

Dan Zenkel



My SCOPE journey began twenty years ago when I joined the Benefit Committee at Jay Jacobs' request. After several years on that committee, I joined SCOPE's Board. A few years later, Andy Siegel, then SCOPE's long-serving President, asked me to become Board President, and I eventually accepted. After stepping down as President, my wife, Michele, and I twice chaired the annual benefit. More recently, I've chaired the SCOPE Golf Outing and have served as the organization's Treasurer. And, twenty years later, I remain a member of the Benefit Committee.

Along the way, I've been privileged to work with two, first-rate Executive Directors, Michele Friedman and Molly Hott Gallagher. And I've enjoyed working alongside and developing friendships with dozens of SCOPE Board, Benefit Committee and Golf Committee Members.

My commitment to SCOPE is grounded in a belief that summer camp is the number one path out of poverty for children and that SCOPE is the number one charity clearing that path. Camp benefits all children, but its benefits are life-altering for those with little or nothing. Camp puts these underserved children in a safe environment and in the company of young adults tasked with fostering their growth and well-being. It exposes them to lakes, mountains, forests, wildlife and other natural wonders. They emerge with a brighter vision of the world and of their own potential.

To receive this award from SCOPE, an organization doing this transformative work, is the honor of a lifetime. Thank you.

About Dan Zenkel:

Dan is the owner and founder of the Berkshire Soccer Academy for Girls. He is a co-founder and advisor to North American Camp Trust, and he is a partner, with Nancy Diamond, in The Camp Professionals, a camp consulting company.

Dan co-founded CampGroup, LLC and served as its President, and then CEO, from 1998 through mid-2009. Prior to starting CampGroup, Dan practiced law. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Columbia Law School.

Dan and Michele have been married for 29 years. They have two children. Nikki (27) works in camping, and Jack (26) is a play-by-play broadcaster.

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Ben Appelbaum Advocate
for Youth Award
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