

# Spring 2019 News

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I will make rivers  
flow on Barren  
Heights, and springs  
within the valleys.  
Isaiah 41:18





JOIN US IN CELEBRATING! **15 for 15**

### **15 for 15 Spring Campaign!**

Can you believe Barren Heights has been changing the lives of families who have kids with disabilities for 15 years? In order to celebrate, we are asking you to come alongside us with \$15 of monthly support. We desire to change lives for the next 15 years and beyond. In order to do that we need your sustainable support. We have until May 31st to meet our goals, your gift matters. Are you with us?

**Behind every number is a smile, a story, a life changed!**



# Disney World Tickets Giveaway!

To help celebrate our 15 years, we are giving away Disney World One-Day Park Hopper tickets! We have a handful of different 'Giveaway Days' scheduled during this campaign, so be on the lookout in your emails and on social media to learn how you can win! Begin a recurring donation of \$15 or more between May 17th and May 31st to be eligible, the next giveaway is Wednesday, May 29th at 3pm. Each \$15 increment will be worth one entry.

## See Who Has Already Won:

1. Joy Wheeldon
2. Cyndi Bell



## Why Monthly Giving Matters:

### Reduced Costs:

Monthly giving enables us to spend less time and money on things like on planning, fundraising, and administration. With the time and money saved, we can focus more of our resources on our mission to love and encourage families who have kids with disabilities.

### Sustainability:

Fundraising is not the most important thing we do, but it is necessary. Much of our work depends on a reliable source of funds to ensure there are no gaps in the services we provide. We have been changing lives for 15 years, and we want to go another 15 and beyond!

### Its A Win-Win For You:

Monthly giving is easy and convenient for you! For many donors, small amounts of regular giving can be easier to plan for in family budgets. We offer a variety of different payment options so you can choose what best works for your family. Thus a win-win for everyone!

### Exclusive Booster Program:

We call our monthly donors our Barren Heights "Boosters." As a Booster, you will receive quarterly giving statements, insider ministry updates, and a special monthly touch point sharing stories so that you understand the incredible impact of your continued generosity.

# Spring Work Days

March 23rd & April 27th

This year Barren Heights hosted two spring work weekends on March 23rd and April 27th. If you have never been to a work day a good thing to compare it to is a little spring cleaning for the camp. It is a day full of work, fun, and fellowship! We had a combined total of 57 volunteers attend the work weekends this year and we couldn't be more thankful! Some projects our awesome volunteers completed during these work weekends were mulching, seeding, pulling weeds, cleaning and sanitizing toys, replacing air filters, and SO MUCH MORE!! To give you all a little peak as to what all happened at the work days, we want to introduce to you two of our amazing volunteers.



## Meet Bob McKeel!

During one of our first Benefit Dinners at the Olmsted, the East Oldham Middle School band played. Bob's son attended East Old Middle School that year and just so happened to be in the band. Bob and his wife, Grace, came to the dinner that year...AND every year following. This year, Bob and Grace signed up to attend the March Work Day and were awesome. He is a recently retired maintenance worker, and we unknowingly had placed them on the maintenance team. We were thrilled. We were even more excited when the week following the March Work Day, he signed up to come to the second one in April all by himself. He fixed a storm dorm handle, helped remove broken blinds, grouted broken tile, fixed the lights around the springs, and helped install security cameras.



## Meet Aaran McKinnon!

Aaron is a Guest mom from 2009! She drove up from Nashville all by herself to help with the workday. Her family has attended multiple retreats including the Men's Wild at Heart Retreat and the Women's retreat from last year. We love and feel extremely humbled when prior guests come back and serve.

**Interested in Volunteering?**  
**Click here to learn more:**

**VOLUNTEER NOW**

# MEET OUR NEW INTERNS



**Mallorey Bell**



**Megan Farmer**

Meet Mallorey Bell! Mallorey has been involved with Barren Heights since the beginning 15 years ago, as it was started by her Aunt and Uncle. Throughout the years Mallorey has led and been a caregiver for many retreats and loves the camp. She is now a Junior at the University of Kentucky studying Marketing and Management. Mallorey is joining our staff as the Social Media and Digital Marketing Intern. As a Marketing Major this is right up her alley and she could not be more excited (and neither could we!!)

Meet Megan Farmer! Megan is very new to the Barren Heights community but is very excited to be getting involved. She just graduated from Bellarmine University with a Bachelors of Music in Vocal Performance. Megan is excited to start working for Barren Heights as the Administrative Intern this summer as Jesus has always led her heart to pursue Non-Profit work and she is thankful she found Barren Heights to be a part of. We are overjoyed to have Megan working with us and to see her grow in the Barren Heights community!

## Our Mission...

Our Mission is simply to love and encourage families. We do this primarily by providing free weekend retreats and hosting community outreach events for families who have children with physical or developmental disabilities.





## Memorable Ministry Moment

After every retreat, we give each person a chance to share their favorite story from the weekend! Retreat leader Tim Byron shared his favorite with us below:

"At the welcome reception I had told all the kids to not pick up rocks for any reason. A 4 year old volunteer boy said "not even for collecting?" My response was sorry, but no. The next day one of our guest kids was playing in the splash pad and managed to pick up a small bucket filled with water. She hung it on her walker and proceeded to make a beeline over to where I was standing next to the toy shed. She started attempting to pickup some rocks and obviously wanted to put them in the bucket. One of the other volunteers reminded her what I had said about the rocks. At that point, Juna looked up at me and gave me a wink and then proceeded to put a rock in the bucket. She stole my heart and I couldn't say no. The next day Samuel came up and asked me if I knew that someone had picked up rocks. I asked him who and he said "I don't know" and slowly walked off with a smile on his face. I was busted." – Tim





# Can you help us fulfill our wishlist?

Click here to view our Amazon wishlist:

WISHLIST

"The Night we arrived at Barren Heights, the sky opened up and you could see the moon and stars and wide open spaces. There in the quaint little retreat sat two little host cabins, the barn and loads of outdoor equipment – from basketball courts, tennis courts, walking trails, football/basketball/soccer area, so many more. It was absolutely a child's playing field. Immediately Preston attached his claim on the adorable play area with the swings, slide, and climbing activities. Peyton laid claim to the little red wagon and never gave way the whole weekend! And there was so much for Cory to explore, and he went right to work. While each step of our day consisted of many things – Mommy and Daddy time, play time, craft time, play time, campfire, cookout, roasting marshmallows, and so much more – there was always that extra helping hand to give support in making sure our whole family was having a good time. I would encourage any family with a special needs child to experience the weekend retreat! It is truly a blessing."

- Denise Rowling-George, mother of Kristen (15), Cory (9), Peyton (4), and Preston (2)

If you are interested in getting more involved we still have volunteer and guest spots available for this season! Click here to apply:

APPLY HERE



# Community Events

Here are some other non-profit events in our community you could get involved with:

- Outrunning Autism 5k and fun walk (click here to [sign up](#).)
- Southeast Christian Church Disabilities Picnic (to find out more click [here](#).)
- Down Syndrome of Louisville Luau Party for teens and adults (To volunteer or learn more click [here](#).)
- Miracle League of Louisville baseball season (to sign up to play or volunteer click [here](#).)

# We're Having an Ice Cream Social!!

Who: The Barren Heights Community

What: An Ice Cream social with ice cream carts, community, and more!!

When: Friday, July 12th from 6:00 - 8:00pm

Where: Veterans Memorial Park 10707 Taylorsville Rd, Jeffersontown KY 40299







# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

Want more frequent updates? Follow Us!

Barren Heights Community Center  
11420 Watterson Court #800  
Louisville, KY 40299



Office Hours:  
Monday-Thursday 9:00- 3:00 PM ET  
(502) 327-9495