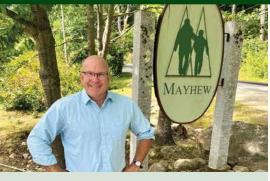


# THE MAYHEW PROGRAM

...a good start on the future

#### FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER



Peter's First Day at Mayhew!

### **Grateful Beginnings**

PETER SALIBA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I complete my first few months at Mayhew, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude! I have received a warm welcome from our boys, staff, supporters, and everyone connected to our program. It's crystal clear that Mayhew's unwavering focus on our mission has made a lasting impact on so many lives, and I am humbled to be a part of this community.

As I become grounded at the Base House, it's my goal to continue the legacies of Al Cantor, Roger Larochelle, Jim Nute, and Ed Thompson, all with whom I have spent hours talking about Mayhew's past, present, and future. Our boys remain at the heart of everything we do. While we continue to adapt to a rapidly changing world, one thing will never change: our commitment to meeting each boy where he is and instilling in him the values of responsibility, respect, community, and challenge. I've seen firsthand the transformative power of this work during my time at camp this summer and through my visits with the boys this fall.

But in the longer view, my conversations with alums Camron (who worked at camp this summer), Thad (he volunteered at the NH Marathon with his son) and Jim (who called me at the office to chat) provided me with such a strong foundation as I enter our community. I have always worked with teenagers in my professional life, and Mayhew brings a new dimension for me to embrace. I welcome your calls, your visits and all your support as we work together to serve our boys!

With gratitude,

Peter Saliba

### Supporting Boys, Shaping Futures

BRIAN HARRIS, GUIDING WITH HEART AS A MENTOR AND ADVOCATE

Brian's passion for youth mentorship shines through his involvement with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Mayhew, and as a Rotary Exchange host parent. Having lost his father at age 12, Brian grew up without a male mentor, "I wish I had a program like Mayhew growing up". His connection to Mayhew began when his "Little Brother," Michael, was selected to join the program. Over the past two years, Brian has proudly watched Michael grow into a confident young leader. A memorable highlight was inviting Mayhew to present at the Meredith Rotary Club, and watching Michael take charge of the Q&A session, speaking confidently about his Mayhew experience. "It's amazing to see the leadership these boys develop," says Brian.

One of Brian's favorite Mayhew memories is attending the Mayhew Olympics and watching the boys' synchronized swimming competition this summer. He encourages everyone to visit Mayhew to witness firsthand the fun, structure, and character development that the program instills in the boys. "Yes, the boys do finish their lunch before dessert and clear the table!" he proudly notes.

Brian says he supports Mayhew because of its impact—ensuring boys attend at no cost and are part of the program all year long. He strongly believes that all contributions, big or small, can make a meaningful difference in the program. He continues to be a proud supporter of Mayhew's mission to help boys become responsible young men.



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## Summer Success Stories: **Mayhew Boys Shine Bright**

This summer, Mayhew boys embraced new opportunities, overcame challenges, and showcased the values they've learned through the program. From adventure camps to leadership roles, these boys demonstrated growth, determination, and resilience.



Christian is focused on the year ahead



Christian leaps into adventure during Link-Up 2024!

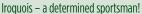
#### **CHRISTIAN (YEAR 6)**

Christian, after several summers of ups and downs, thrived this year as a leader during a week-long Link-Up expedition. As one of the older boys, Christian took his role seriously, embodying Mayhew's values by leading safety talks and offering guidance to his peers. He even studied during the trip's downtime to stay on track academically.

Christian reflected on his growth, sharing "If you want to be a leader, then you must have a calm, respectful approach when interacting with your peers. People like a leader they can connect with, not one that is above them...when I was younger, I frequently got in trouble for breaking the rules because I wanted to be funny and liked, but I see now that you can accomplish these things while leading by example." And this summer Christian did just that!

Iroquois finished his second summer at Mayhew earning the Peter Ivy Lee Award for "most improved boy." How did he achieve this? While sports had been a challenge during his first summer, Iroquois spent the year determined to improve his skills and athletic endurance. When Iroquois arrived on the Island this summer, he was determined to face every challenge and be a leader. His counselors observed Iroquois lead by example to help his cabinmates with the very sports he had struggled with the previous summer. He even received MVP in basketball, his favorite sport, and helped his cabin reach and win the basketball championship. Iroquois, who shies away from praise, says he was "just doing his 'thang" this summer, adding that Mayhew is where he feels most like himself, the





**IROQUOIS (YEAR 2)** 

"true Iroquois."



Iroquois – basketball champ!



Iroquois receives the Peter Ivy Lee Award

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#### JAXON (YEAR 3)

After two successful summers on Mayhew Island, Jaxon received a scholarship to attend Camp Pasquaney for seven weeks this summer. He had one word to describe his experience – amazing! Of all the activities offered, his favorite was playing baseball every week. The highlight for Jaxon was being part of the Pasquaney baseball team that played against Mayhew in their twice-a-summer exhibition games. This connection to both camps made Jaxon feel like he hadn't left Mayhew behind, even as he embraced new experiences. Representing Mayhew at Pasquaney meant a lot to Jaxon, as he carried the core values he learned at Mayhew with him, making the transition meaningful and fulfilling.



Al authaut Danard Danard

Jaxon reunites with Mayhew through baseball!



Kyon's always up for a fishing trip!



Kyon's big catch at Mayhew summer 2023

#### KYON (YEAR 3)

Kyon had the chance to attend the Barry Conservation Camp's "Fish Camp" this summer on a scholarship from the Pemigewasset Chapter of Trout Unlimited. He described it as one of the "best experiences of my life" and now he just wants to fish even more! At camp, Kyon felt successful making friends and connecting with others who shared his love of fishing. One of his favorite days was near the end of camp—it was spent swimming and fishing with this final catch being a three-pound fish! Reflecting on his time, Kyon shared that Mayhew taught him "to communicate better" with his peers and to "keep my cool"—lessons that made his Fish Camp experience all the more rewarding.



Let's go fishing!

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293 West Shore Rd Bristol, NH 03222



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