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CAMP FIRE USA KICKS OFF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION WITH 100 HOUR FIRE

Heart of Oklahoma Council Honors National Organization for 100 Years of Improving the Lives of Youth

Oklahoma City, OK – Camp Fire USA Heart of Oklahoma Council invites all current and past members of Camp Fire USA to celebrate the national organization’s centennial at Camp DaKaNi located at 3601 E. Hefner Road in Oklahoma City. Activities will begin with a fire lighting ceremony on Saturday, March 13 at 2 p.m. and will continue through Wednesday, March 17 until 8 p.m. The campfire will burn for 100 hours – one hour for each year Camp Fire USA has been touching the lives of children.

Over the course of the 4 days that the 100 hour fire will burn, participants will take part in many activities, including a scavenger hunt, viewing a Camp Fire history display and a remembrance ceremony to recognize alumni who have passed away. Members can camp out overnight, have a picnic and/or do a service project.

“This is just the beginning of our Centennial celebration,” said Susan Williams, senior program director for the Heart of Oklahoma Council. “We will also hold a 100th birthday party at Camp DaKaNi on March 27, and then on July 31, campfires will be lit at the different Councils across the country to celebrate the legacy that is Camp Fire. It’s a very exciting time for us.”

The image of a campfire has been a part of Camp Fire USA’s logo since its inception in 1910. Over the years changes have been made to the logo, but the campfire has always remained constant. The logo’s “fluid flame” reflects the flexibility of Camp Fire USA programs, which can be customized to meet local needs and interests. The flame represents fire as the center of community. It is open on all sides to represent Camp Fire USA’s commitment to inclusiveness. The red, white and blue colors symbolize citizenship and character.

Camp Fire USA was originally founded in 1910 as a Camp Fire Girls, the first non-sectarian organization for girls in the United States. In the mid-70’s the organization was opened to boys and became Camp Fire Inc. In 1983 the organization changed its name to Camp Fire Boys & Girls, and in 2001 became Camp Fire USA.

“I’m very proud to be involved in an organization that has made a difference in so many lives for so many years,” said Michaelanne Morgan, director of marketing, communications and special events for the Heart of Oklahoma Council. “Camp Fire USA has a 100 year old history of community service, outdoor programs, service learning and camping, all of which provide youth with the tools needed to be self-reliant, confident leaders.”

About Camp Fire USA

For nearly a century, Camp Fire USA has changed young people’s lives. We offer girls and boys, from birth to 21 years of age, opportunities to learn and play together in comfortable settings. Through their interaction and involvement with Camp Fire, they build confidence and independence and develop an awareness of who they are and who they can become. They learn to protect nature by discovery, curiosity, compassion, and concern for the environment. As Camp Fire continues to strengthen youth and families, the benefits can be seen in local communities. For more information on Camp Fire USA Heart of Oklahoma Council, please visit our website at www.campfireusa-ok.org.

MEDIA: The media is invited to this event. Contact Michaelanne Morgan at (405) 201-0227 for more information. Interviews with Camp Fire staff, current members and alumni can be arranged.