

When YMCA Boys' Work Secretary Carl "C.B." Kern and his colleague, Chris Kunz, decided in 1910 to take 28 area youth on a camping trip, little did they know the excursion would lay the groundwork for Camp Kern. This local campground has helped youth experience the great outdoors for more than 100 years.

One camper, Dr. Stuart Weinberg, was so touched by his experiences at Camp Kern that he decided in 1987 to establish the Carl B. Kern Fund of The Dayton Foundation. To date, the fund has awarded nearly \$210,000 to enhance the camp's operations and provide summer camp opportunities for local youth who may not otherwise be able to attend.

"With Fort Ancient on the east side of the river and YMCA Camp Kern on the west, there is a sense of timelessness when one can stand on the riverbank, listen to the water's current, stare in awe at fireflies across a field, search for fossils underneath your feet and surround yourself with the same wildflowers and Pawpaw trees that were described in the area 100 years earlier," Stuart said. "I think C.B. would greatly enjoy sitting down with children and staff who have attended the camp bearing his name, hearing about all of the wonderful experiences that they continue to enjoy."

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