Sierra Nevada Journeys supporters celebrate purchase of Grizzly Creek Ranch

In 2003, Sierra Health Foundation opened Grizzly Creek Ranch in Plumas County as a magical place where children with medical, physical and developmental disabilities and youth from historically marginalized communities could explore nature in a fully accessible, safe and fun environment. The camp’s founding purpose was to improve health, independence and life skills by exposing campers to the wonders of nature in an accessible and accepting environment.

We partnered with Sierra Nevada Journeys in 2009 to launch a state-of-the-art outdoor education program at the camp, with hands-on learning that emphasized youth development, science education, green technology, alternative energy and environmental stewardship. Sierra Nevada Journeys purchased Grizzly Creek Ranch in August 2020 after a three-year capital campaign and hosted a belated celebration with camp supporters earlier this month. Sierra Health Foundation President and CEO Chet P. Hewitt was among the supporters and accepted honors on behalf of Sierra Health Foundation, including the unveiling of a memorial bench dedicated to our late board member Carol Whiteside, who also served as a Sierra Nevada Journeys trustee.

Sierra Nevada Journeys CEO Eaton Dunkelberger stated, “The celebration may be in honor of the people who supported the capital campaign and programs like ours, but it is truly the youth who we celebrate each and every day at Grizzly Creek Ranch.” We couldn’t agree more.