

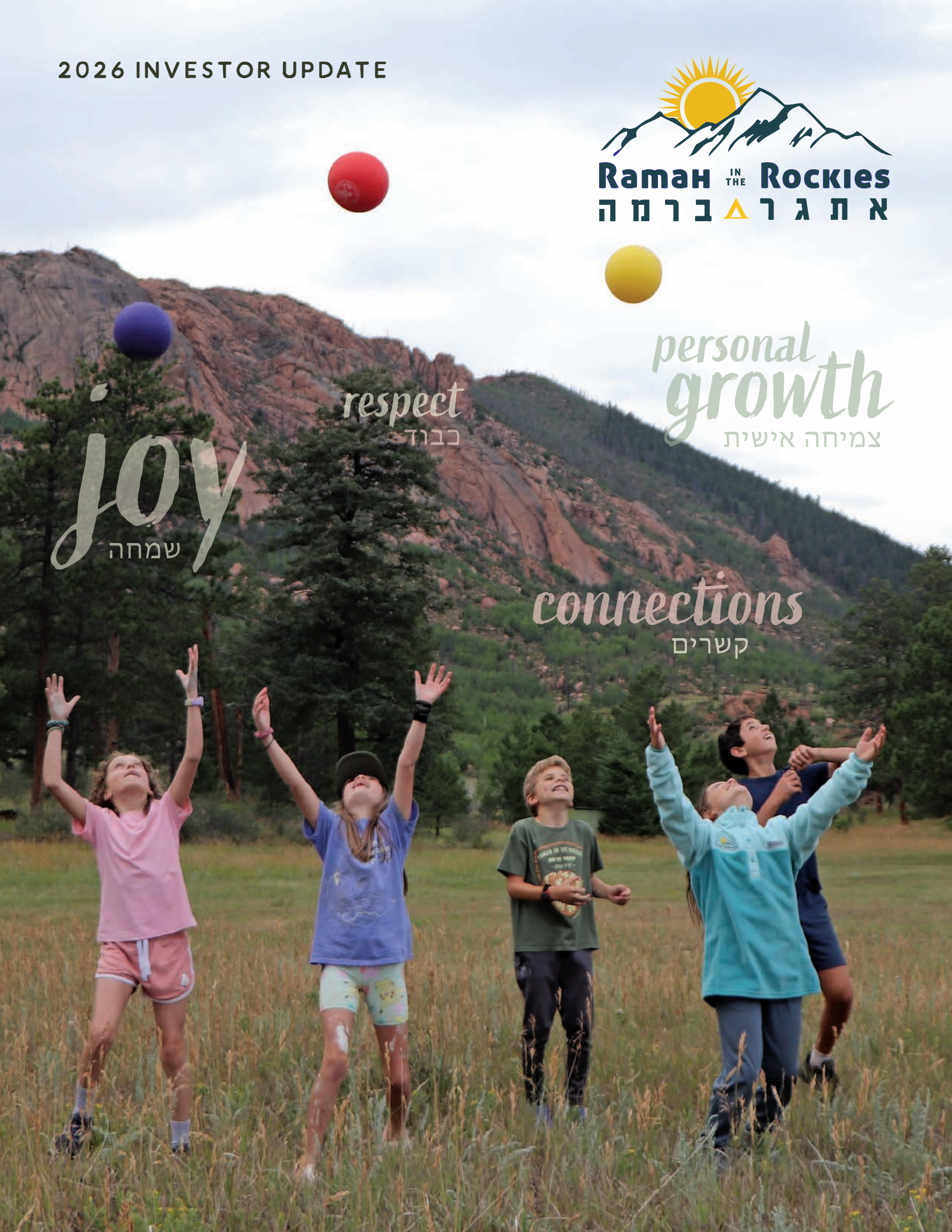


joy
שמחה

respect
כבוד

*personal
growth*
צמיחה אישית

connections
קשרים





Mission

Ramah in the Rockies empowers campers and staff with transformative nature-based experiences that build confidence and inspire spiritual, physical, and social-emotional growth. We foster belonging today and a resilient and vibrant Jewish community for tomorrow.

Values: The Pillars of Our Mission

These values don't stay on the chava (ranch).
They shape who our campers and staff become.



Our campers and staff experience authentic joyful Judaism every day through friendship, teamwork, learning and the *simcha* of being part of a vibrant Jewish community.

personal growth

צמיחה אישית



We believe in "Challenge by Choice," and give our campers the opportunity and encouragement to challenge themselves physically, intellectually, socially, emotionally, and spiritually.

We seek to strengthen our relationship with God, create an enduring love of the State of Israel and the broader Jewish people, and become worthy caretakers of the natural world around us.



קשרים

connections



כבוד respect

We cultivate a culture of self-respect, inclusion and acceptance. Our staff and campers learn that we can only function as a true community when we show *kavod* to others, to the environment and to ourselves.





A Note from Rabbi Eliav Bock

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As the group of middle school campers biked into camp on *erev shabbat*, I could feel their excitement from finishing a challenging four-day route. One in particular was beaming, talking about how much stronger and more capable he felt than when he left camp only a few days earlier. Before leaving camp, he was unsure whether he was strong enough and feared holding everyone back. It was his counselor who sat with this camper and told him that he understood: when he was in middle school, he too was not sure whether he could complete this same *masa* (backcountry excursion). Later, the counselor shared how meaningful it was to be able to support a camper through something that had once felt so challenging and so formative for him too.

That's what camp looks like at its best. It's not just about the activity. It's about the relationships, the encouragement, and the sense of community that give kids the confidence to push themselves and discover what they're capable of achieving.

Your partnership makes it possible to create a place where this kind of growth happens and ensures that more young people have access to an experience that can shape the course of their lives.

As we look ahead, we feel both grateful for what we've built together and excited about what's still to come.

Thank you for being part of it.



2026

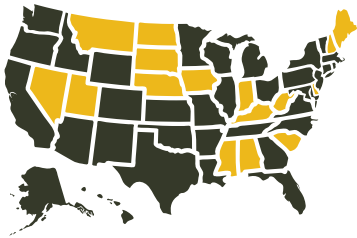
By the Numbers

470+

campers served

200+

staff working at camp



US campers come from 32 states, Puerto Rico, and DC



Campers and staff spend **3,800+ nights sleeping in tents**



34 shlichim
(Israeli emissaries)
joining our community

91

first-time campers to Jewish camp

212

campers and staff returning for 5+ summers

60,000+

60,000+ meals will be served

\$65,000

annual cost of operating clean water and wastewater treatment systems annually

Operating Budget

EXPENSES

\$3,075,000



- Site & insurance: \$835,000
- Summer program & salaries: \$1,174,000
- Year-round expenses: \$1,066,000

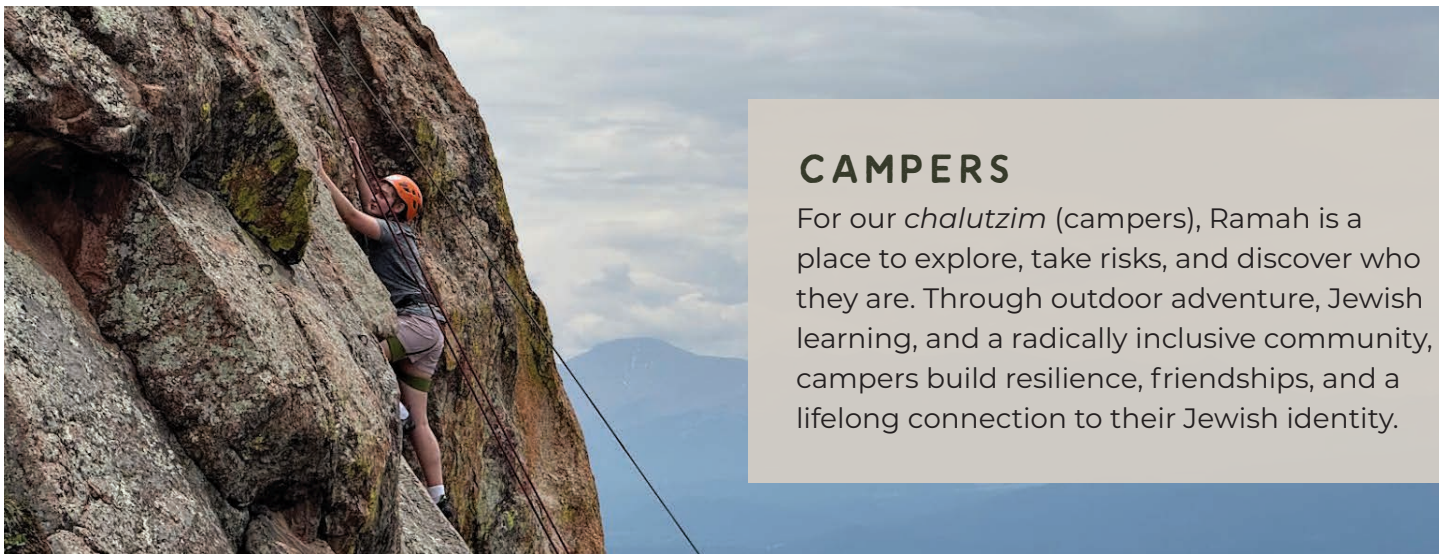
INCOME



- Camper tuition & miscellaneous income: \$2,230,755
- Annual fundraising needed to run camp: \$844,245 (includes scholarship dollars, routine maintenance and annual capital expenses)

*Our strategic plan guides how we will continue turning joyful Jewish living into lifelong leadership, growth, and connection. **By 2027 we will:***

PROGRAMS	FACILITIES	CAMPERS	STAFF
 Transform the camp community into a living laboratory for environmental learning and practice.	 Identify and prioritize capital projects for the next five years that enable continued growth and excellence in programming.	 Achieve 85% retention of four-week campers	 Develop leadership opportunities and incentives to retain staff year-to-year.
 Introduce new excursions to provide new challenges and learning opportunities for returning campers.	 Strengthen the ranch to withstand climate change and related environmental risks.	 Grow year-to-year progression of campers from two-week to four-week sessions.	 Empower returning staff to guide, mentor, and lead new staff.
 Develop resources that balance consistency in programming with flexibility for staff to innovate and adapt to community needs.	 Launch a public dashboard tracking energy, water, and waste to educate our community and reduce consumption.	 Expand financial aid for middle-income families to increase accessibility and serve more campers each summer.	 Support staff in setting meaningful goals and applying their learning beyond camp.



CAMPERS

For our *chalutzim* (campers), Ramah is a place to explore, take risks, and discover who they are. Through outdoor adventure, Jewish learning, and a radically inclusive community, campers build resilience, friendships, and a lifelong connection to their Jewish identity.

Two Programs, One Shared Mission

At Ramah in the Rockies, we run two interconnected programs — each a core part of our mission.



STAFF

For our college-age *tzevet* (staff), camp is both a leadership laboratory and a formative Jewish experience. Staff members serve as mentors, educators, and role models for our *chalutzim* while also developing the skills and confidence that shape their paths. They return to their campuses and communities in the United States and Israel with a deeper sense of purpose, a stronger connection to Jewish life, and the tools to be leaders.



Together, these two programs create a cycle where yesterday's campers become today's leaders, and today's leaders shape the next generation.

Thank You

CAMPER TUITION COVERS ONLY 75% OF OPERATING EXPENSES



We rely on your gifts of all sizes to sustain the magic of camp for years to come. We especially want to celebrate the new gifts received over the past 12 months. Your ongoing support and investment in our community enables us to continually impact the lives of 600+ Jewish youth each summer!

PROGRAM & GENERAL OPERATING GIFTS RECEIVED OVER THE PAST YEAR

June 1, 2025 – June 31, 2026

432
UNIQUE
DONORS

\$100,000+	6 DONORS	= \$755,000
\$36,000+	7 DONORS	= \$527,761
\$10,000+	20 DONORS	= \$387,811
\$1,000+	120 DONORS	= \$379,353
\$1+	308 DONORS	= \$92,364
TOTAL		= \$2,142,289

Investing in Our Site

Over the past three years, much of our focus on the physical site has been on the completion of our pond—an investment that secures our water rights for the future.

As that work nears completion, our focus has shifted. Over the past 12 months, we have made a series of critical upgrades to improve the camper experience and increase capacity by 10%.

Since closing camp in 2025, we have committed over \$800,000 to improvements across the site, continuing our long-term commitment to building a ranch that reflects our values and supports our growing community.



NEW FOR 2026!



FISHING

Fishing made possible by our new pond



GOAT HERDING

Engaging in daily ranch life through goat herding



MECHANICS

Learning practical automotive skills



JEWISH HISTORY

Creating an interactive Museum of the Western Jew in our restored 1880s homestead house

PROJECTS UNDERWAY ACROSS THE RANCH:



New permanent, 2400 square foot pavilion for *t'filah*



Four new camper/staff tents



Sound dampening in the *chadar ochel* (dining hall)



Expanded dining seating



Road and drainage upgrades



New camp truck



Shower house improvements



Homestead house rehabilitation



Removal of hazardous trees

Building the Future Together

Near Term: By the close of 2026



NEW COVERED BOULDERING PARK

Climbing is one of our most in-demand activities, and our current space can't keep up. A covered bouldering park will give us a dedicated, weather-proof area to teach core climbing skills, expand instruction time, and safely serve more campers each day and throughout the summer.

\$350,000 total • \$80,000 raised



NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Families are facing real financial pressures, and affordability remains one of our biggest challenges. These scholarship funds ensure that every child who wants to experience the magic of camp can access it, regardless of their family's financial circumstances. This support directly removes barriers and ensures that no camper is turned away due to need.

\$200,000 annually



SENIOR STAFF HOUSING

To attract and retain excellent senior staff, we hope to build four tiny homes connected to our year-round electric, water, and sewer systems. These units will be used as housing during the summer and for retreat guests in the shoulder seasons. By the 2026 season, we hope to have completed Phase I of this project with a proof of concept for future expansion.

\$200,000 each



ROAD MAINTENANCE & GRADING

Increasingly intense storms are eroding our main road and causing flooding. This project may not be glamorous, but it is essential: proper grading will redirect runoff, protect key buildings, and keep our primary access route safe and driveable.

\$75,000+



STAFF TRAINING & WELLNESS

Our staff are central to fulfilling our mission and creating the supportive environment where campers grow. Investing in their training and wellness strengthens the entire camp community. When staff receive the skills and support they need, they become confident educators, leaders, and role models, carrying the values, practices, and sense of purpose they develop at camp into their Jewish lives long after the summer ends.

\$90,000 needed



Ongoing

- **NAME A PATHWAY**
\$18,000
- **CONTRIBUTE TO THE GRANDPARENTS' TENT**
\$5,400 over 1-3 years
- **ENDOW AND NAME A PROGRAM, SCHOLARSHIP, OR MAINTENANCE FUND**
\$36,000
- **NAME AN OUTDOOR SEATING AREA**
\$10,000
- **MEZZUZOT**
\$1,800
- **ISRAELI STAFF HIRING**
\$100,000 annually

Medium-Term: 2027-2029



YOGA & MEDITATION YURT (OHEL NAFSHI)

A dedicated space for yoga, meditation, movement, and spirituality-centered programming will strengthen wellness offerings for campers, staff, and retreat guests. This space would be used daily for *tefillah*, *shira* (music electives), and quiet reflection.

\$150,000 needed



BEIT MASA EXPANSION

Our backcountry excursion program is a signature element of Ramah in the Rockies, and it currently operates at full capacity. Expanding storage, food-prep areas, and packout space will allow us to send out more trips, support larger groups, and ultimately welcome more campers into our community.

From \$30,000



ONSITE COMPOSTING SYSTEM

Onsite composting would allow us to turn kitchen scraps into nutrient-rich soil for our farm, giving campers a hands-on way to experience the full cycle of sustainability. This system deepens our commitment to environmental stewardship and transforms food waste into a meaningful, mission-aligned program area.

**\$50,000 to launch, \$6,000 annually to operate
\$150,000 to endow in perpetuity**

Long-Term



ELIMINATE CAMP DEBT

Paying off our mortgage would free up substantial funds annually to invest directly in scholarships and program expansion.

\$3.5 million



REHABILITATE THE OLD LODGE SITE

The old lodge site has been largely untouched since the 2017 fire. Restoring this hillside could create a beautiful outdoor gathering space for davening, performing arts, and retreats. Options range from an amphitheater or covered workout/dance studio to an outdoor kitchen or full pavilion rebuild.

\$100,000-\$5,000,000 (depending on scope)



NAME OUR RANCH



Create a lasting endowment to underwrite scholarships and support our *mishlachat* (Israel staff delegation) in perpetuity.

\$7 million

Impact that Lasts a Lifetime

Ramah in the Rockies brings American and Israeli Jews together — living, learning, praying, singing, and leading together. Those connections became part of how Violet and Shalom understand Jewish peoplehood today and why they continue to give back, and why Violet moved to Israel.

"Ramah in the Rockies is home."



CONNECTING TO ISRAEL

"The Israeli food, the music, the vibes...I carried that cultural aspect with me and wanted to be like my Israeli counselors."

VIOLET (SONNENSCHNEIN) FINE

Camper 2011–2013 | Staff 2016–2017, 2025
MenschMaker Monthly Giver

LEARNING HOW TO TALK ABOUT ISRAEL

"Camp gave me a foundation of Israel education: How do I ask the right questions about Israel? How do I have dialogue about Israel that's safe, communicative, and two-sided?"

HOPE FOR TODAY'S CAMPERS

"My hope for campers today is that they form a meaningful relationship with Israel and their Jewish identity, no matter what that is."



TRANSFORMED BY CAMP

"When I came home from my first summer I felt like nobody recognized me because I was such a different person, for the better."

WHY I GIVE

"Ramah in the Rockies changed my life. It's the least I can do to support the place I and thousands of others will always call home."



"Camp connects us to American Jews and American Jews to Israelis."

—Shalom

SHALOM MINES

Shaliach (Israeli emissary) 2012
MenschMaker Monthly Giver

JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD

"What is the core of you as a Jewish person?
What does this actually mean?"

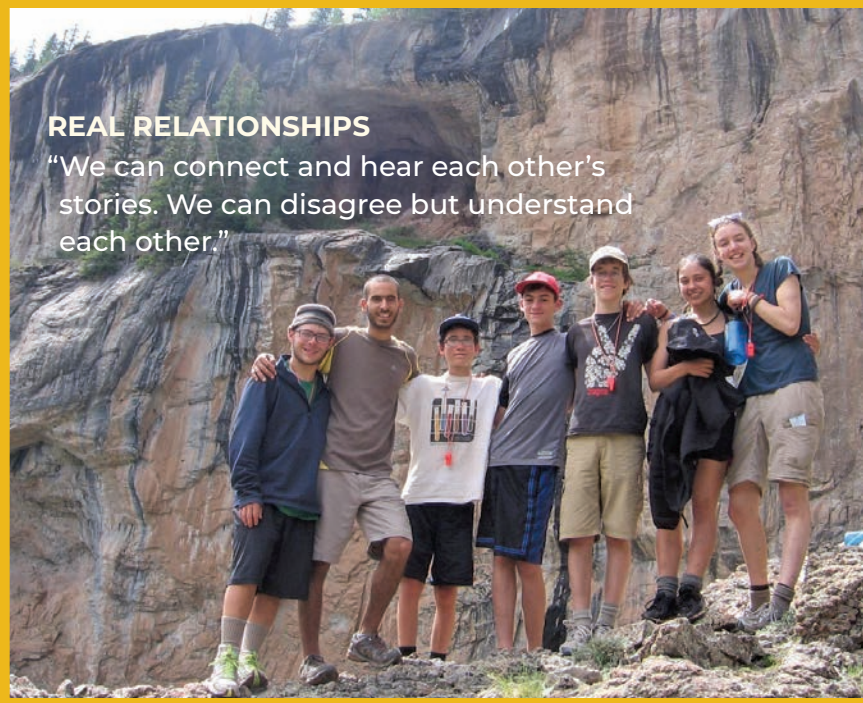
TWO-WAY RELATIONSHIP

"If you look at it like two arrows, you're
getting, and you're also giving."



REAL RELATIONSHIPS

"We can connect and hear each other's
stories. We can disagree but understand
each other."



MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY

"We support each other. We see what challenges Jewish
people are going through in other places."

LIVING JEWISH VALUES

"You're living these Jewish
values and giving them to the
kids, and making a Jewish
community together which
is one of the most important
things now."

*"Even two weeks can change
your whole life."*



WHY I GIVE

"I want to continue contributing so more
people experience the same thing I
saw kids experiencing and also what I
experienced myself. I know camp will have
a huge impact on whoever attends."

Building for Generations

For nearly two decades, Ramah in the Rockies has been woven into the fabric of Scott and Monica's family life. All three of their children attended as campers, two continue to serve on staff, and Monica still returns each summer as a volunteer. Their legacy commitment reflects both gratitude for what camp has meant to their family and a desire to ensure future generations have the same opportunity.



MONICA & SCOTT SHAPIRO

Legacy Society Members
Camper and Staff Parents



"Ramah has shaped Judaism for our family."

Camp has given Scott and Monica's family more than summer memories. It has helped shape their children's Jewish identities, connected them to lifelong friendships, and created a shared family experience that continues long after summer ends.

WHY WE CHOSE LEGACY GIVING

"We want to make sure that when we're not around anymore, these organizations can survive."



What is Legacy Giving?

While annual gifts help make camp possible today, Legacy gifts help make camp possible for future generations. Legacy gifts can take many forms, including contributions to endowment funds during your lifetime or planned gifts through your will, trust, retirement account, or other estate plans.

Legacy gifts help ensure that future generations of campers and staff can continue to experience the joy, growth, connection, and belonging that define Ramah in the Rockies.



Ways to Give

Your partnership ensures that future generations of campers and staff will continue to experience the joy, growth, and connection that define Ramah in the Rockies—and helps secure the future of this community for years to come. There are many meaningful ways to give:



Planned Giving

Include Ramah in the Rockies in your will, trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy.



Endowment Gifts

Establish a lasting legacy by supporting scholarships or programming in perpetuity.



Multi-Year Commitments

Make a meaningful impact through a pledge over time.



Gifts of Appreciated Assets

Donate securities to reduce capital gains taxes while maximizing your impact.



Qualified Charitable Distributions

A QCD from your IRA may provide tax advantages.



Donor Advised Funds

Recommend a grant from your donor advised fund to support Ramah.



Vehicle Donations

Donate your retired vehicle to live out its life on the ranch and receive a tax deduction for its value



Colorado donors: Your cash gift or qualified charitable distribution can qualify for a Colorado Child Care Contribution Tax Credit (5C credit).

To learn more or discuss making a gift, please contact Zach Usmani, Director of Development at (303) 261-8214 x102 or zachu@ramahoutdoors.org. Thank you for helping ensure this community continues to grow and thrive.



We're so thankful for the way you've enhanced our daughter's connection to Judaism and Israel. It's not just the fun activities she remembers, but the meaningful lessons and deeper understanding of her heritage. We couldn't have asked for a better environment for her to grow, learn, and strengthen her identity

– SARA, CAMP PARENT

We are blown away by what we are hearing about his experience this summer. Wow. This experiment you have created has yielded unbelievable results. The combination of fun, thoughtful, hard-core outdoorsy, and meaningful Jewish values all wrapped up into one — it really is a *kehilla kedosha*.

– ERICA, CAMP PARENT

Camp truly helped me grow into the person I am today. There, I fell in love with nature, Hashem, Torah and teaching. Without it I wouldn't be on the path I am today.

– YAAKOV, 2022-2026 TZEVEY,
FORMER DAY SCHOOL TEACHER



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Ramah in the Rockies



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