STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

June 20, 2025

Travis Ickes
Camp Kesem National
440 N. Barranca Avenue #2273
Covina, CA 91723

RE: Application #: CR440419464
Camp Kesem at Michigan State University
3409 N. Five Lakes Road
Lapeer, MI 48446

Dear Travis:

Attached is the Original Licensing Study Report for the above referenced facility. The study has determined substantial compliance with applicable licensing statutes and administrative rules. Therefore, original PROGRAM license has been issued.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. If I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the licensing unit at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

James Vanden Heuvel

James Vanden Heuvel, Lead Camp Consultant
Camp Licensing Unit
105 W. Allegan St. 2nd Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
616-901-3730

CAMP ORIGINAL LICENSING STUDY REPORT

Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

PROGRAM License Number	PROGRAM (Camp) Name		Application Date		
CR440419464	Camp Kesem at Michigan State University		4/17/2025		
PROGRAM Phone Number	PROGRAM Applicant Address		City	State	Zip
(253) 736-3821	440 N. Barranca Avenue #2273		Covina	CA	91723
SITE License Number	SITE Name	Camp SITE Address	City	State	Zip
SR440200332	Lions Bear Lake Camp	3409 N. Five Lakes Road	Lapeer	MI	48446
Camp SITE Telephone	Applicant/Licensee Designee Name		E-Mail		
(248) 895-6944	Travis Ickes		msu@kesem.org		

Is the PROGRAM applicant the same as SITE Applicant/Licensee?
☐ Yes ☒ No

Terms: Gender: Both Capacity: 75
From Age: 6 To Age: 18

PROGRAM Type
☐ Day ☒ Residential ☐ Troop ☐ Travel

SITE Type
☐ New Day Site ☐ New Residential Site
☐ Existing Day Site ☒ Existing Residential Site

METHODOLOGY

04/17/2025	Enrollment
04/13/2025	PSOR on Address Completed No Findings
04/23/2025	File Transferred to Field Office
05/06/2025	Written Policies Received for Review
05/13/2025	Written Policies Approved
05/13/2025	Inspection Completed-BCAL Full Compliance
05/13/2025	Recommend License Issuance

DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Outdoor	☒ Acreage: 120	☒ Water Supply: Public	☒ Sewage: Public	Bodies of Water: ☒ Lake(s) ☐ Pond(s) ☐ River(s) ☐ Pool(s)		☐ Other:	
Indoor	Sleeping ☒ Dormitory ☒ Cabins ☐ Tents ☐ None	Dining ☒ Dining Hall ☐ Outdoor	Health Area ☒ Center ☐ Office ☒ Isolation	Activity Area(s) ☐ Classrooms ☐ Craft Rooms ☐ Gym ☒ Multipurpose ☐ Indoor pool(s)	Bathroom(s) ☒ Indoor ☐ Portable ☒ Accessible	Fire Safety: QFI approved	Env. Health: EHI approved
High Adventure	Aquatics ☒ Swimming ☐ Sailing ☒ Canoe/kayak ☐ Waterskiing ☐ Tubing ☐ Waterslide	Target ☒ Archery ☐ Riflery ☐ Other:	Trail Sport ☐ Biking ☐ Horseback ☐ Go Carts ☐ Other:	Adventure ☒ Low Obstacle ☐ High Ropes ☒ Rappelling ☒ Climbing ☒ Zipline ☐ Gymnastics	Travel ☐ Day Trips ☐ Overnight Off-site	Other: ☐ ☐ Winter Sports: ☐ ☐	

Findings: This residential camp program operates at Lions Bear Lake Camp (SR440200332), located in Lapeer County, Michigan by Impaired Youth Camp, Inc. Its facilities include accessible accommodations, summer cabins, meeting spaces, a challenge course, and recreational spaces all designed to foster leadership, independence, and confidence in campers. This licensed campsite is suitable to host this children's residential camp program.

B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Operation Schedule Period (days, times, season)	Summer only, 2 six-day session periods
Staffing (Adult Staff to Camper Ratio)	1 adult to 10 campers maximum.

Training (Staff Training Content and Time)	☒ proper supervision ☒ behavior management ☒ program development for age groups ☒ child protection ☒ plans for emergencies, rain, and regular camp operations. Proposed Staff Training Hours (3 hours per week of service): ☒Yes ☐No

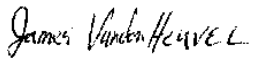
Findings: This children's residential camp is sponsored by Kesem, a program supporting children through their parent's cancer diagnosis and treatment. This summer camp is a free, overnight summer camp experience designed for children ages 6-18 who are impacted by a parent's cancer journey. The camp program offers fun-filled activities and supportive community, helping kids navigate anxiety, isolation, and uncertainty. This Kesem chapter is affiliated with Michigan State University and the camp staff include college students, mental health professionals, and nurses to support the campers. This camp meets applicable camp licensing rules to operate a children's camp.

C. RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS

The camp PROGRAM were found to be in substantial compliance with statute and administrative rules.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend issuance of an original PROGRAM license to this residential children's camp.

	James Vanden Heuvel	6/19/2025
Consultant's Signature	Printed Name/Licensing Consultant	Date
	Deondra S. Ramsey	6/20/2025
Approved By:	Printed Name/ Manager	Date

Commented [JV1]: @Ramsey, Deondra (MiLEAP) please review and sign.

Commented [DR2R1]: signed

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