



CAMP SLOANE YMCA

124 Indian Mountain Road, Lakeville, CT 06039

Phone: (860) 435-2557 Fax: (860) 435-2599

Email: info@campsloane.org

Website: www.campsloane.org



Dear Friends,

With our station wagon packed with trunks and sleeping bags, my mother would drive my two sisters and me to Camp Sloane every summer. I will never forget the feeling of driving between the stone pillars onto the driveway and taking in my first glimpses of camp's natural beauty. My butterflies were from pure excitement of meeting my counselor and campers in my tent. With the windows open, I would breathe in what I would come to know as "Camp Sloane Air" which is the perfect blend of trees, pine, and freshly cut grass. It was a day I looked forward to each year, and I was fortunate to experience 11 consecutive "first days" at Sloane. It is because of those days and the hundreds that followed that I have remained passionate about providing that same opportunity to children today.

Our family was introduced to Camp Sloane by a teacher, Julie Madison Jacoby, who lived on campus at my stepfather's school. Julie was the Girls Camp Director, and she was also the first person I called when I became Interim CEO because she opened a new world for my sisters and me. From that one recommendation in 1977 the ripple effect took off: Our sister, Martie, worked here leading a village (section back then) followed by friends, nieces, and my nephew. That's what happens when you come to Sloane, you want the people you love to experience it, too.

To this day, my sisters and I enjoy close friendships with people we met here. From life events to simple gatherings, we have maintained these camp friendships for nearly 50 years. The bond, laughter, and shared experience that brought us together never fade. These friends knew us as children and young adults, accepting us as we were and who we were becoming. That acceptance felt priceless at the time and still does. As three biracial girls from a small town in New Jersey, Camp Sloane was the place where whatever your background was you were welcomed with a smile, and it was your home for the summer. My story of having Sloane as a definitive and formative part of my life is not unique because I continue to meet people who share their compelling stories of how Sloane has impacted their lives or their children's lives.

With only days until our first campers arrive, I ask that you please join me in supporting Camp Sloane with a gift today for our [Annual Campaign's Spring Appeal](#). Your generosity will directly ensure that we can offer a summer of fun, friendship, and growth to every child who wants to experience the excitement of their first day at, or back at, Sloane and all the days that follow. In addition to supporting needed financial assistance to campers this year, your gift also helps us provide a summer filled with the highest quality programming that all children deserve. To give the gift of camp today, please visit us [here](#). Thank you for believing in Camp Sloane so we can create new memories of a lifetime for every camper. We wish you a wonderful summer!

Warmest regards,

Gina Lucas, Interim CEO

