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We are thankful for all of the churches, businesses, and foundations that give. Here are those who gave \$1,000+ between January - July 2024:

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# Giving to THE ARK

Mail your check to THE ARK in the provided envelope.

Give online at www.thearkcm.org and click on any donate button.

Give by Bill Pay or EFT - contact our office.







Thanks for giving to grow the Kingdom

#### **What Lasts Forever?**

by Rebekah Hannum, 2024 Summer Missionary in Residence

Before coming to THE ARK this summer, my teammate, Gabriela, and I asked ourselves these questions: "How can we make a lasting impact on the campers that come through this summer?" and "how can we make a lasting impact on the Kingdom of God in eight short weeks of camp?" We found the answer in the beautiful words of the prophet Isaiah.

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." (Isaiah 40:8)

Spain is a post-Christian nation with little to no regard for the Word of God. However, there are thousands of hearts sprinkled throughout Spain with a thirst for the Truth found in Christ. This summer we were thrilled when the campers shared our excitement of being able to give away dozens of Bibles to hungry souls in Galicia, Spain. One little girl told us that she didn't have much money to give, but that she would like to give us her Bible to give to another child in Spain. And that's exactly what she did!

#### **Summer Numbers**

1106 Campers Attended 31 Camp Sessions

650+ Volunteers Kitchen, Office, Grounds, Maintenance, & Faculty

56 Campers Accepted Christ & were Baptized at THE ARK

\$14,021.79 Given in Missions Offering

The campers learned about how the Word of God is moving the hearts of the people in our community. They were impressed that we have been able to plant the seed of the gospel in the minds of over 75,000 people in Galicia in just four months through social media. With the offerings this summer we will be able to buy even more Bibles and continue to broadcast the gospel in Galicia, Spain, to the Glory of God!

I am grateful that we were able to partner with THE ARK and for the kindness the camp staff has shown to us. Likewise, we hope that the campers this summer went home knowing that they have partnered with Anchor418 in a deeply meaningful way. Not just by raising support for a special project, which is wonderful, but because they have invested in something that doesn't wither or fall. Praise God for His everlasting Word!



#### **DEFINED by Jerod Glasford, Faculty**

I have the year-round joy of getting to be involved with THE ARK Christian Ministries through living in close proximity to the camp and the deep relationships I have built over the years. This partnership is especially sweet during the summer camp season. This summer I had the privilege of getting to be a part of the Exploration Day Camp for the preteens, Edge Week for the junior highers, and Merge Week for the high school students.

This summer, I saw students have fun on the high ropes course, swimming at the pool, playing kiddy pool kickball, and dancing the night away in a silent disco. It's so important that our kids get to be kids. More importantly, I witnessed hundreds of students hear the truths found in scripture that they are not defined by the good or bad that they do: not the lies they believe about themselves: not the hobbies they participate in, but are defined by the love that Jesus has for them. It truly was a powerful summer that I can't wait to see the impact of during this upcoming school year, and hopefully many years to come.











Bible Based
Christ Centered
Discipleship Directed
Mission Minded



### Raised Funds Allow Impact to Continue Year-Round by Bruce Cameron, Executive Director

What an incredible summer camping season! The fun isn't over though. We already have school groups booked for the fall and spring semesters. Many of us are already working on plans and scheduling for summer 2025. We are in the process of building a new large group campfire area that will be amazing once it is completed in September! We are continuing to work on the new shop and director of facilities' house; in fact most of the interior walls are up. With the help of some key volunteers and high school campers, our pool house has a new look. We are so thankful for all the work that has been completed this summer and for upcoming opportunities to host students year-round. God is so good!

We have raised over \$67,800 for the \$90,000 matching grant that is funding the expansions of our STEM and nature spaces. We will be renovating the swamp and wetland area and building a windowed observatory classroom for The Ark Science and Nature Center with the tools for the science education program to move forward. We only need \$23,000 more to get this project moving toward completion. The year-round ministry of THE ARK continues to grow as we look toward the future design plans and raising funds for the Lakeside Lodge.

You know life is hard. So many people are hurting and have so much difficulty to journey through. And yet God. Romans 8:28 says "and we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him..." Thanks for being part of this life changing work where God meets young people and transforms their lives and their world for good.

The stories of the goodness of God are immeasurable. Here's one we'd love for you to join us in praising God for: a junior high camper told his faculty, "I don't want to be here! I'd rather be at home playing video games. My mom made me come!" And yet God. This camper accepted Christ and was baptized at the end of the week of camp and he said, "I'm so glad I came!"

Camp changes lives. Thank you for being part of that.





