



42 years ago, when I walked through the gates of Four Winds for the first time, I couldn't have imagined how Camp would change my life. But once I crossed that threshold, I knew that I had found a very special place. As the poem goes, "If once you have slept on an island, you'll never be quite the same;" - and I never was. I spent seven magical summers at FWWH, first as a camper, then counselor trainee and finally as a counselor. I consider those years my most formative; the friends I made my most cherished. Now, after serving ten years as a Board Trustee, I am excited and honored to step into the role as Board Chair.

When I think about Camp I reflect upon the community that we have created, that very unique and binding group that has played such an important role in our lives. Think about the words that you would describe Camp: joy, simplicity, community, adventure. Then think about how important and unusual it is for kids to have a place like this at this time.

I know that each of you receive countless charitable appeal letters throughout the year. But take a moment and think back to when you walked through the gates yourselves or upon seeing your child, friend or family member return from Camp and exhibit changes in the most unexpected and remarkable ways. Close your eyes and remember walking along the trails, the sound of waves lapping upon the shore, the joy and laughter emanating from the pickle ball courts or hearing poetry and singing from an evening fire. Then ask yourself, why not Camp? Why not support this place, our place, that we cherish so much?

Each of us makes decisions about charitable giving, about supporting causes and organizations that affect change. Four Winds & Westward Ho has been a thriving institution for over 90 years but there is more work to be done. Each year we rely on our community, through this appeal, to help camp meet its goals for the future: *To ensure a truly unique experience for our campers, to support our critical financial aid program and to vigilantly protect and improve upon Camp's programs and facilities.* I am proud to support this marvelous and incomparable Camp and today I made my donation. Will you join me?

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Diana Weigel'.

Diana Weigel

FWWH Board of Trustees Chair