

Hawk Circle

Summer Progress Report, 2021



YAY! We have
bathrooms in Eagle
House!

Greetings from Hawk Circle!

This has been a wonderful year for us in many ways. It's given us the time and space to work on Eagle House and other necessary projects, clean up old projects, and re-envision our work here at Hawk Circle. But we've been acutely aware as each day passes, that there's an urgency to completing the projects and re-opening as funds certainly don't last forever.

The disaster relief loan we received last year from the SBA helped us to refund our camper families and the school class trip deposits. It also helped us with overall monthly expenses like electricity, lease, propane, insurance etc. What was left over, along with last year's donations, all went to buying more wood and other things needed for Eagle House.

So here we are. Grant DeNies has been instrumental in helping to complete Eagle House. He is a master craftsman and has appreciated having a safe place to stay while waiting for the pandemic to end. We are incredibly grateful for having him here.

Our Soft Opening

As fall nears, we are preparing to re-open with a Forest Family Retreat, several one-day classes and a fall timber frame, month-long apprentice program.

But here's our situation. We have enough funds to pay for the flooring that we hope will be done drying soon. The boards are currently being kiln dried at an Amish farm. So our plan is to have the floor in before our groups arrive. And our bathrooms are all in, which is so great as we won't have to deal with porta-johns any longer. (Big YAY for that!).

What we won't have are funds to install the **heating system** which was the one and only complaint with the groups that came here for our fall programs. We also won't have showers.

We are so so very close to completing this project. And we still have Grant here to help, so it is the opportune time to keep moving forward.

If there is any way that you could donate now, we will be able to purchase and install the heating system before our first group arrives. Any funds we receive above and beyond will be used to purchase first showers, second siding, and third, the wood for making the timber frame deck off the west end of Eagle House.



Lots of varnishing around the windows.



Painting the doors on the inside of the hallway.



We've stained the bathroom and hallway doors. All ready to install!

Hawk Circle Re-envisioned



We are living in uncertain times. The pandemic has revealed many things, but what concerns us the most is the level of stress and anxiety that both adults and children are experiencing. We've seen this becoming an increasing problem over the years; children and adults with less patience and more unsettledness that are craving comfort, safety and renewal.

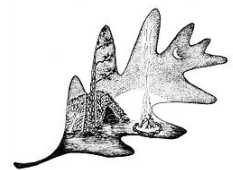
We've talked about this a great deal over the past five years, but the pandemic has given us the opportunity to really re-envision Hawk Circle so that we can offer experiences that address the current needs.

We are shifting to more retreats for families and adults, offering them time immersed in nature with trails to explore, good food, inspiring

activities and healing experiences. With this, updating our facilities is an important step.

Our rustic facilities have served many over the years, but now, people's stress and anxiety requires a certain level of comfort where they can depend on their basic needs being met. Waking up in a cold cabin to frost on the ground, or listening to a mouse chew all night adds to their stress. Our plan is to update our cabins so they are comfortable, clean and warm. We want people to feel nurtured so they can fully relax, unwind and heal. They'll have a warm and cozy cabin, clean bathrooms and showers, and a beautiful space for yoga and meditation

I have been meeting with a business development expert that offers free planning and counseling services. She is helping to find local funding agencies that offer economic stimulus grants and other grants for nature education, along with a two-phase business development plan. This isn't something that we can expect to benefit from immediately. Our phase one is to seek funding that will enable us to update our cabins. They served us well as cabins used only in the summer months, but here in the northeast, that's a short season. Our plan is to insulate the cabins, install new
continued on page 5.



Eagle House Progress

2021

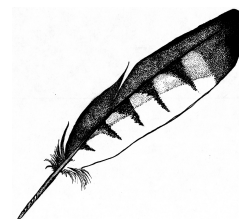
What still needs to be completed before our fall program season arrives:


We are offering fall retreats in October and a few of the things that we absolutely must complete before our groups arrive are:

- **Flooring** is our other big step. We are ordering larch boards that are being milled and kiln-dried by an Amish sawmill. There has been a real shortage of wood that has delayed our orders both with the larger stores, but also with the Amish. **Cost: \$4,200**
- **Heating System.** It's cold here in the fall. Even in August we have chilly nights and mornings where having a heated space is needed, especially when our guests are sleeping in unheated cabins. After several quotes on a variety of different heating systems, a heat exchange system is the most affordable and easy to install. **Cost: \$15,000**
- **Lighting Fixtures** We have many of our fixtures for Eagle House already purchased, but have a few more to get. Our electrician is scheduled to come the first week of September. **Cost: \$1,000**
- **Plumbing** We have all the plumbing fixtures in except for the hallway sink and showers. He will be submitting his final bill. **Estimated Cost: \$1,200**
- **Other projects, such as exterior siding and deck can wait until the spring and will not prohibit us from offering programs this fall.**
- **Exterior Siding and Trim** will probably be one of the last things we do. **\$12,000**
- **Exterior Deck and Railing** will be a project that Grant and Ricardo will work on this winter for spring installation. **\$3,500**

For more info and pictures go to:

<https://www.hawkcircle.com/donate>





wall boards, and electricity and heat. This way, we extend our program season well into the shoulder seasons and possibly, even offer a few winter programs and retreats.

This will help Hawk Circle to gain financial stability. With more and more people looking for nature-related experiences and retreats, becoming a more year round facility will fill a growing need. We've had more people sign up on our email list this past year than ever before.

Our second phase, which we hope to complete in the next three years is to replace the farmhouse and secure the entrance to Hawk Circle. The farmhouse is, unfortunately, not a well-built house and not worth saving. Our plan is to replace the farmhouse with additional lodging and dining hall. Securing our entrance has been a concern. We had first refusal on our neighbors land for years, but as he was preparing to sell, he received an offer he couldn't pass up, so we are looking at two other properties that are in front of ours that would give us access to the main road. Phase two is definitely a very costly endeavor and one that we are hoping to find grants and perhaps corporate sponsorship to fund the projects.

We are excited for these changes!

Trista

Here are a Few of our New Programs Coming up this Fall

- The Forest Family Retreat offered seasonally with Ricardo, Trista and Grant
- The Timber Frame Apprentice Program with Ricardo and Grant
- Drumming and the Four Directions with Cheryl Decker
- Alchemy Yoga with Trista
- Sacred Oil Alchemy Certification Class for nurses and hospice workers, with Trista
- Fall After-school Programs with CROP

Thank you for taking the time to read this year's progress report and for being long-time supporters of the Hawk Circle community. We've so appreciated your support and friendship over the years.

If you can offer a donation, we would be so very grateful as we do need the help to continue moving forward.

Best wishes to you and your family. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Trista, Ricardo and Javier



Ricardo and I installed flooring in the hallway and bathrooms. We didn't realize our bodies could bend and contort in several different ways until we spent a week putting in the floor. HAHA

We're looking to raise \$22,400 by September.

We so appreciate your continual support of our work and this project.