

## **Kieve-Wavus Education, Inc. (Kieve) – Kieve Veterans Camp**

**Kieve seeks support dedicated to sustaining and expanding our Veterans Camp program for previously deployed Service Members and their families.**

### **Mission Statement**

*Kieve-Wavus Education empowers people to contribute positively to society by promoting the values of kindness, respect for others, and environmental stewardship through year-round experiential programs, camps for youth and adults, and guidance from inspirational role models.*

### **Background**

Kieve-Wavus Education, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation located on the shores of Damariscotta Lake in the mid-coast region of Maine. Begun as a boy's camp, Kieve has an 86 year history of success and has grown to offer a wide range of experiential programming through: The Leadership School, Wavus Camp for Girls, The 9/11 Family Camp, and Kieve Veterans Camp. Each year Kieve-Wavus touches the lives of approximately 10,000 men, women, boys and girls and has an annual budget of \$7 million.

## **The Kieve Veterans Camp**

### **Mission Statement**

*The Kieve Veterans Camp offers free programs that support veterans and their families, giving them a chance to relax, reflect and reconnect, in the tranquility of the Maine woods.*

### **Background**

Since 2009 Kieve-Wavus has welcomed veterans home by inviting them and their families to the tranquil woodlands along the shores of Damariscotta Lake in the mid-coast region of Maine. Arriving at Veterans Camp our guests are greeted with genuine friendship, heartfelt thanks, and the opportunity to participate in a broad range of physical, creative and healing activities. The connective camp environment encourages veterans and their families to develop a network of support with others who have experienced the same challenges that a wartime deployment can present. Veterans Camp is offered free to veterans and their families and is a drug and alcohol free program.

Our gesture of thanks and support has grown significantly over the past three years. Our outreach now includes veterans groups from all eras of conflict, spanning from Vietnam to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. In an effort to enhance our support of returning veterans who have served America so selflessly, our team has worked hard to create strong and effective bonds of partnership in collaboration with the V. A., Vet Centers, centers of higher education, and veteran-oriented employment resources to help these men and women, "reconnect" with their families, "re-integrate" with their communities, and make a positive transition from wartime to peace.

# Kieve Veterans Camp

Kieve-Wavus Education Inc.

Nobleboro, Maine 04555

Spring 2012

Welcome to spring! The ice on the lake has gone and small flowers are starting to blossom all around the campus. I'm happy to report another wonderful year of thanks and support for veterans and military families of all eras of conflict. In just three short years Veterans Camp has grown to be more than we could have imagined and I'm grateful that our grassroots effort has taken hold.



This past fall we held two of our Veterans Camps just up the lake on our Wavus campus. It was wonderful to see the families together participating in archery, ropes, and target shooting on the range. The smiles said it all. It was a great winter session back at Kieve and following our Women Veterans Only camp we received an especially touching note from a guest who had deployed to Grenada in the early 80's. It read in part:

“Sorry to make this so short but our communal journey together at Women’s Veteran Camp finds me completely drained of all the traumatic military stressors that have kept me frightened, lonely and not able to sleep safe and sound for most of the past 30 years. Before I rest my head on my pillow, I just want to thank you for inviting me to your gorgeous campus, the tasty food and putting me in the company of so many extraordinary women veterans. I appreciate the confidence and joy I now have from all the loving kindness, respect, honor and faith everybody generously gave and especially for how well you all conscientiously worked together at helping me to resurrect the soul I lost in the service to our country.”

Thanks to our generous donors, tireless volunteers, veteran-services partners, Leadership School and Veterans Camp staffs, a spiritual spring seems to have arrived for these brave men and women as well.

Henry R. Kennedy, Executive Director  
Kieve-Wavus Education, Inc.

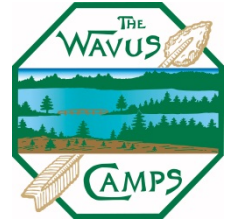
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Since 2009, Kieve-Wavus Education, Inc. has reached out across the nation to Combat Veterans and Military Families of all generations recovering from the emotional wounds of war. We hope you will support our grassroots effort to provide physical, creative, and healing activities to those who have sacrificed so much and asked for so little in return. Your generous contributions will help to fund these very valuable camps for years to come. Please take a moment to visit our Veterans Camp website: [www.kieve.org/veterans](http://www.kieve.org/veterans). Once there you'll find information regarding upcoming events, slideshows of past camps, staff bios, media links to our PBS NewsHour special, social networking, other local coverage, and veteran's events.

# KieveWavus



Kieve Camp for Boys • Wavus Camp for Girls • The Leadership School  
Family & Alumni Camp • Kennedy Learning Center • Kieve West  
9/11 Family Camp • Veterans Camp



## 2012-2013 Kieve Veterans Camp

### Program Dates:

Aug 27-31 2012 - Family Camp  
Sept 7-9 2012 - Family Camp  
Dec 3-7 2012 - Vietnam Only (no children please)  
Jan 7-11 2013 - Women Only (no children please)  
April 15-19 2013 - Family Camp

### General Information

- First and most importantly, Kieve Veterans Camp is offered at NO COST to veterans and military families; Participants just apply, online, by telephone, or by mail, and show up.
- The Veterans Camp is funded entirely by private and corporate donations
- Our grassroots program is a *national* effort, promoted by Vet Centers, Reserve Support Groups, State National Guard/Air Guard Family Programs and mental health directors, Yellow Ribbon support staffs, corporate employee programs, Service Members and veterans. Since 2009 we have welcomed veterans and families from 17 states across the nation.
- Target participants for The Veterans Camp are Service Members (current or prior service) of all branches who have deployed in wartime service to our country. This includes Reserve, National Guard, and United States Coast Guard.
- We welcome single veterans and military families
- Families of Service Members who are currently deployed are also encouraged to attend.
- Our scope of participants currently includes junior officer ranks (O3 and below) in addition to the enlisted grades.
- All cabins, rooms, meals, activities (both on and off campus), transportation connected to camp and activities, and activity equipment is provided by Kieve-Wavus.
- The Veterans Camp is a non-medically based program which provides a low stress, activity-based environment. We encourage veterans and military families to participate at their level of comfort and give them the opportunity to relax, reflect, and reconnect with themselves, family members, and other veterans who may have shared like-experiences while in service to this Great Nation.
- Veterans Camp is a drug and alcohol free program.

## **Veterans Camp (cont.)**

### **Community Involvement**

Our grassroots effort strives to engage community organizations, veteran-based service organizations, local businesses, and community volunteers at the lowest level. Our goal is to enhance each veteran and military family's reintegration process by exposing them to healing arts, recreational activities, and support organizations that they would not have been aware of and/or attempted on their own.

### **Volunteering**

We're very thankful for the support and tireless effort of our volunteer staff. We welcome individual or organizational inquiries for volunteer staff support. We also respect the privacy of our veterans and families throughout their healing process at camp. We therefore vet all volunteers to ensure they fit the program.

### **Historical Data and Trends:**

- **2011–2012 (fall/winter)** Veterans Camp hosted nearly 180 veterans and family members from all services, to include The United States Coast Guard. Our guests traveled from 17 states; from as far away as Seattle, Washington and as near to us as Brunswick, Maine. The attending veteran population represented armed conflicts from Vietnam forward.

For 2011/12 Veterans Camp saw a 60% participant increase from an array of states across the nation. We're very pleased with this growth and believe it is because we apply our core values of *kindness* and *respect* to all aspects of our Veterans Camp program. We have also expanded our program to our Wavus campus (on the North shore of Damariscotta Lake) in order to more effectively accommodate veterans, military families, and the reintegration healing process.

### **How You Can Help:**

Please join us in our grass-roots effort, supporting veterans as they re-connect with their families, reintegrate into their communities, and embrace their new normal.

Each Veterans Camp session represents a significant investment of time, funding, national outreach, and coordination of community resources and volunteers.

Your generous support through private donation, corporate partnership or program-sustaining grant will help us continue to serve these veterans and military families who have sacrificed so much and asked for so little in return.

