The genesis of Hidden Villa Summer Camp in 1945 was a direct response to rampant racism, disenfranchisement, and tension between people who treated each other as fundamentally different. Over 65 years later, these problems have changed in appearance but continue to cause conflict.

Our challenge, as educators, is to break down prejudices and cultivate respect by building community within a diverse group of young leaders.

Scholarships ensure that Camp is accessible to youth of all socioeconomic backgrounds, creating opportunities for personal development and friendships that empower them to make positive changes in themselves and their communities and reinforce stewardship. HVSC also provides an integrated continuum of learning experiences that extend beyond one summer; campers grow skills and confidence that they can bring to their personal lives, their schools, their families, and their communities.

We see countless examples of former campers who attribute their careers in education, social work, and community organizing to their experience at Camp. Fun Camp activities such as farm chores, hiking, or animal encounters also build confidence, develop leadership abilities, and teach problem-solving and communication skills. Through their shared experiences, Campers build community and experience teamwork, meanwhile exploring the problems and feelings associated with peer pressure and identity.

Hidden Villa is a nonprofit educational organization in the Los Altos Hills that uses its organic farm, wilderness, and community to teach and provide opportunities to learn about the environment and social justice. Our mission is to inspire a just and sustainable future through our programs, land and legacy. We develop young leaders who are equipped with the tools to make lasting changes in our community.

Hidden Villa celebrates hands-on learning and the impact each of us can make on the world we share. Each day, we strive to reach our mission in numerous ways: we teach young children the most basic concepts about environmental stewardship. We ask youth to consider the impacts of their choices and actions, ultimately encouraging parents to be conscientious consumers in order to share positive social and environmental values with their children. We serve over 50,000 people annually and provide nearly $550,000 in scholarships and partnership support to underserved communities.