

Outdoor Ministry Director's Annual Report

Personnel

Allison Hatfield has joined the Camp MoVal staff this spring as our new Housekeeper. She works two days a week and is doing a wonderful job, and the camp looks great. Marci in the office is really doing a great job. She takes care of all our program registrations and guest services and has taken over the supervision of housekeeping and has become a wonderful asset to our ministry.

We have a mostly new and very diverse summer camp staff this summer including two international staff from Camp America. There are eleven staff this summer and with the ACA accreditation process, I am excited to see how our new staffing model will work.

We are currently without a maintenance person, but are thankful for all the volunteers helping out to keep MoVal looking great. With this absence, it is allowing myself and the Camp Ministry Team to vision a new future for Camp MoVal, with hopefully a new Assistant Director that will be instrumental in growing Camp MoVal in the future.

Operations

We have had two successful workdays this spring along with many individual workgroups throughout the year. I believe we have had over 4,000 volunteer hour given to Camp MoVal and this support continues, I am not sure where we would be without it.

The Camp MoVal Team has been working on a capital purchase and renovation plan to make sure that we develop a new, realistic master plan with real dollars and program growth associated to the plan. We also now have the ability to take credit cards and hope to have online registration in 2015.

Programming

Directors Training has been completed except for a few that are being taken care of on an individual basis. Counselor Training is coming along and there is a three part component to counselor training this year. There is an eight hour on site training, a two hour online component and an eight hour pre-camp training and all of this is to meet ACA requirements.

ACA is coming along, there are just a few things left to complete the standards manual and our first review with ACA went well. With all the ACA requirements, a new staff training manual has been completed and is being implemented this summer.

I traveled to ACA Mid-States in April for training and networking. I also visited churches all across the state the past eight months which included 4 trips to Western Association.

Finances

Camp ended 2013 with a surplus of \$38,160. These funds are on the balance sheet in a Capital Improvement account. The budget for 2014 is going well at this point except for the high cost of propane during the cold winter and a few maintenance related issues due issues with winterization.

I have met with three contractors and the MoVal Team and I are in process of selecting a contractor to do the updating of the dining hall restrooms and making the building fully accessible. Phase two will include accessibility to all of the Lakeside cabins and waterfront. We have also started doing preliminary research and design on converting the old office into a new Health Center for MoVal.

Extras and Notes

Camp MoVal will be hosting a gathering for outdoor ministry folks and conference leadership. We have a chance to show off what makes MoVal successful, and we will need many volunteers. Dates are Oct 20-23, 2014.

I spent a week in Florida in January and April and I received my certification for Children, Youth and Family Faith Formation. This opportunity has been a very enlightening experience and is giving me tools and techniques for implementing faith practices into the life of outdoor and youth ministries, while also recognizing the need to create meaningful relationships and partnerships with our local churches and families.