



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

When we started Iowa Baseball Camp for the Deaf (IBCD) in 2015, we had a simple goal - to bring children who are Deaf or hard of hearing together to play baseball. As we celebrate our 10th anniversary, the camp has grown into something far bigger than we could have imagined. This year we had a record-breaking 41 campers, with more than 50 coaches, interpreters, and volunteers.

We're also beyond excited to celebrate the second annual Deaf Culture Night with the Iowa Cubs. Our campers will participate in on-field activities and the Cubs players will once again wear custom ASL jerseys. These red jerseys feature "IOWA" across the chest in American Sign Language and will be auctioned off with proceeds going directly to IBCD.

The true purpose of IBCD is to provide equal access to baseball. Children who are Deaf or hard of hearing are often left out of organized sports and other activities in life because of communication and language barriers as well as a lack of accessibility. That is never an issue at IBCD. Everyone communicates using American Sign Language (ASL) or through interpreters, creating a welcoming and stress-free environment where campers can truly be themselves. They play alongside peers who share similar experiences without struggling to communicate. This camp helps them grow not only as ballplayers, but as individuals. They become more confident in who they are, more connected to their community, and more open to learning, playing, and laughing together.

Thanks to our long-time host, Johnston Little League, as their fields have become home for this community. Every day our campers learn from a team of professional coaches, former college players, interpreters, and community volunteers. These individuals work hard to provide our campers with the support they need for great development during the week.

We also cannot say it enough to the staff and supporters - **THANK YOU**. Whether you coached in 95-degree heat, held a camper's cochlear implant while they batted, interpreted every terrible baseball pun imaginable, braved the rain with soggy shoes, donated snacks, or just cheered as the biggest fan from the stands - **THANK YOU**. And to all the parents and families who packed bags, woke up early, drove for hours to get to camp, and trusted us with your kids - **THANK YOU**. Because of you, these campers have a place where they feel seen, supported, and free to just be kids - laughing, learning, and loving the game in their own language and culture.

We are so grateful for these past 10 years and we look forward to many more!

Sincerely Yours,
Dylan Heuer
Camp Director



Nancy Heuer
Camp Coordinator



IBCD is a week-long, half-day summer baseball camp for children who are Deaf and hard of hearing, ages 7-14, made possible by Iowa Hands & Voices, the Iowa Cubs, and a community of generous partners. We are a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit through Iowa Hands & Voices.

Learn more or donate by visiting www.iowadeafbaseball.com or finding us on Facebook.



facebook.com/iowadeafbaseballcamp

www.iowadeafbaseball.com
iowadeafbaseball@gmail.com

(515) 771-4407 (text)

CAMP ROSTER



Sophie Barney



Lily Barrett



Lyni Barta



Lena Boone



Nash Burress



Emilee Cervetti



Daniel Cronk



Matthew Cronk



Konnor Fynaardt



Olive Gill



Briella Hunter



Chase Jamieson



Landen Johnston



Connor Jones

CAMP ROSTER



Dino Kothapalli Palagiri



Nile Kron



Sawyer Leinen



Maverick Lukowicz



Haevynn Manchester



Gracelynn McGill



Eduardo Mendez



Evan Nichols



Iden Nikolish



Hayden Pinegar



Leo Ransaure



Tyler Reicks



Aarav Sarafdar

CAMP ROSTER



Walter Schmitt



Huxlee Schwegler



Jax Sheffield



Izaac Smith



Angel Soriano



Jacob Spah



Genesis Trejo



Anna Tubaugh



Bowen Tubaugh



Maya Tubby



Cailey Wagner



Addy Warrior



Gaige Wiblshouser



Rosa Woods

HIGHLIGHTS



HIGHLIGHTS



HIGHLIGHTS



2024 DEAF CULTURE NIGHT

Last year's Deaf Culture Night with the Iowa Cubs was an unforgettable evening celebrating the Deaf community and IBCD. The I-Cubs wore jerseys with "IOWA" spelled out in American Sign Language (ASL) across the chest. The jerseys were auctioned off to raise funds for IBCD.



Between first pitches, the anthem, on-field activities, and a moving sense of unity from the entire community, the night was a powerful reminder of what inclusion and accessibility can look like in sports. The energy at Principal Park was electric as campers, families, and fans filled the stands in support. For 2025, the I-Cubs will wear ASL jerseys again, this time in red!



TESTIMONIALS



“IBCD is a rare and unique program that is tailor-made for Deaf kids and she truly felt like she belonged there.”

- IBCD Parent

“The moment we got to the field on the first day... he was right in his element and felt like he was included right away.”

- IBCD Parent



“IBCD is a place that he truly feels more than just the kid with cochlear implants that’s ‘different.’ He feels a part of a community that gets him.”

- IBCD Parent



“During IBCD week, she was in high spirits and very happy. She said that ‘I must go again!’”

- IBCD Parent



“We’ve had some other camps this summer and this has been her favorite by far.”

- IBCD Parent



CAMP VOLUNTEERS

Head Coaches



Ryan Fitzgerald



John Linden



Luke Tasler



Head Coach **Jason Karaidos** had been with IBCD since day one. His love for the game and our campers shaped IBCD into what it is today.

We honor his legacy by retiring his jersey **#1**, a symbol of his mantra: **"WE ARE ONE TEAM."** Thank you, Coach K.



Volunteers

Interpreters

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Rusty Channon | Joshua Janni | Jordan Patton | Amanda Gallant | Jenn Murphy |
| Sembetu Dalay | Sybil Luft | Hannah Rodrigues | Susan Hardine | Ken Padilla |
| Gordon Dierauer | Emily MacDonald | Gage Sorenson | Ursula Heuer | Heidi Parrow |
| Lani Dirks | Greg Manker | Barbara Suapaia | Tailyn Kaster | Jeff Reese |
| Nathan Faber | Cindy Manker | Joshuah Upton | Diana Kautzky | Stephanie Sabin |
| Katy Faircloth | Steve Manker | Elizabeth Van Camp | Julia Lyttle | Heather Upton |
| Emmi Goetz | Jeff Nulph | Maddy Wagner | Lauren Mills | Carrie Wood |
| Devin Grouwinkler | Dylan Nulph | Sarah Young Bear-Brown | | |
| Eddie Hamann | Rebecca Parks | War Yu | | |
| Tom Heuer | Eva Parks | | | |



CAMP SUPPORT



ADDITIONAL SUPPORTERS

Berry Family Charitable Trust
 Polly Brooks
 Nina Brown
 The Burress Family
 Marianne Covington
 Gordon & Renae Dierauer
 Lynn Doerr
 Darci Duey
 Cathie Gebhart
 Chad, Tanya & Bo Gerbracht
 Carrie Haigh
 Grant Heuer
 Suann Hibbs
 Wayne & Marcia Laco

Dan & Nancy Lodermeier
 Bryan & Siul Lopez
 David & Jennifer Mendenhall
 Meghan Moratz
 Debbie Nielsen
 Molly Olsasky
 Mary Scott - Scott Family Trust
 Linda Spencer
 Amy Stevens
 Deborah Tezak
 Joni Tibbetts
 The Tubaugh Family - "I Can & I Will" School Bus 12
 Pam Wellman

and to all those who purchased a fan shirt from us! **THANK YOU ALL!**



Pitch in and donate!

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