

HOLMES CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

Rev. Donald A. Hostetter Leadership Award



The Holmes Board is pleased to honor **Dr. Ansley W. LaMar** with The Rev. Donald A. Hostetter Leadership Award. Since his days as a camper, then camp counselor, to his leadership on the Holmes Board and his role as youth mentor and founder of Superkidz Kamp, Dr. LaMar has demonstrated excellence and integrity in leadership at Holmes and beyond. We are proud to call him an alum and friend.

Dr. Ansley W. LaMar's relationship with Holmes Camp & Retreat Center spans more than six decades. He first arrived at Holmes as a 13-year-old camper and returned for six summers, an experience that profoundly shaped his understanding of leadership, community, service, and personal growth. He later returned to Holmes, serving six summers as a counselor before continuing his commitment to the camp as a member of the Board of Directors—first as an ex officio member in the 1970's and again as a full board member in the 2020's. During his most recent board service, he chaired the Fundraising Committee for three years and the Nominating Committee for one year. Inspired by the transformative impact Holmes had on his own life, Dr. LaMar founded SuperKidz Kamp in 1997 so that young people could experience the same sense of belonging, challenge, discovery, and growth that he experienced as a camper. Today, SuperKidz Kamp continues that mission by helping children discover their gifts, build confidence, develop character, and cultivate compassion through leadership experiences, cooperative challenges, and reflection.

Dr. LaMar is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at New Jersey City University, where he devoted more than fifty years to teaching, mentoring, and academic leadership, serving as Dean and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Chair of the Psychology Department, Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund Program, and in several other leadership positions. He is also the founder of LaMar Educational Enterprises, LLC, a certified Life Coach, and a Master Practitioner of Neuro-Linguistic Programming who has dedicated his career to helping individuals, organizations, and communities realize their potential through the practical application of psychology.

His commitment to service extends well beyond higher education. Dr. LaMar currently serves as President of the Board of the Sickle Cell Association of New Jersey and has served on numerous nonprofit boards throughout his career. His contributions have been recognized with multiple honors, including New Jersey City University's Walter Glospie Memorial Service Award and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Service Award.

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. LaMar considers his greatest blessings to be his wife, Mary, their son, Hunter, and the lives he has been privileged to touch as an educator, coach, camp director, and community leader. His life's mission has remained remarkably consistent: to help people recognize their gifts and use them in service to others.

Receiving an award that bears Donald Hostetter's name is especially meaningful because Rev. Hostetter's commitment to servant leadership, community, and developing others reflects the values that have guided Dr. LaMar throughout his life and career.