



CAMP LANGANO

A MINISTRY OF SIM

TRANSFORMING LIVES. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.

BY PRAYER



*And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me.
Matthew 18:5*

What is Camp Langano?

Identity: Camp Langano is the first residential Christian youth camp in Ethiopia, a country of over 85 million people. An extension of the Sports Friends ministry, Camp Langano builds upon the foundation of existing church-centered sports ministry programs throughout Ethiopia. Sports ministers are able to bring youth to camp and take their relationships to a new level of meaning in this residential setting. Camp Langano also provides an outstanding environment to further develop and disciple effective youth workers and sports ministers.



Vision: Camp is exhilarating. A time of friendship, fun, and growth, camp impacts lives and creates lasting relationships. In the United States of America, camping experiences touch the lives of thousands of

youth each year. Adults smile when they talk of their youth camping sessions and the impact camp made. The goals of Camp Langano are to enhance and stimulate growth of the sports ministries of local churches, provide a training ground for sports and youth ministry leaders, introduce unbelievers to Jesus Christ, disciple believers into greater maturity, and provide youth with one of the most unique and greatest experiences of their entire lives.

Mission: Sports Friends, a ministry of SIM (Serving in Mission), in partnership with the Ethiopian Kale Heywot Church (EKHC), is developing Camp Langano. The camp is being developed on a beautiful 95-acre property on Lake Langano which has been owned by SIM and the EKHC for several decades. Small camping sessions are presently conducted each summer, and plans call for the construction of additional facilities to

accommodate over 150 youth for year-round camping by the summer of 2010. Developing Camp Langano is a large undertaking that requires perseverance, prayer, and unity to accomplish. To view the site plan for the development of Camp Langano, visit our website at <http://sports-friends.org/sfmaterials.html>.



**MAKE AN
IMPACT &
GET
INVOLVED**

VISION TRIP: Ideal for potential donors, ministry partners, church partners, and recruits to see and experience Camp Langano.



CAMPING MINISTRY TRIP: One of the best weeks of your life as you simply lavish love on a group of campers.
CONSTRUCTION TRIP: Teams are sent to participate in a variety of construction projects at the camp.

Objectives in the Camping Ministry

Enhance and deepen on-going, relational sports ministries

As leaders from the local church accompany their youth to camp, they have opportunities to build memories that lead to enhanced ministry both at the camp and after they return home.

Stimulate new churches to develop on-going sports ministry programs

Interest in the camping program will stimulate more churches to establish ongoing sports ministry programs to reach the youth in their local communities.

Provide youth with one of the most unique and greatest experiences of their entire lives

Youth enjoy sports, games, crafts, music, drama, good food, a warm bed, and lots of attention and love. It is the best week of their lives!

Introduce unbelieving youth to Jesus Christ, and disciple believing youth into greater maturity

It has been our experience that relationships can be taken to a greater depth in a few days at camp than they can be in months or years in a normal ministry context. Getting away from familiar surroundings and responsibilities creates a great environment for building friendships and exploring new ideas.

Develop effective sports and youth ministry leaders

A residential camp setting allows the opportunity for modeling effective discipleship strategies.



A Story of Grace



Swimming, sports, and music are a few of the activities at camp.

Illustration of Hope: Abdula* was chosen along with 3 other boys by Negash*, his Sports Friends leader. All of the boys were supposed to be 13-15 years old; but Abdula was about 10 (it's hard to know for sure, since many don't have birth records). Being the smallest, he was occasionally roughed up a bit by the older boys at camp. One day he was playing goalie and was steamrolled by an older boy's shot on goal, leading to a bloody nose. He did not let this stop the fun!

After Abdula returned home from camp, he talked constantly about what a great experience he had – how much he was loved, how he had learned godly character, how he had the most fun of his life! His parents and the village leaders wanted to meet the man who had given Abdula such a

wonderful experience. As a result, Negash had the opportunity to build relationships with many more of the youth and adults in the community. Abdula talked about wanting to follow after Christ. Negash was amazed when he heard that Abdula had washed the feet of his older brother as a sign of love and servanthood (he had seen us do this at camp). Negash had opportunities to share the message of Jesus with Abdula, his brother and family, and other adults in the community.

Negash said he was treated like a “hero” in the community because of the incredible camping experience Abdula had. Abdula, his brother, his parents and a total of 28 in his village have placed their faith in Jesus. There is now a worshipping church in their village.

*Names Changed



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