



GLEN BERNARD CAMP

CAMP: 2066 SOUTH LAKE BERNARD RD., SUNDRIDGE, ON POA 1Z0

TORONTO: 206 LORD SEATON RD., TORONTO, ON M2P 1K9

Shine the Light Fundraising Campaign (Commenced December 20, 2016)

As many of you may already know, last summer GBC celebrated its 95th season by sponsoring 25 Syrian newcomer girls to attend camp. This didn't happen through a simple decision to do so. It happened through considered and insightful steps taken by Joc (in consultation with various organizations, spouses, parents and campers) to ensure the program's success.

This past October, my dear friend Alison Hill, who I met at camp over 30 years ago (yikes!), visited me in Toronto to attend GBC's 95th anniversary reunion. We hadn't seen each other in a long time, but as fellow campers will understand: time and years don't matter. Our shared camping days made it seem like we had seen each other just yesterday.

During a visit with Joc Palm on the evening before the official reunion, we learned more about the Syrian girls' experience at camp. To hear about Joc's commitment and the girls' experience was very moving. At a time when so much seems confounding about our world, it was truly an evening of optimism and hope. And so Alison and I committed that night to do more; to fundraise the amounts necessary to ensure that these same 25 girls would have the opportunity to go to camp again this summer. We have chosen to name this campaign "Shine the Light" in honour of the obvious metaphor, but also in honour of the glorious flashlight that leads (or led) us through our darkened nights at camp.

Click [here](#) to read a National Post Article about last summer's adventure.

We realize that, for financial reasons, many Canadian children do not have an opportunity to go to camp. GBC has a longstanding history of providing financial support to all types of campers and there are many wonderful charities that do the same. We are mindful of this and so if you prefer to donate to one of these registered charities, for which you will receive a tax receipt, please do so (i.e. Kids in Camp). However, for the purposes of this request, we have chosen to focus on providing financial support for the Syrian girls to help them adjust to their newly adopted homeland.



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Our goal is to raise \$82,500 which amounts to \$3,300 per girl. We are looking for individuals who are willing to sponsor one girl by contributing this amount. We have kickstarted the campaign by each contributing this amount. We need 23 more people to contribute this amount to reach our goal. We certainly understand if you aren't able to commit to this amount in full. But perhaps you might become a leader by agreeing to organize a group of people who together are able to raise this amount. If you are not able to do that, please understand that we welcome and appreciate every individual amount no matter how big or small.

We are confident that we will reach our goal. Why are we confident? For one reason -- we know campers and those who love camp. They are compassionate, caring and generous people who understand what camp can do: empower girls; transcend boundaries; foster independence and erase differences.

Please join us as we embark on a voyage to "Shine the Light". A voyage to demonstrate that at a time when many seek to divide, we understand and want to join in a cause reflective of our belief that we are all truly one.

With much appreciation,



Janice Wright & Alison Hill

P.S. Follow the progress of Shine the Light by clicking [here](#) or visit www.gbcamp.com/progsacts/GlenBernardforSyria.php