

Pathways



Summer 2022 Edition

“Satisfaction of one's curiosity is one of the greatest sources of happiness in life.” - Linus Pauling

At summer camp, participants, volunteers & staff members alike cultivate their curiosity by exploring the great outdoors! Campers go fishing for the first time, fly kites and race hand-built boats through the creek. Our curiosity inspires us to learn more about ourselves.

Creating Meaningful Experiences

On the drive to Camp, Findlay's eyes are peeled searching for the flocks of wild turkeys that occasionally strut through the forest running through Summer Day Camp. Fin's mom can't help but thank camp for fostering Fin's sense of wonder so they can share moments like these together.

Camp opened a new world to 8-year-old Findlay, a camper with autism, from his first time wading through a creek guided by our nature specialist to casting a line at the fishing pond in the hopes of wrangling a smallmouth bass. This will be Fin's 3rd summer with Stepping Stones, a place where he's been able to develop an enthusiasm for the plants and animals he encounters. His mom relays that counselors encouraged him to learn and grow in himself as he explored the forested campus with his friends. Uncovering salamanders hiding in the mud and spotting the elusive turkey hiding just beyond the trees are just a few of the experiences that make summers with Stepping Stones so meaningful to Fin and his family.

A Happier Place

King James, who attends our Summer Overnight Staycation program, is passionate about the outdoors. He loves spending his free time going on walks, listening to the birds, or driving “Mr. Deere,” his riding lawnmower.

Eight years ago, James & his sister Cathy moved to Cincinnati and discovered Camp Allyn. James' favorite memory at Stepping Stones is the very first time he caught a catfish! This sparked a brand new interest in fishing for James. Every year when he goes to Camp Allyn, he talks about how excited he is to catch an even bigger fish. James also likes the hot air balloon rides and playing basketball there with his friends.

“Stepping Stones plays such a huge role in making our community a happier place,” said Cathy. The Overnight Staycation program has given her & her husband much-needed time to rest and recharge while James enjoys an adventurous summer in the outdoors.



Above: Summer camper Findlay blows the perfect, giant soap bubble.



Above: King James catches a fish at Camp Allyn.



Pathways to Independence for People with Disabilities

www.SteppingStonesOhio.org

The Beauty of Nature

“Stepping Stones gave me the opportunity to teach others about the beauty of nature,” said Anna, Nature Specialist at Summer Day Camp.

Anna has a heart for service and cultivating curiosity, so it’s no surprise that her summer at Stepping Stones was one of her “favorite summers to date.” She started out as a volunteer and joined the summer day camp staff in 2021. As the nature specialist, Anna led groups in outdoor activities such as making pinecone bird feeders, flying kites and growing beanstalks. One of her favorite activities was taking campers down to the creek. Campers got to search for new plants, rocks and fossils. They built small boats and raced them down the stream. The water was also a great way to cool off in the summer heat!



The campers pushed Anna to cultivate her own curiosity too. Whenever campers found a new bug or plant, they wanted to know more about it. This encouraged Anna to learn more about the organisms in our ecosystem. She would complete her research and teach the campers what she learned the following day.



On the Calendar

- June 6: Summer 2022 Season Begins
- June 6: The Golf Classic
- Sept. 10: Bloom For Stepping Stones
- Oct. 14: Sporting Clays Tournament

Stay Connected

Be a part of the Stepping Stones community!
Follow us on social media to see our programs in action and stay up-to-date on agency news and events.



@SteppingStonesOhio



@SSOhioInc



@SteppingStonesOhio

2022 Community Giving Ideas

Go Shopping for Stepping Stones



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

How to Enroll Online:

Connect your Kroger Plus Card to Stepping Stones and earn a donation to Stepping Stones.

How to Enroll Online:

1. Log into your Kroger Rewards account at: [KrogerCommunityRewards.com](https://www.kroger.com/rewards)
2. Click 'Enroll Now'
3. Search for 'Stepping Stones, Inc.'
4. Select 'Stepping Stones, Inc.' located at: 5650 Given Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45243
5. Click 'Enroll'.
6. Shop to support our programs!

\$2,900 Raised in 2021

Shop Amazon Smile:

Shop on Amazon Smile and Amazon donates a share of your sale back to Stepping Stones.

How to Shop Amazon Smile:

1. Log into your account at: [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. From the Charity Choice List, search and choose 'Stepping Stones, Inc.' as your choice charity located at: 5650 Given Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45243
3. Shop to make a difference!

\$368 Raised in 2021

Allyn Campus
1414 Lake Allyn Road
Batavia, Ohio 45103

Parkcrest Campus
3330 Parkcrest Lane
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Given Campus
5650 Given Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45243

Drex Campus
2300 Drex Avenue
Norwood, Ohio 45212