

Be a part of the adventure!

About HHRC

In 1990, the South Central Ohio District Church of the Nazarene felt called to move from urban Columbus to the natural beauty of Hocking Hills. This wasn't just a relocation—it was a mission to create a sacred space where future generations could encounter God.

Today, the Hocking Hills Retreat Center (HHRC) includes a large meeting area, office, ten rental cabins, and other facilities. These have already served many individuals, families, and church groups.

But we believe there is more ahead.

We are now stepping into the next phase of our vision!



Scan to learn more.





#1

Expansion Project

Dining Facility -

\$4.3 M

A new lodge-style dining facility will become the heart of HHRC. This will enable us to host larger events and offer year-round programming.



An aerial photograph showing a campsite expansion project. In the upper left, there are four completed lodge-style cabins with green roofs and wooden frames, arranged around a gravel clearing. Several vehicles, including a white van and a dark car, are parked nearby. To the right of the cabins, there are four rectangular concrete foundations for new structures, arranged in a row. The site is surrounded by a dense forest of green trees. A white circular graphic with the number '#2' is in the top right corner.

#2

Expansion Project

**4 Additional Cabins -
\$250,000**

We recently completed four lodge-style cabins and a shower house, adding space for 80 campers. Construction is underway on four more cabins and another shower house, doubling our capacity.



Expansion Project

**The Lake -
\$500,000**

A scenic lake will provide for swimming, fishing, outdoor learning, and reflection. Visible from the dining facility, it will be a centerpiece for connection and activity.



An illustration of a suspension bridge with wooden planks and thick orange ropes. A person in a red shirt and yellow backpack is walking across the bridge. The bridge is set against a backdrop of a blue lake and green trees. In the foreground, there are wooden structures, possibly part of a building or another bridge section.

#4

Expansion Project

**Adventure Course -
\$200,000**

Positioned above the lake with a zip-line over the water, the adventure course will offer challenges that build trust, confidence, and spiritual growth. It will also serve as an eco-tourism attraction and revenue source.



NOW IS THE TIME!

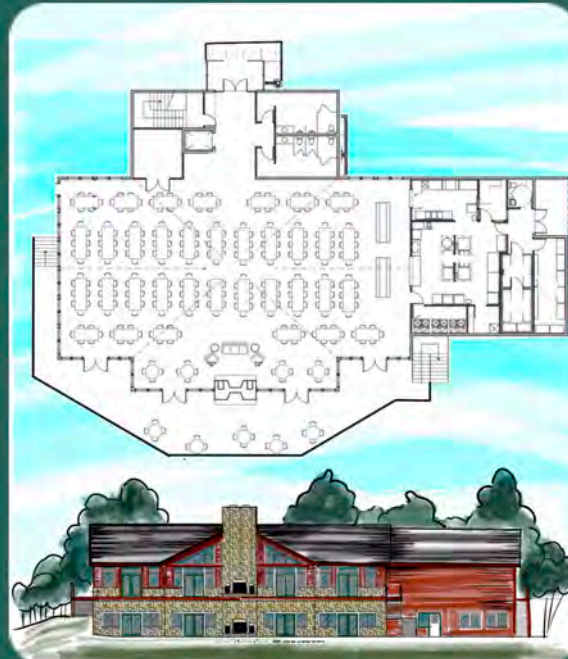
For many years, South Central Ohio Nazarenes have valued our Nazarene campground. Our heritage is ingrained with meaningful experiences from camp meetings, summer camps, retreats and more. In 1990 God providentially led SCO to relocate from an urban area of Columbus to a stunning piece of property in Hocking Hills. This move provided us with an opportunity to create a sacred place for new generations to have meaningful encounters with God. Until now we have only realized a small part of the vision that our predecessors dreamed of, but now is the time to see the dream become a reality.

LODGE-STYLE DINING FACILITY: \$4.3M

The next phase that we believe God is asking us to pursue includes a state-of-the-art lodge-style dining facility. This facility will enhance the opportunities and desirability for the camp to be host events for various groups, creating an all-inclusive camping and event experience. This facility can set HHRC apart from other camps in the area, making it a sought-after destination for many events and experiences.



- Size: 14,300 square feet
- Fully functioning commercial kitchen
- Seating capacity of up to 338 on the main floor
- Two levels with an entry on the main level
- Indoor and outdoor fireplaces on both levels
- Wrap-around deck with stunning views on the main level
- Large windows with a 180-degree view of the surroundings
- Vaulted lodge-style ceiling with large beams
- Lower-level patio and gathering space
- Four larger meeting spaces on the lower level
- Dining room with state-of-the-art audio/video & lighting capabilities
- Elevator for accessibility
- Snack/Concessions/Game Room on the lower level



THE LAKE: \$.5M

Our Lake will provide a multitude of opportunities and experiences for campers. It will feature a beach for swimming, fishing, water recreation, sports and outdoor education. The tranquility of a sunrise or sunset over the water will be a great place to encounter God in His creation and afford opportunities to reflect on His Word and hear His voice. The lake will be centrally located near the stream and easily viewed from the dining facility.

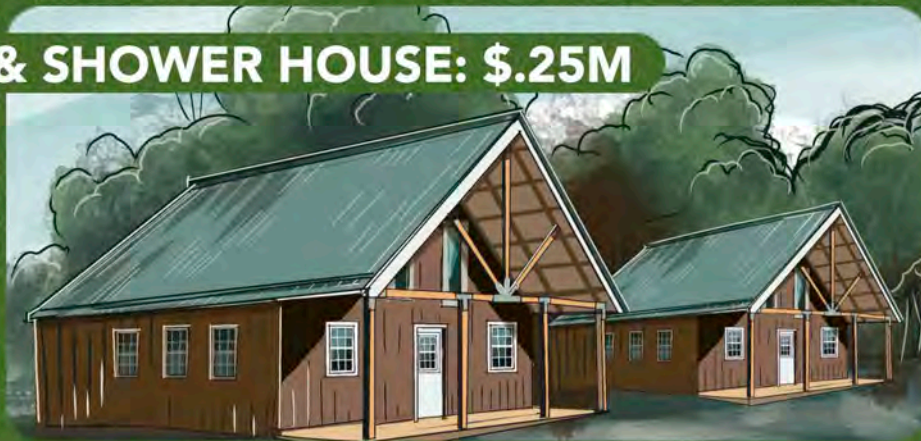
ADVENTURE COURSE: \$.2M

Our Adventure Course will offer a unique blend of physical challenge, personal growth, and team-building opportunities for groups and individuals. Adventure courses foster trust, communication, and resilience, and provide opportunities to confront our limitations and grow in ways we never thought possible. It will be constructed above and near the lake and will include a zip line that connects to the lake.



4 MORE CABINS & SHOWER HOUSE: \$.25M

In April 2025 we completed 4 lodge-style cabins and a shower house adding accommodations for about 80 more campers. We also began construction on 4 more cabins and another shower house to double the number of campers. These cabins provide a rustic, yet comfortable camping experience.



WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Young people are leaving the church in masses. God has given us a unique resource to combat this exodus. With the magnificent backdrop of His creation, quality camp facilities, and intentional programming, we will provide a sacred place for the next generation to encounter the living God, mature their faith, and hear God's call for them to change the world and build His Kingdom.

MORE TO COME:

We believe that to complete our vision of a world-class camp, there is much more to come. Our master plan includes 4 stunning lodges which each include a meeting space and kitchen to accommodate another 200 campers. More activities like horseback trail rides, paintball, go-kart track, tubing hill, archery, and a shooting range. Add to these miles of trails to explore, an amphitheater, and outdoor chapels and we are getting close to the vision God has entrusted to us.

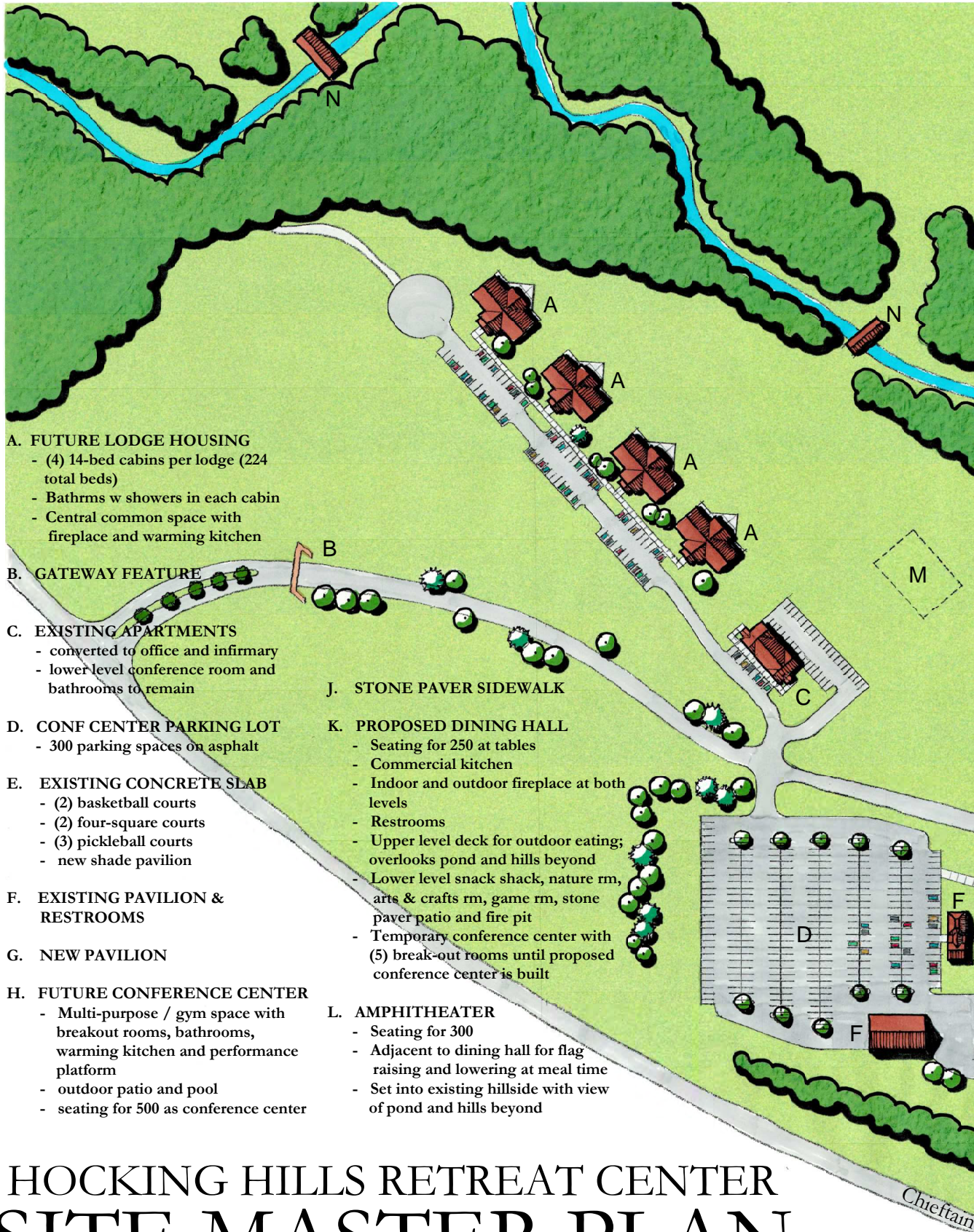
HOW YOU CAN HELP:

PRAY RELENTLESSLY

GIVE SACRIFICIALLY



CONTACT US AT [RPAUGH@SHEPNAZ.ORG](mailto:rpaugh@shepnaaz.org)



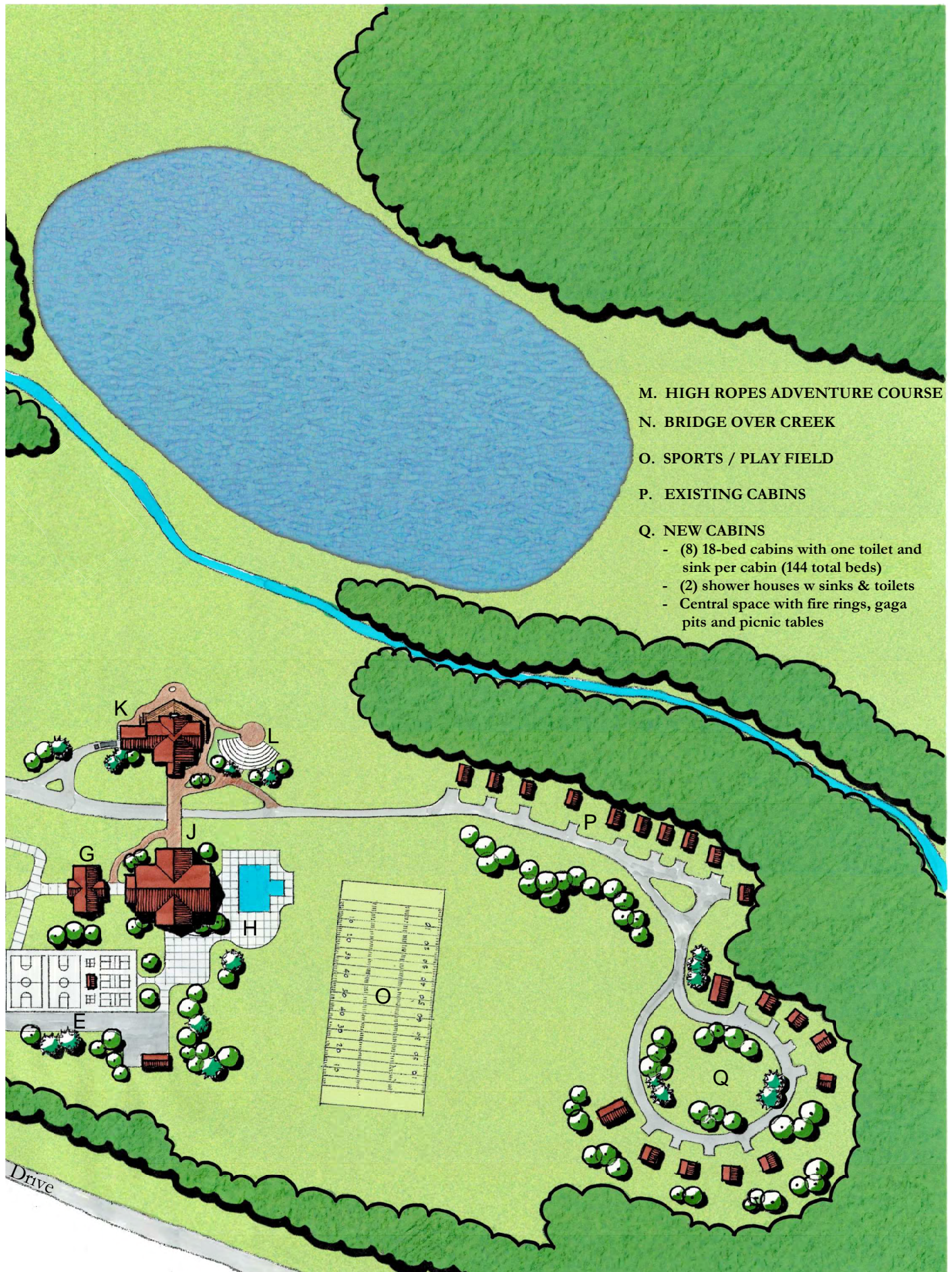
HOCKING HILLS RETREAT CENTER SITE MASTER PLAN

0 100 200



VPL ARCHITECTS, INC.

4-28-25



M. HIGH ROPES ADVENTURE COURSE

N. BRIDGE OVER CREEK

O. SPORTS / PLAY FIELD

P. EXISTING CABINS

Q. NEW CABINS

- (8) 18-bed cabins with one toilet and sink per cabin (144 total beds)
- (2) shower houses w sinks & toilets
- Central space with fire rings, gaga pits and picnic tables

Next Building: Lodge-Style Dining Hall



Size: 14,300 square feet

Fully functioning commercial kitchen

Seating capacity of up to 338 on the main floor

Two levels with an entry on the main level

Indoor and outdoor fireplaces on both levels

Wrap-around deck with stunning views on the main level

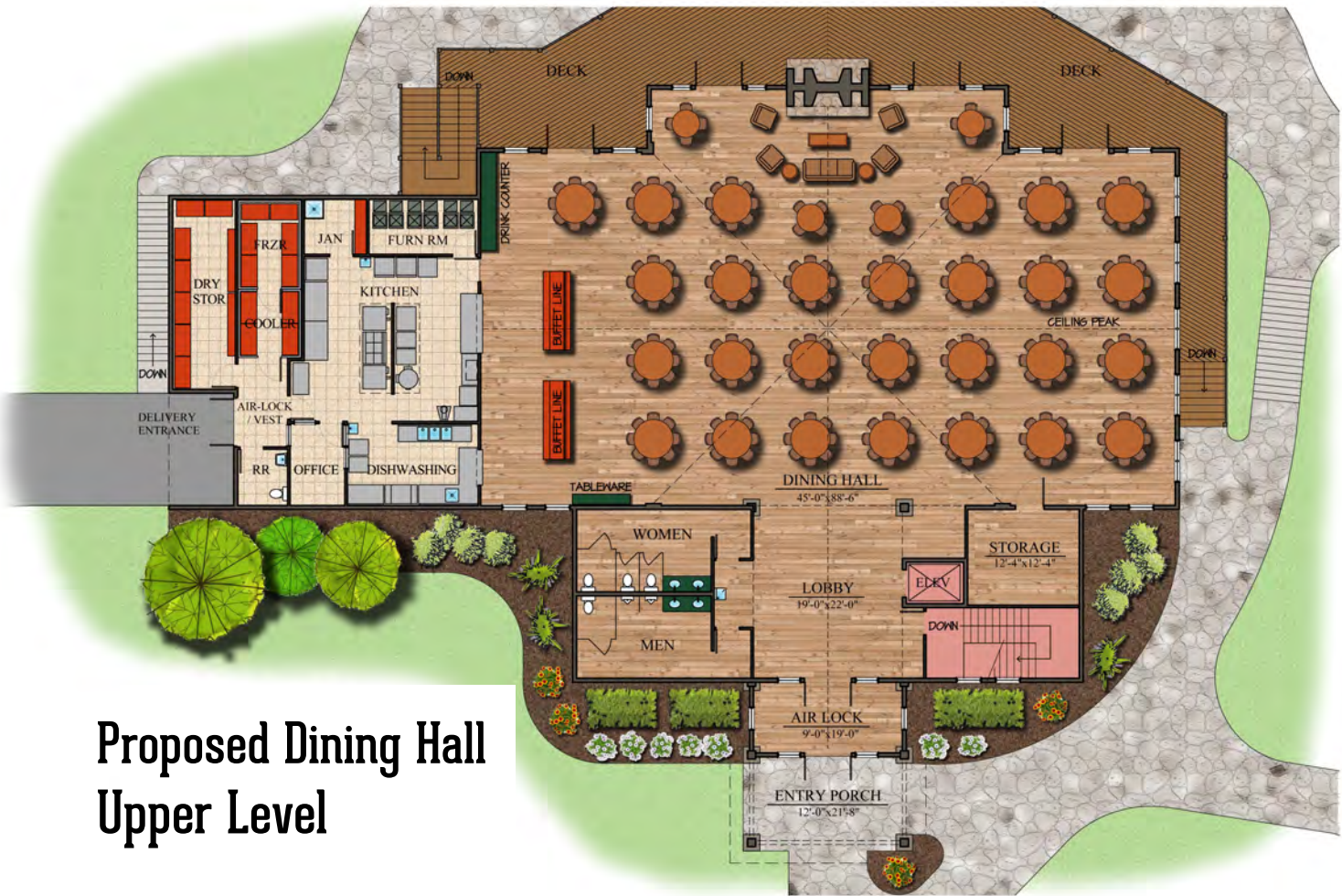
Large windows with a 180-degree view of the surroundings

Vaulted lodge-style ceiling with large beams

Lower-level patio and gathering space

Four larger meeting spaces on the lower level

Dining room with state-of-the-art audio/video & lighting capabilities



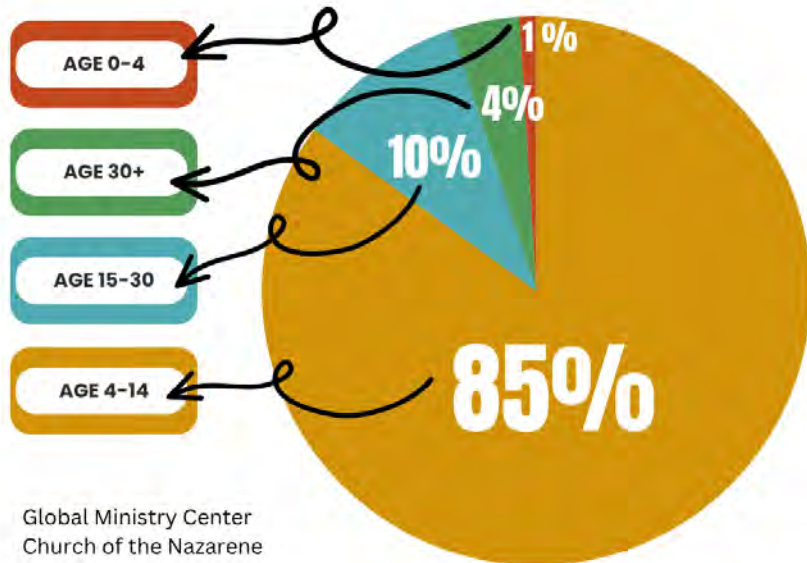
Proposed Dining Hall
Upper Level



Proposed Dining Hall
Basement Level

Why does this matter?

Age People
First Come
to Jesus.



Survey says:

International Bible Society

According to a survey cited by the International Bible Society, 83% of Christians make their first commitment to Jesus between the ages of 4 and 14, during childhood or early adolescence.

Barna Research Group - Children (Ages 5-13)

Research by the Barna Group shows that American children between the ages of 5 and 13 have a 32% likelihood of accepting Christ.

Barna Research Group - Youth and Adults (Ages 14 and Older)

The same research indicates that the probability of becoming a Christian drops to 14% for youth aged 14 to 18, and falls further to just 6% for adults aged 19 and older.

Why Camp?

Let's break it down:

Perfect Church Attendance:

Per Week:

→ 2 hours of spiritual investment

Per Month:

→ 8 hours of spiritual investment

Per Year:

→ 104 hours of spiritual investment

VS

One Week of Camp:

7 Days. 24/7 Focus.

→ 168 hours of concentrated spiritual investment

The Difference:

1 year of church = 104 hours

1 week of camp = 168 hours

More in 1 week than in an entire year.

What
excites you
about HHRC?





**\$5.25
Million**

NUMBER OF GIFTS	GIFT AMOUNT	AMOUNT FROM LEVEL	CUMULATIVE AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	19%
2	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	38%
3	\$250,000	\$750,000	\$2,750,000	52%
6	\$100, 000	\$600,000	\$3,350,000	64%
12	\$50,000	\$600,000	\$3,950,000	75%
20	\$25,000	\$500,000	\$4,450,000	85%
30	\$10,000	\$300,000	\$4,750,000	90%
50	\$5,000	\$250,000	\$5,000,000	95%
many	<\$5,000	\$250,000+	\$5,250,000+	100%



**How can you
help?**

There are so many ways.



Endowments:
Legacy Giving

Trusts & Gift
Annuities:
Enhance Your
Income

Estate Plans:
Bequest Gifts

Property Gifts:
Bypass Capital
Gains Taxes

Donor-Advised
Funds:
Giving Funds

Qualified
Charitable
Distributions:
from your IRA

Endowments

Legacy Giving

Trusts & Gift Annuities

Enhance Your Income

Estate Plans

Bequest Gifts

You can start a legacy gift by creating an endowment that will continue to support the work of HHRC in perpetuity. You can leave a lasting legacy of spiritual impact by creating an endowment with a current gift or through your estate plan. In particular, you can give children & teens the gift of a future by helping provide a place where lifelong spiritual decisions are made.

One benefit of a Charitable Remainder Trust or Charitable Gift Annuity is receiving income from the gift. Usually, the income received is substantially greater than the income being received before the gift. In the case of the Charitable Gift Annuity, the income is guaranteed for life and based on your age.

One of the simplest ways to give is a bequest provision in your estate plan documents. Your bequests can be for a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate (a 10% tithe, for example) or the remainder of your estate after you have provided for others.





The sale of stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate, or business interests that have appreciated in value generate hefty capital gains taxes. Your gift of these holdings would avoid these taxes, and you would receive a charitable income tax deduction equal to the fair market value. Appreciated property gifts can be made directly or as a deferred gift, such as a Charitable Remainder Trust or Life Estate Agreement.

The fastest growing from of charitable giving is the Donor-Advised Fund (DAF). With a DAF, you make the initial gift of property or cash and receive a tax deduction for the full value of your gift. Your gift is then held and invested until you recommend distribution at a future time.

QCDs let you give directly from your IRA without increasing taxable income. QCDs can support HHRC fund endowments, provide immediate gifts, or go to a Charitable Gift Annuity. For those 73 and up, QCDs can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution—an especially useful option if you no longer itemize.

Property Gifts

Bypass Capital Gains Taxes

Donor Advised Funds

Giving Funds

Qualified Charitable Contributions [QDCs]

Contribute from your IRA

The Impact of your gift.

Our responsibility is to the next generation.

“A legacy is not defined by what you do for yourself,
but what you do for others.”



When We Look With Eyes Of Faith, We See . . .

The land in Hocking Hills that God has entrusted us is a sacred place. We call it The Hocking Hills, but they are really hallowed hills. I believe it is place where people can and will come and encounter the power and presence of God in nature.

As a board, we envision this place as more than just a space for Nazarene's from SCO to gather a few times a year. We envision this camp to be used 365 days a year. We envision it as a resource for the Church of the Nazarene and the Church to further the Kingdom of God by providing space and facilities for people to encounter God through nature, creative programming, and Christ-like service. We pray that people will encounter God's presence and be saved, healed, restored, set free, delivered, and called into a lifetime of ministry service.

During the summer months, we envision every week of summer filled with camps. We see our own Nazarene children and teenagers experiencing fun, building life-long relationships, growing in their faith and encountering God in His creation.

We envision kids who aren't Nazarene and who don't know God coming to this place from all over the country seeking to have the best week of their life and in the process finding the God who loves them and created them with purpose and meaning.

We envision camp meeting services where God moves and stirs revival in our local churches. We envision weekend retreats for men's groups, women's groups, children and teen groups. We see marriage conferences, concerts, weddings, family reunions and community events filling the calendar.

We envision this camp to be used by the Church, community groups, schools, universities, sports organizations and businesses. We believe that the Hocking Hills Retreat Center will be a witness to the creative power of God and the redemptive work He can do in the lives of everyone who walks the hallowed hills of our camp.

It seems the Lord is saying that now is the time. We have an opportunity to do something for the next generation that we've never had before. Someone once said, "The most important business of one generation is the raising of the next. Nothing else you do will be as deeply satisfying."

We have an opportunity right now to leave a legacy. A legacy is not defined by what we do for ourselves, a legacy is defined by what we do for others.

God has made it clear. Our responsibility is to the next generation.

Psalms 78:4 and 6

We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about His power and His mighty wonders . . . so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children.

We are excited about the resources that God has entrusted to the South Central Ohio District Church of the Nazarene, and we are grateful for the opportunity to be the ones who can participate in leaving this legacy of faith! We can't wait to see what God does. Will you join us by prayerfully considering how you can make this dream a reality by partnering with us financially? Our goal is \$5,250,000.

Together, with God's help, we can make the dream a reality!

Rob Paugh

HHRC Development Director



INTENT TO GIVE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

I/We plan to fulfill this commitment:

- ☐ I/We commit to pray regularly for the development and ministry of HHRC
- ☐ As God enables, I/We commit to the Hocking Hills Retreat Center Campaign a gift totaling \$_____ to be completed by _____ (date, up to 3 years)
- ☐ Check
- ☐ ACH
- ☐ STOCK
- ☐ I am interested in a gift connected to a naming opportunity
- ☐ Other: _____

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

I would also recommend that you connect with the following people about the HHRC Vision.

Mailing Address:

SCO District Church of the
Nazarene
PO Box 279
Grove City, Ohio
43123

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

PRAY RELENTLESSLY

GIVE SACRIFICIALLY



CONTACT US AT [RPAUGH@SHEPNAZ.ORG](mailto:rpaugh@shepnaz.org)

The background of the entire page is a composite image. The top half shows a dark blue night sky filled with numerous stars of varying brightness. The bottom half shows a landscape at night, featuring a grassy hill in the foreground and a dense forest of trees in the middle ground. In the center of the forest, a bright campfire is burning, with its light reflecting on the surrounding foliage and illuminating the scene.

DONOR RECOGNITION

The HHRC Board recognizes that it will take many people and gifts of many sizes to make our dream a reality. One of the things we are working on is a way to honor the gifts and sacrifice of those who give to make our dream a reality. While we have yet to determine the exact method or way that we will honor significant gifts, please know that it is a priority for the HHRC Board to properly recognize those who give significant gifts.

NAMING RIGHTS

In every project of this magnitude there are some who feel called to give significant gifts. The HHRC Board has made the decision to allow donors the opportunity to obtain naming rights of buildings and some features of the camp.

CAMP QUOTES

Leaders:

Charles William Eliot, Former President of Harvard University: "I have a conviction that a few weeks spent in a well-organized summer camp may be of more value educationally than a whole year of formal school work."

Lorena Meddoza, New Pathways: "If the church stops doing camps, years from now the church will not have young leaders to continue the work of the Kingdom in our church and society."

Miriam Ankerbrand, Coordinator at Joy El Camps & Retreats: "One of my best memories as a teen was going with my church to a nearby camp for a Christian retreat weekend. The teachings learned over that weekend have resonated in my mind to this day almost 40 years later!... In the midst of enjoying His creation, it's so much easier to sense God's presence with you and spend time with Him in prayer."

Campers:

"Before I came to camp, I was that rebellious teenager that they described partying, drinking, and involved in drugs. I didn't even want to come, but my mom made me. But now, I'm so glad I did. It changed my life!"

-High School Camper

"This camp was the most amazing experience of my life. For the first time, the Holy Spirit touched my heart. It was incredible and it happened because of the love at this camp."

-High School Camper

"Camp is my favorite place on earth. This week I learned that God forgives."

-Junior High Camper

"Before coming to camp, I thought that no one loved me. This week at camp changed everything! I was shown that God loves me very much and that I matter!"

-Elementary Camper

"I was raised to have a relationship with Jesus, but it was never really MY relationship with Jesus until this summer... I grew a true and personal relationship with Jesus that I had never developed before, through the help of camp counselors, directors, and fellow campers."

-High School Camper

Parents:

"My kids started to initiate prayer on their own after going to camp. They also seem to have sparked an interest in God and church as they have been very inquisitive ever since attending camp."

-Camp Parent

Research:

The National Study on Youth and Religion was a study of 3,370 teenagers, with three surveys over 6 years. They found that 80% of teens who were religious and attended religious camp were still religious 6 years later. Only 56% of those who were religious and did not participate in camp were still religious 6 years later. Attending a religious summer camp increased the likelihood of remaining religious by 24%.

The Effective Camp Project was a study of over 1000 campers from six different camps. They found some benefits of a Christian camp experience . . . including increased participatory learning and cognitive faith knowledge (aka Bible Facts). They also found long-term benefits of increased self-confidence, increased church attendance and increased devotional practices. The project summarized their results like this. "Young people are participating more deeply in their faith months after camp is over . . . they have gained . . . a desire to be in Christian community, a hunger to learn more, and the assurance that faith makes a difference in their lives."