



THE SOUTH MOUNTAIN YMCA ANNUAL REPORT

■ 2008 ■



CAMP CONRAD WEISER

In 2008, Camp Conrad Weiser celebrated the 60th anniversary of summer resident camp. During those 60 years, over 10,000 young people have attended camp, experienced life on the mountain in a tent or cabin, were guided by strong leadership, and learned life skills. The leaders of today were campers in the past. The campers of today will be our leaders tomorrow. The tradition lives on. This past year 740 children attended a week or more of summer resident camp. Highlights of this past summer were the mountain biking program, return of the swimming lessons in the pool, the sailing and lake front program, the all-camp activities that were rated number one by all campers, our ICEP trip to Germany, 70 of the best staff in recent memory, and Operation Purple. The summer was a coming together of the perfect summer: the campers, staff, weather, and programs.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Outdoor Education programs grew this year by 26%, a record in recent years. The upgraded cabins and bath/shower houses now offer these campers a more comfortable environment to stay while being here to play and learn. That is only part of the success story. The real reason we believe this area is growing is due to the exceptional staff and curriculum offered during this time of year. We no longer refer to the months before and after camp as the “off season”; it is during these months that we provide a learning environment and a recreational facility that is one of the finest anywhere. This past year, over 8000 individuals spent time on the mountain in one of our many programs developed to inspire team work, teach environmental responsibility, practice leadership skills and build individual strengths.



BYNDEN WOOD DAY CAMP

Bynden Wood Day Camp was a safe and fun program again this summer. New this year, overnight campouts were an option for all campers that wanted to experience a sleepover at camp. Hot lunch was available to all campers; moms and campers were thrilled about the opportunity to eat lunch each day in the camp dining hall. 274 children attended an average of 2.5 weeks of camp. What this tells us is that even though we served fewer children in 2008, they stayed at camp for a longer time. We also recognize that we now have many more older campers attending day camp than in the past. Both of these facts challenge the program to continue to be progressive and meet the needs of campers of all ages.

2008 GIFTS

The South Mountain YMCA thanks you, our generous supporters, for your continued support and commitment. This listing was compiled from those gifts and grants received between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008. Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions and would appreciate your comments or corrections at 610-670-2267 or ceo@smymca.org.

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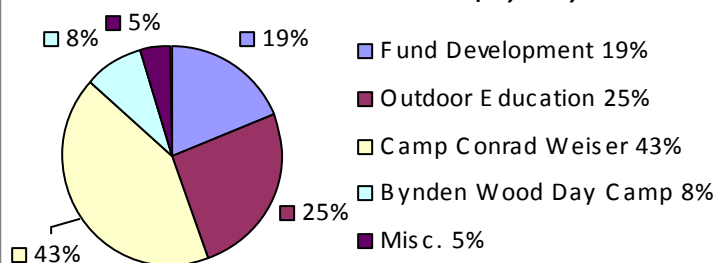
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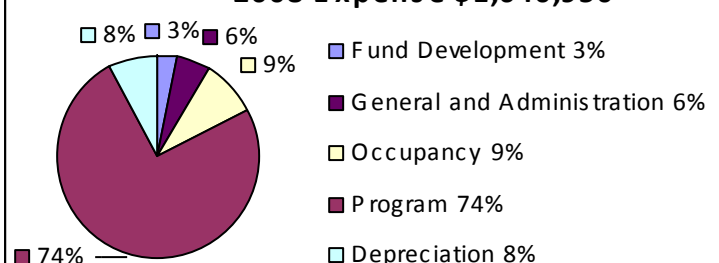
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FINANCIAL REPORT REVENUE VS. EXPENDITURES YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008 *

2008 Revenue \$1,767,634



2008 Expense \$1,640,950



* Preliminary pre-audited figures taken from Dec. 31 financial statements

leadership, character, and life skills while developing caring, honesty, respect and responsibility in young people, families and communities.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

South Mountain YMCA is a nationally recognized leader among independent YMCA camps. This statement is among the goals I have held for SMYMCA during my tenure as Executive Committee member and Board President. There is not an award or official designation for achieving this goal; it is not a component of our strategic plan, but the result of good management, board stewardship and dedicated staff.

We ended 2008 with a fiscal surplus thanks to responsible budgets and diligent financial review. Our investment in programs and targeted marketing produced growth for Outdoor Education and Camp Conrad Weiser. Similar efforts with additional focus on Bynden Wood Day Camp are planned for 2009. Our success comes despite the national economic turmoil and the expectation that the general economy will affect family decisions for the near future.

Families face difficult choices each summer season when deciding on the most appropriate activities for their children. SMYMCA has evolved to include modern, age appropriate and challenging programs while remaining true to our mission and traditions. Despite the added economic challenges, SMYMCA will provide meaningful life changing experiences for campers and families. Our organization is also blessed with the ability to provide scholarships to qualifying families.

The SMYMCA board continues its stewardship through support of fundraising efforts and active committees planning facilities and program growth. Following our successful Capital Campaign and completion of Phase 1 of the Master Plan, our board has begun study of future phases while following an annually updated strategic plan. The board has also reviewed and revised bylaws and installed term limits.

In addition to the annual support of our alumni, board and friends, the SMYMCA gratefully acknowledges the gifts of property from Marilyn Martin and the Galen Hall Corporation, and capital gifts from the Durdan family and Karl Hemmerich. Their gifts will change lives, preserve our traditions and enable future programs that help support our mission.

None of this would be possible without an extraordinary CEO, Sue Edmonds and her staff. Our management team recognizes the potential of our facility and value of our programs. Their focus on utilizing the capital improvements while remaining fiscally responsible and mission driven has opened our organization to a successful future and created a model for independent YMCA camps across the country.

SMYMCA celebrated our 60th anniversary in 2008. I am pleased to report that our YMCA continues to follow a timeless mission that instills values while challenging young hearts and minds. Today we look forward to a future that includes honesty, caring, respect and responsibility on our mountain and in the community as future leaders turn for home after great experiences.

Keep the Fires Burning,

Jake Bausher, President
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