of importance are the spring orientation, March 29th – 30th at Tecumseh's Leadership Center, and camp dates for staff are May 24th – 30th (campers departing at 11:00 am). The first weekend is approximately from 10:00 am Saturday, March 29th to 10:00 am Sunday, March 30th. This weekend in conjunction with May 24th – 25th is orientation time as we grow together as a staff and learn how to best serve adolescent burn survivors.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon (**Due March 21st**),

Mark J. Koopman
Executive Director, Hoosier Burn Camp, Inc.