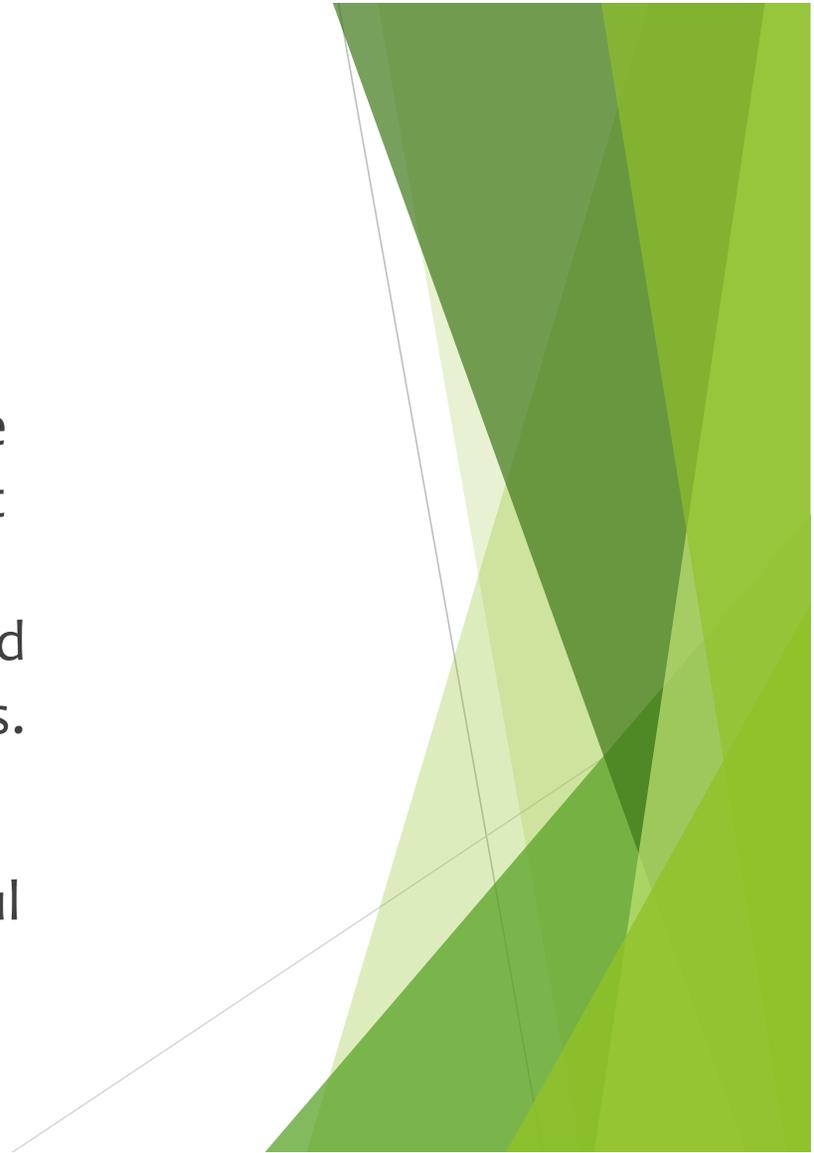




Association of Camphill Communities

# Camphill Values Today

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- ▶ Values are basic beliefs that guide or motivate attitudes and actions. Values describe the personal qualities we chose to embody to guide our actions, the sort of person we want to be, the manner in which we treat ourselves and others, and our interaction with the world around us.
  - ▶ Values are the motive behind purposeful action.



## A Question to ponder

In Camphill it is not only about facilitating meaningful lives, undertaking what we do with meaning, **it is also about understanding the meaning behind why and how we do what we do**. Is it perhaps this aspect that is currently falling away, and this aspect that makes (made) Camphill different from many other places



## A Pioneering Thought

“As Camphill we have a message, something to formulate and to convey through the way we live, through the way we speak, and in ways we do not yet know. With every year, every month, every passing day, the urgency and the need for this message increases. We must endeavour to equip all those who stay here and who leave us with powerful and intense enthusiasm for the good, for the dignity, the divinity of human existence on earth. Thus we may live up to the task that is laid upon us. “

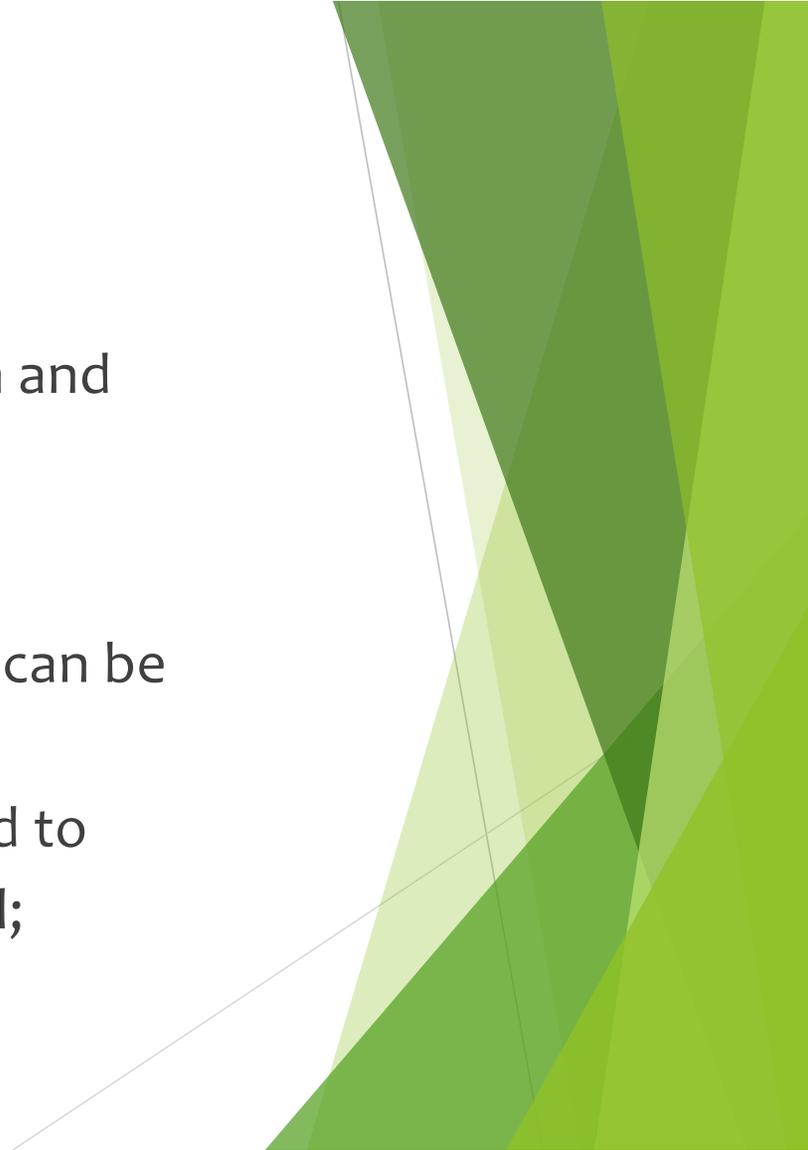
Thomas Weihs from the Annual Report at the Camphill Schools, 1975

## We value the uniqueness of each individual

- ▶ We are committed to uphold the human dignity of each individual
- ▶ most especially when this dignity is in danger of not being acknowledged. Our life together in community and the work that we do together is inspired by an understanding of Anthroposophy - the insights of Rudolf Steiner - as it relates to the world today and is enriched by the work of Karl Konig and others, who founded the Camphill Movement.

- ▶ We believe that each of us is a human being and also a spiritual being - and that each of us is on our own journey of inner development.
- ▶ We know that people do their best when they live and work together in service to a higher aim.



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- ▶ For us in Camphill that aim is to create communities in which people with and without disabilities can live, work, learn and celebrate together.
  - ▶ We value being part of a welcoming community where strong relationships can be developed based on trust, respect and positive regard. A community dedicated to the care and spiritual wellbeing of us all; celebrating differences and nurturing creativity.
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- ▶ Through conscious effort, through self-reflection and through being open to the reflection from others, we strive to improve ourselves so that we are better able to help others. We try and overcome personal antipathies and interpersonal difficulties for the sake of the greater good.



## We value meaningful work and the experience of lifelong learning

We endow our life and work with significance - everything we do deserves our attention and care. We care for our houses, the land, everything that is a part of the life of the community where we live and work. We do our work out of a sense of love and devotion – as a deed to others and to the community of which we are part.



We value the opportunities that meaningful work provides in giving purpose and direction in our lives. An enhanced sense of wellbeing and greater self-confidence are experienced in the value others see in our contributions.



We strive to ensure that our Communities are places of learning, where each person, no matter what their age, can avail of educational, social, cultural, artistic and therapeutic opportunities and experiences that will enhance their knowledge of the world around them and of their own experience of themselves.



We value striving to achieve high personal and organisational standards of professional conduct and practice in everyday work. At the heart of our professional approach is taking ownership and initiative, being accountable for our actions, and building trust and teamwork.

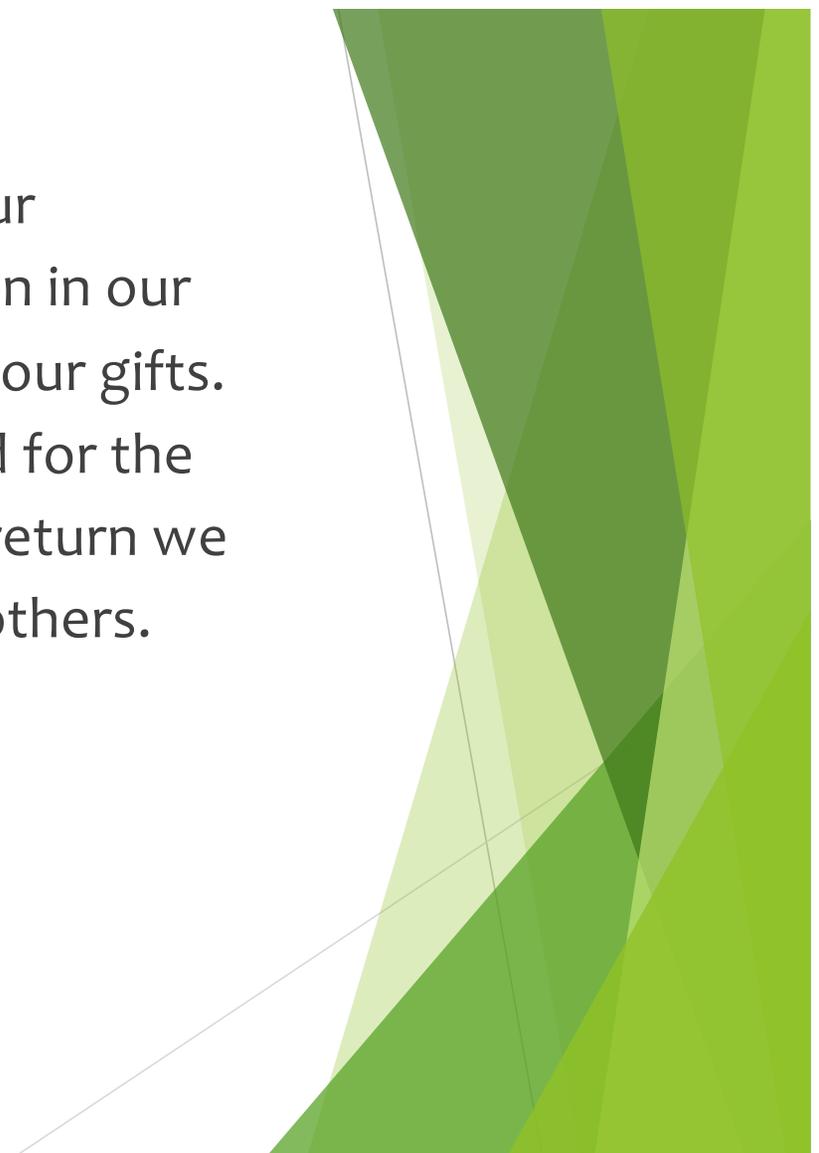


## We value shared lives in community

We value the opportunities we have to share in meaningful life activities, which enable everyone to contribute in co-creating our harmonious homes workplaces and places of learning. Our community wellbeing and that of each individual stems from these endeavours.



We each play a part in the shared life of our communities. We each make a contribution in our own way - through our work and through our gifts. We do the best that we can for others and for the community that we are a part of – and in return we benefit from the work and efforts of the others.

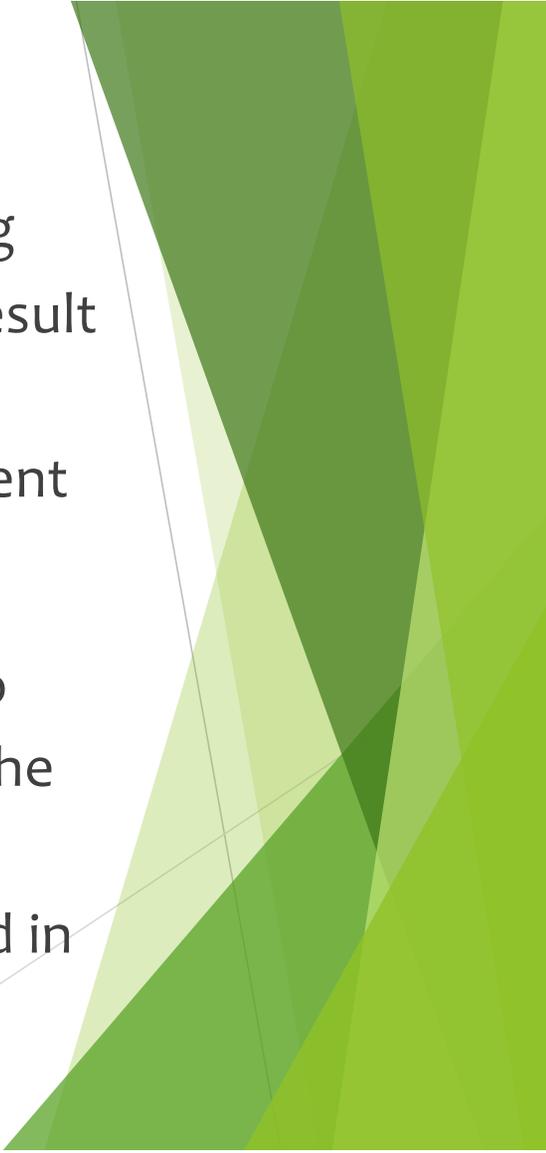


# We value and care for the land and the wider environment that surrounds us

We want to contribute to the wider society of which we are a part and to be a force for good in the world.



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- ▶ We recognise our responsibility to the environment that surrounds and recognise that we must live within our means from both an ecological and economic perspective. We seek to respect the land that we have and to look after it in ways that are ecologically sustainable.
  - ▶ We actively promote a sense of common cause and collaboration with other Camphill communities in our own country and around the world.

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- ▶ We recognise that things are changing - society is changing; our organisational structures are changing and people's needs and wishes are changing. As a result the sense of community also changes – it grows stronger and weaker at different times and in different places.
  - ▶ Yet, through all these changes, we are committed to living and working together in ways that can make the values of Camphill manifest in our own life, in the Camphill communities in which we live and work and in society.

## Underpinning all

Our life together in community and the work that we do together is inspired by an understanding of Anthroposophy - the insights of Rudolf Steiner - as it relates to the world today and is enriched by the work of Karl Konig, who founded the Camphill Movement.

Anthroposophy in a nutshell is a “spiritually orientated path of self knowledge that leads to an awareness of one’s own humanity”

Swinton and Faulkner