



CAMPAGNA ACADEMY, Inc.

Chronology

The story begins....

1904

- ✚ Michael Campagna is born on September 5th in a small town near Rome, Italy.

1944

- ✚ In March “The Home of Opportunity for Youth” is incorporated as a not-for-profit, non-sectarian corporation “for the rehabilitation of emotionally disturbed boys.”

1947

- ✚ 105 acres of farmland are purchased in Schererville, Indiana for \$300/acre.
- ✚ In July the name is changed and Hoosier Boys’ Town is formally dedicated.
- ✚ In August the first three boys arrive and, in less than a week, Hoosier Boys Town is filled to capacity.

1951

- ✚ Groundbreaking begins in the spring for the expansion of the main building.
- ✚ In October the new wing is formally dedicated.

1954

- ✚ State chapters of Beta Sigma Phi, an international sorority, adopt Hoosier Boys Town as their state project.

1956

- ✚ Three nuns, members of a 300-year old religious community in Italy, arrive in February to assist in the kitchen, dispensary and laundry.
- ✚ A frame building is moved from Gary to the Schererville campus. After remodeling and renovation, the building is dedicated on July 29, 1956. This building expands the capacity of Hoosier Boys’ Town to 32.

1958

- ✚ The new Administration Building is built with offices and a library.

1961

- ✚ A convent and chapel are built for the sisters.

1965

- ✚ The third cottage is dedicated.

1966

- ✚ In April a large garage and carport are remodeled into a central dining room;

However...

- ✚ One hour after completion, the first cottage is destroyed by fire.

1967

- ✚ An all-purpose building is completed.

1968

- ✚ The fourth cottage is dedicated.
- ✚ In June, after dividing his time since 1947, between his parish in East Chicago and Hoosier Boys' Town, Father Campagna becomes the full-time director of Hoosier Boys' Town.

1969

- ✚ An addition to the all-purpose building is completed providing an indoor swimming pool and equipment garage.

1972

- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town celebrates its 25th anniversary.
- ✚ Cottage 2 is remodeled.

1975

- ✚ Father Campagna and Hoosier Boys' Town are featured in an article in the Chicago Tribune.

1977

- ✚ Lake County Women's Council names Father Campagna as one of the "Outstanding Men of the Calumet Area."

1979

- ✚ Father Michael Campagna, founder and tireless champion of Hoosier Boys' Town, passes away on July 15th and is laid to rest in Calumet Cemetery in Merrillville.
- ✚ Father Pat Garza becomes administrator. During his tenure, more than 3,000 trees were planted on a 47-acre tree farm owned by the agency, providing substantial assistance with the annual budget.

1982

- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town celebrates its 35th anniversary.

1983

- ✚ A portable building is procured and used as a transitional classroom.
- ✚ Lay people are hired to work in the kitchen, and full-time house parents are placed in the cottages.

1987

- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town celebrates its 40th anniversary.

1988

- ✚ Dr. Michela Coffaro is hired as the first lay executive director.

1990

- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town Foundation, Inc. is founded to provide management and oversight of the organization's assets and endowment.
- ✚ Directors include priests, assigned by the diocese.

1991

- ✚ Anita Dygert-Gearheart begins her 14-year term as CEO.
- ✚ A therapeutic summer program is initiated.

1994

- ✚ New vision and mission statements are created.
- ✚ The gymnasium is renovated.
- ✚ A Challenge Course is built.

1996

- ✚ The Alternative Day Treatment program begins.
- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town receives its first accreditation from the Council on Accreditation of Services for Children and Families (COA).
- ✚ Aftercare Services are added.

1997

- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town celebrates 50 years of serving boys and their families.
- ✚ The first girls arrive on campus for the Alternative Day Treatment Program.
- ✚ The swimming pool is upgraded.
- ✚ Groundbreaking occurs for a new multi-purpose facility located at the north end of the campus.

1998

- ✚ Cottage 3 opens as an independent living unit.
- ✚ The GED program is added.

1999

- ✚ A \$300,000 grant from the Kresge Foundation is secured for the new multi-purpose facility. New mission and vision statements are created.

2000

- ✚ The new multi-purpose facility is dedicated as the Campagna Center.
- ✚ Hoosier Boys' Town receives reaccreditation by Council on Accreditation.

2001

- ✚ The Journey and Intensive Substance Abuse programs open.
- ✚ Cottage 1 is lost to fire.
- ✚ A softball diamond, soccer field, track, outdoor basketball and tennis court and a walking path through the woods are added.
- ✚ To reflect the population served and to honor its founder, Hoosier Boys' Town name changes to Campagna Academy in May.
- ✚ The foundation changes name to Campagna Foundation in June.
- ✚ Campagna Academy opens the first charter school in Northwest Indiana, and a daycare center opens so that young mothers can continue their education.
- ✚ A house for independent living opens in Hammond.

2003

- ✚ First full-time nurse joins the staff.
- ✚ First Campagna scholarships are awarded.
- ✚ The gymnasium is lost to fire.
- ✚ Campagna Academy becomes a licensed child-placing agency.
- ✚ Outpatient Services begin at the Campagna Counseling Center.
- ✚ The first high school graduation is held at Campagna Academy Charter School.

2004

- ✚ Campagna Academy is again reaccredited.
- ✚ A new logo is developed.

2006

- ✚ In January, the new athletic and recreational facility is dedicated with Bishop Melczek presiding.
- ✚ In July, Bruce D. Hillman is hired as CEO.

2007

- ✚ Plans are developed to build a new, 48-bed private secure facility boys and girls.
- ✚ Campagna Foundation merges with Campagna Academy, Inc., as part of an organizational restructuring.
- ✚ Campagna Academy celebrates 60 years of serving children and their families.

2008

- ✚ In September, a great flood drenches northwest Indiana and severely damages Cottages 3 and 5, as well as the Chapel.
- ✚ In November, the new private secure facility (Hope Center) opens its doors.

2009

- ✚ In April, Cottage 5 reopens after the great flood
- ✚ In April, Ball State University extends its charter to Campagna Academy Charter School for another three years.

2011

- ✚ In April, we received certification from the state of Indiana to operate as a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF). This makes Campagna the only PRTF facility in Lake County giving families and youth who live in Lake and surrounding counties additional treatment options.
- ✚ In May, we received our first PRTF Client.

GENERAL FACTS:

Licensed by the Indiana Department of Child Services

Accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children

Member of IARCCA, an Indiana Association of Children and Family Services

Member of the Child Welfare League of America

Better Business Bureau's Seal of Charity Accountability

A Great Lake Award Recipient for Excellence in Nonprofit Management, awarded by the Legacy Foundation, Lake County's community foundation, and Grants, Inc.

Referrals are accepted from the Department of Child Services, Juvenile Court, Department of Corrections and Department of Education for our treatment programs. The charter school is open to all Lake County, Indiana students of high school age.

Campagna Academy employs some 150 full and part-time employees and annually serves 350 at-risk youth and a total of some 500 clients that includes families and individuals through its counseling center. The agency is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is governed by a board of directors in accordance with its mission and established by-laws.