Camp Discovery '22

At Beechwood Park, Maysville, KY

Jessica Johnson, Director September, 2022 ➢ REPORT TO OUR SUPPORTERS ≪ Our first post-COVID camp!

Sponsored by Maysville Initiatives, Inc. 33 West Second Street, Third Floor Maysville, KY 41056

Business & Community Support

Several local businesses supported Camp this summer and enriched our campers' experiences. <u>Carmeuse</u> <u>Lime & Stone</u> threw a party for Camp a week before the end of the summer, complete with lunch, cotton candy and bouncy houses.



The Carmeuse Crew

Carmeuse also helped with the summer budget, *and* helped get Beechwood Park ready for Camp this year: repairing picnic tables and fences, clean-up and painting.



<u>Rent-To-Own</u> heard we needed a new refrigerator for the Camp office, so they showed up with an awesome new refrigerator/freezer for us.

International Paper Co. made a contribution to our budget and also scheduled a special day to teach campers

Rent-To-Own

how paper is made. It was a great workshop and we thank International Paper Co. for sending staff to teach our campers something new.

The <u>City of</u> <u>Maysville Police</u> <u>and Fire Dept</u>, plus <u>Comprehend</u> and <u>Straub Family</u> <u>Services</u> got together and visited Camp...all on the same day!



International Paper

Straub FamilyServices brought a petting zoo, cotton candy and snow cones; The Police Dept brought hot dogs, juice boxes & chips. Comprehend set up a water play area and the Fire Department talked to all the campers about fire safety. Everyone got to see the inside of an ambulance.



Campers got info from the <u>Wildlife Officer</u>. It was great to have them all visit Camp. It was a BIG day!

Things To Do at Camp:

Camp Discovery offers 40 hours a week of activities and experiences for campers aged 5 to 12 *and it's free!* Some outstanding parties were sponsored by local businesses. There were lots of water activities on hot summer days!

The <u>Mason County Extension Center</u> offered two Cooking Schools this summer, one for older campers [age 9-12], and one for our younger campers [age 5-8]. Both learned about food safety & proper use of

sharp knives. They both made strawberry jam and biscuits. The older group made customized pizzas: they all learned how to make dough; then they got to add whatever topping they



wanted. (One camper created a carrot pizza!...) All campers got age-appropriate cookbooks and kitchen utensils to take home.



Counselors taught their campers a variety of art projects. The Beechwood shelter building was used for all kinds of activities, and as a shady hangout during the heat of the day.

Camp was divided into an older and a younger

group. Each group had two days a week away from Beechwood Park. On one day, their group would go swimming at Augusta Pool. The staff at Augusta was

very welcoming of our campers, and on some occasions taught our nonswimmers to swim. On their other "away day", they had a field trip.



One memorable field trip was bowling. Another was roller skating. For



some campers, these activities were a "first" in their experience. Great fun was had by all!

When "at home" at Beechwood Park,

campers had a playground, basketball courts and one of the biggest sandboxes in the area! We had basketball, volleyball and ping pong.

Counselors heard screaming from the play structure one day. When they ran to see who was injured, they were assured by the campers that they were only "playing house", and no one was really hurt. Our campers have lots of imagination to bring to their play!

2022 Camp Income and Expense:

Camp is free, but it costs roughly \$108,000 for a full summer program. Our largest expense is staff. This year, for a Director, a Co-Director and 13 counselors, our cost was \$71,594.! Our next greatest expense was insurance: \$19,213.

Here's what the whole expense picture looks like *at this point in middle September*. There are still a few bills that could come in.

Estimated	Staff:	\$71,594.
Camp	Insurance:	\$19,212.
Discovery	Field Trips & Swimming:	\$ 8,580.
Expense	Food & Food Prep:	\$ 6,799.
for 2022	Admin & Newsletters:	\$ 1,299.
[as of mid-	Supplies (non-food):	\$ 553.
Sept., '22]	Utilities:	<u>\$ 152.</u>
		\$ 108,189.

Mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, our income was less than in recent years prior to Covid. Our total income from two major foundations (the Hayswood Foundation and the Charles E & Mary E Scripps Foundation) and from corporate and individual donors totalled...

Income for Camp Discovery 2022: \$73,412. Luckily, we were able to draw on reserves and investment earnings to make up the difference.



Thanks to These Donors in '22:

This is a list of our donors in 2022. We thank each and every one of them for their kind support.

Havswood Foundation Charles E. & Mary E. Scripps Foundation Carmeuse Lime & Stone Louis & Kathleen Browning The Burnette Family Foundation Maysville Lions Club Mr. & Mrs. James L. Clarke Dr. Charlotte Harris Ben Breslin/Newtown Gas Abby Wilson Haney's Hardware Harry & Ethella Mann Bob & Judy Vance David & Liz Wallingford Ms. Debbi Beiland Mr. Bill Boggs Jim & Barbara Finch Moose Lodge #1124 Church of the Nativity Brell & Son Funeral Home Jim & Janice Rawlings Paula D. Wright Mann Chrysler Dodge & Jeep Rev. Bob Hudson Mary K. Cotterill Mike & Sally Walton Dan & Kathy Combs Yu-Ting Hsiao Virginia J. Browning Carol White Beth White Murray Drs. McDowell & Faris David Cartmell Marion Glenn

Doug & Kathryn Hendrickson Lil Marie Birr Rebecca Wellbaum Bob & Sue Kiner Bob & Joyce Weigott International Paper Co. Tom & Barbara Clarke Jim & Claudia Moose Stephanie McNeill Shannon Frodge Debra Cotterill Jackie Walters Dr. Mark Day Nadine Barker John T & Elaine K Lafferty Angie Williams Combs Kirk & Christy Clarke John & Rhonda McDowell Jim Joe & Marcia Toncray Amy Roberson Dudley Sue McFarland Tom & Sharvn Coe Dr. Rachel Naylor, DMD Joe & Libby Traxel Jack & Rhonda Gaunce Neff's Refrigeration Security Bank & Trust Elaine Sugarbaker Gary & Lisa McKee Vicky Bartee Dr. Randall & Bedouin Dennison Dr. Frances Keating Dr. Don & Debbie Wilson Nick Cloonev

Behind the Scenes...

When we began our 13-week Camp this summer, we had no idea if Covid would let us finish. We had two occasions when Covid threatened. In each instance, we closed Camp for 5 days and urged everyone to quarrantine at home. The unexpected consequence was that after each Covid closing, some of our campers didn't return.



Something similar happened with our community supporters: After two years of no Camp Discovery, a percentage of our supporters had moved on to other community causes. We saw approximately a 25% decline in our community support. Luckily, we had reserves to draw on.

We also learned this year that a good percentage of the community doesn't even know Camp Discovery exists! We need to do a better job spreading the word!

We had two young people from Japan (aged 7 and almost-5) at Camp this summer. When they first arrived, neither knew any English. By the last day of camp, however, the older was speaking English in sentences, and her younger sister could understand



what was said to her, but wasn't ready to reply, ... yet.

Staff saw an increase in children parented by their grandparents! Two boys from Louisianna were brought to Maysville to be cared for by grandparents. They spent their summer at Camp, and when school started this fall, both had many friends from Camp Discovery!

Each summer we have campers who are "food insecure". That doesn't mean there was *no* food in their house. It means there wasn't enough *good* food to provide all household members with as much as they need to eat and grow. Especially on Monday mornings, it was hard to make them wait until 7:30, when breakfast would "officially" begin. We haven't figured out weekend food support yet.

We're working on it!

-Dave Sugarbaker

One of Our Priorities:

We are adding to our camper's education about bullying. We have signs posted around camp that help campers define the parameters of bullying:



We remind campers and ourselves that bullying includes teasing, rumors, gossiping, threats, leaving somebody out, stealing, damaging other's property, pushing, name-calling, kicking and hitting.

It all comes from the same place, and we don't want it to be a part of camp. Whenever we see it, we stop it.