

Camp MoVal Outdoor Ministry

Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC
2659 Camp MoVal Rd. Union, MO 63084
Jeremy N. Force – Outdoor Ministries Director



Camp MoVal Director's Report

Staffing

- Currently Marci and I are only staff working except when we need kitchen staff.
- We have (7) program staff for summer season, (1) one will be program coordinator and (1) one will be specialized programs leader (Pool, Waterfront, Ropes, Archery, etc).
- I am working on staffing needs for kitchen and housekeeping for the summer and fall seasons.
- Mariah Newell, Program Director, resigned on July 21, 2016. Her employment with Camp MoVal officially ended on August 31, 2016 and she has already moved to her next opportunity.
- I am very thankful for Marci DeCuir, our camp registrar and my assistant. Marci has just completed four years with MoVal and I am not sure what I would have done without her.

Operations

- Physical plant is in good shape overall. Projects for 2017 will hopefully include the following items:
 - Touch –up pool painting
 - Painting west end of Dining Hall
 - Red Cedar Update (hopefully Church Sponsored)
 - Replacing septic tank at Red Cedar.
- I am doing some general carpentry to the dining hall to replace some rotten sills and door casings.
- We installed a point to point wireless internet router into the dining hall. There is now wireless internet in that building.
- We continue to have many wonderful volunteers that come to MoVal as time permits and help us to continue to keep our facility in top notch condition.
- The Camp MoVal Covenanted Ministry continues to work towards improvements to our facility and ensure that we meet the needs of our guests. This past year we have accomplished another wonderful project, our new health center. We are looking at what our next projects will be. Items on the short list are Red Cedar, Hilltop, and Pinewood and the need for more meeting space.
- The 2016 season was hard on camp infrastructure. We have had to replace a condensing unit on Oakwood and the walk-in refrigerator, and we continue to make the necessary updates to our facilities.
- We are currently working on a long term strategic plan for Camp MoVal to make sure that we continue to make appropriate improvements to keep our facility in top notch condition, but to also ensure that we are meeting our current and future programming needs.

Summer Camp & Outdoor Ministry Programs

- Our 2016 camp season was not a stellar year for camper numbers, but we did have a great summer camp program. Highlights of the summer season were a very full grandparent/grandchild camp, high school camp and good participation in our other programs.
- Camp Brochures for 2017 were smaller in size this year which means good savings in both cost of production and mailing.
- I am still recruiting a few program leaders, nurses and counselors. I have concerns over having enough counselors for some of our camps. I do not want to hire paid counselors, but we might have to if not enough folks volunteer. This is a continued need and we will need to address this for the long term.
- I have four returning staff, all good to go, and three new summer program staff.
- I attended the National ACA training and it was great. I was able to attend nine different sessions, plus the standards update course. Overall message that I took from all sessions was the need for these kind of experiences. People need to be part of safe, caring, compassionate and inclusive environments, which camps provide, as well as the building of meaningful and lasting relationships.

- Our ACA visit is setup for June 28, 2017. I will be meeting with the visit team in late May to review written standards.

Financials

- 2017 is looking to be a better year and summer camp registrations are coming in a fairly steady rate at this point.
- I am doing some research to look at marketing to other churches and organizations to maintain and grow our rental income.
- Changed pricing structure for 2017 camps to reflect reduction in OCWM.
- The 2017 budget was revised to have the most realistic budget reflected. We are operating and we are only spending money on need items at this point.
- Camp MoVal struggled financially through 2016. With the departure of our program director, there was a realization that is not sustainable to have a second fulltime position in our organization at this time.
- We are seeing a small continued increase usage in our rental programs.
- The Camp MoVal Team and I continue to identify the needs and wants of our campers and guests as we look into the future needs of our facility and programs. We will need your continued support to make that happen. We are also closely looking at our staffing configuration to ensure that we can meet the needs of our campers and guests.

Goals

- I would like to take some time to establish some benchmarks for our programs this year.
- I want us to start working on a long term strategic plan that represents our needs, but is also realistic to accomplish.
- I want us to explore how we do ministry. I am not quite sure what this looks like, but I feel deeply that we need to work on connections and relationship building.
- I will also continue to work on my personal goals for the year.

Extras and Notes

- Camp MoVal Ministry Team continues to work hard on your behalf and their role and responsibility in the support of Camp MoVal and Outdoor Ministries. We know that by working together we can achieve our goals and touch many lives. We also realize that we need to look to the wider church and our communities to grow our ministry and to serve as we are called.
- We look forward to a bright future. I am so very thankful for everyone's continued support of their camp and outdoor ministries program. If you have not been to Camp MoVal or would like more information, please contact us. It is a great privilege to continue to serve all of you and our church families.

Peace and Grace,



Jeremy Force

