

Bay Lake Camp est. 1926

Northern Pines Mental Health Center est. 1964



October 15, 2021

Today begins a new chapter in the historic legacy of Bay Lake Camp!

We are thrilled to announce Northern Pines Mental Health Center has acquired Bay Lake Camp and will immediately begin a process to partner its programs focused on wellness and whole person health into the Island camp setting. In addition, transitions will focus on welcoming many youth, families, and guests from past Bay Lake Camp groups as we move into our new, shared future.



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Northern Pines (NPMHC) is an established leader in providing evidenced based clinical mental health therapy and skills services throughout the lifespan, throughout central Minnesota. Pairing the island camp experience with mental wellness and supportive services will truly enhance lives and restore hope! We look forward to bringing the strength of experienced staff infrastructure into an outdoor setting, and hold deep appreciation for Bay Lake Camp’s history, welcoming generations of campers. Northern Pines is eager to introduce new possibilities and explore ways in which all guests can continue to enjoy, thrive, and grow through the camp experience on the Island, as well as continuing community based events throughout the year —we look forward to more community pizza nights, hiking the island trails, labyrinth walks, and summer services.

Bay Lake Camp is a storybook that is still unfolding—from the first chapters filled with joy and trepidation, as early supporters journeyed several hours by Model-T to bring supplies and volunteers to work on a rustic Dining Hall and Bunkhouse— to new cabins in the 30’s, 50’s and 70’s—to the joy filled collaboration as Bay Lake Camp alongside the entire Bay Lake community joined together to place the Island into a permanent Conservation Easement over a decade ago with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The wonderful history remains, and the next chapter of the Island is at hand—welcoming all to experience the joys and healing of life at the lake!

See you on the Island,



Brenda Olson Bingea
Executive Director
Bay Lake Camp

Laura Vaughn
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