



2013



CAMP NOAH



2013 Year in Review

Camp Noah provides a safe, caring and fun environment where children build resiliency skills within the familiarity of their own communities, using a proven curriculum designed to help children process their disaster and/or trauma experience through creative activities and play.

Camp Noah celebrates every child as special. In this safe and supportive setting, children are encouraged to face their fears, grieve their losses, identify and share their unique gifts and talents, and plan for an amazing future.



Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota serves all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or age.



Mission

Camp Noah brings hope and healing to communities that have been impacted by disaster.

Vision

Camp Noah will serve disaster-impacted children and families by building resiliency, restoring hope and changing lives.

6 States - 15 Camps - 584 Campers

Connecticut - Newtown

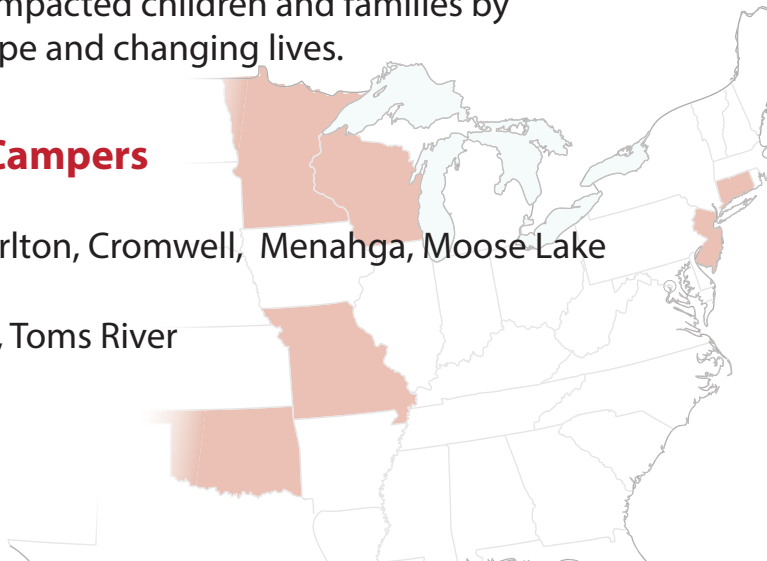
Minnesota - Aitkin, Barnum, Carlton, Cromwell, Menahga, Moose Lake

Missouri - Branson, Joplin (2)

New Jersey - Long Beach Island, Toms River

Oklahoma - Moore, Norman

Wisconsin - Superior





A few hours of one-on-one attention from an adult can change the course of a child's life.



Building Resiliency in 2013

Camp Noah gave 584 campers the skills to bounce back from disaster and face future challenges.

Restoring Hope in 2013

361 volunteers from across the US spent 11,634 hours bringing hope and healing to campers and families.

Changing Lives in 2013

- 90% of campers said Camp Noah helped them learn what their gifts and talents are.
- 96% of campers said they had fun.
- 91% of campers said they learned new ways to stay safe during stormy weather.
- 88% of campers said they learned new ways to help other people.
- 89% of campers said they learned new ways to feel safe during scary situations.

A Camp Noah volunteer t-shirt hangs among the many messages of support on the fence surrounding the site of Plaza Towers Elementary School, Moore, OK.

Campers find comfort, security, and relaxation in fleece blankets made for them with love by people from across the United States.



What parents say about Camp Noah

“This is all my kids have talked about. They act/feel more in control, prepared and confident! This was AMAZING!”
—Parent from Cromwell, MN

“Without a doubt! They had fun- meanwhile learning that their feelings aren't so different from others. Gave them a safe place to share.”
—Parent from Carlton, MN

“Camp helped my girls realize just how truly beautiful and special they really are.”
—Parent from Menahga, MN

“Helped him emotionally and spiritually. He loved being with friends in a spiritual, loving environment. Having a blast! These kids need to feel like kids and especially know that they are in God's hands.”
—Parent from Newtown, CT

“It has given him a week of fun. It has helped him deal with the recent storms and let him get his mind off of things and be a kid. His preparedness backpack has actually made him feel prepared for another storm. He loves the singing and his blanket and stuffed animal. I wish he could go all summer. He absolutely loved the camp.”
—Parent from Norman, OK

“Talking with other children who went through the same experience as them helps them feel they are not alone, which is a huge feat.”
—Parent from Toms River, NJ

From day 1 of Camp...

A key resiliency skill campers learn is to recognize their worth and value as a person. On Day 1, children fill in the blank:

"I am *"I am beautiful"* **"**

"I am brave"

"I am a good singer"

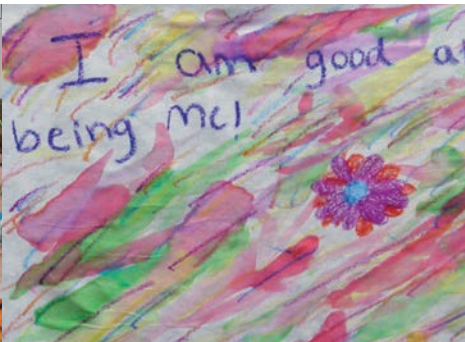
"I am a party animal"

"I am a funny"

"I am kind"

"I am a frog hunter"

"I am loveable"



...to having hope for the rest of their lives.

Another key resiliency skill campers practice is how to name and share their strengths. On the last day of camp, children answer the question, “what did you learn at Camp Noah?”

“I learned “how you are special no matter what.””

— Destinee, Oklahoma, age 8

“how I learned not to be afraid.”

— Abby, New Jersey, age 6

“how we will always have friends.”

— James, Minnesota, age 8

“how to take care of worries.”

— Claire, Missouri, age 9

“how to have fun again.”

— Sara, Minnesota, age 7

***“when you go in a hard time -
something good comes out of it.”***

— Paul, Wisconsin, age 11





CAMP NOAH

2013 Contributors List

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, MN
First National Bank of Menahga & Sebeka, MN
Penn State Berks, Reading, PA
Newtown Memorial Fund, Newtown, CT
Calvary Lutheran Church, Golden Valley, MN
Carlton County Public Health, MN
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Joplin, MO
Initiative Foundation, Central MN
Tri-County Health Care, Wadena, MN
West Central Telephone Association, Sebeka, MN
George and Karen Bransom
Diocese of Duluth, MN
Taney County Long Term Recovery Committee, Branson, MO
Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation, Duluth, MN
St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Newtown, CT
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Damascus, MD
Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA
University Lutheran Church, Norman, OK
Immanuel Lutheran Church & School, Wentzville, MO
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Wapakoneta, OH
Camp Noah Volunteers
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Faith Lutheran Church, Forest Lake, MN
Lutheran Family & Children Services of Missouri
St. Joseph's Area Health Services, Park Rapids, MN
Newtown Congregational Church, Newtown, CT
Prairie River Farm, Inc.
Holy Trinity, Brant Beach, NJ
Joplin Long Term Recovery Committee
St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Naperville, IL
Society of the Precious Blood, Dayton, OH
Friedens Lutheran Church, Oley, PA
Christ the King Lutheran Church, Birmingham, AL
Christ English Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN
Lutheran Disaster Response
Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ
Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc.
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Apple Valley, MN
Many other individuals and organizations

2013 Camp Noah News and Highlights

- Curriculum Redesign
- New Camp Staffing Models
- New Staff Members and capacity building support from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation
- Expansion to new states: Oklahoma, New Jersey, and Connecticut

2013 Camp Noah Facts

- 361 Volunteers
- 295 New Volunteers
- 11,634 Volunteer Hours Served at Camp
- 752 Blankets Donated
- 87 Unique Financial Contributors

Thank You!

2013 Camp Noah Donors & Volunteers
From the staff and campers of Camp Noah



Camp Noah Staff
Diane, Nancy, Cari, and Maryn



Team members from Ferncliff
Camp and Conference Center



Volunteers enjoying
the beach in New Jersey



Camp Noah's beautifully written,
designed and printed curriculum!



Be a Part of Camp Noah in 2014

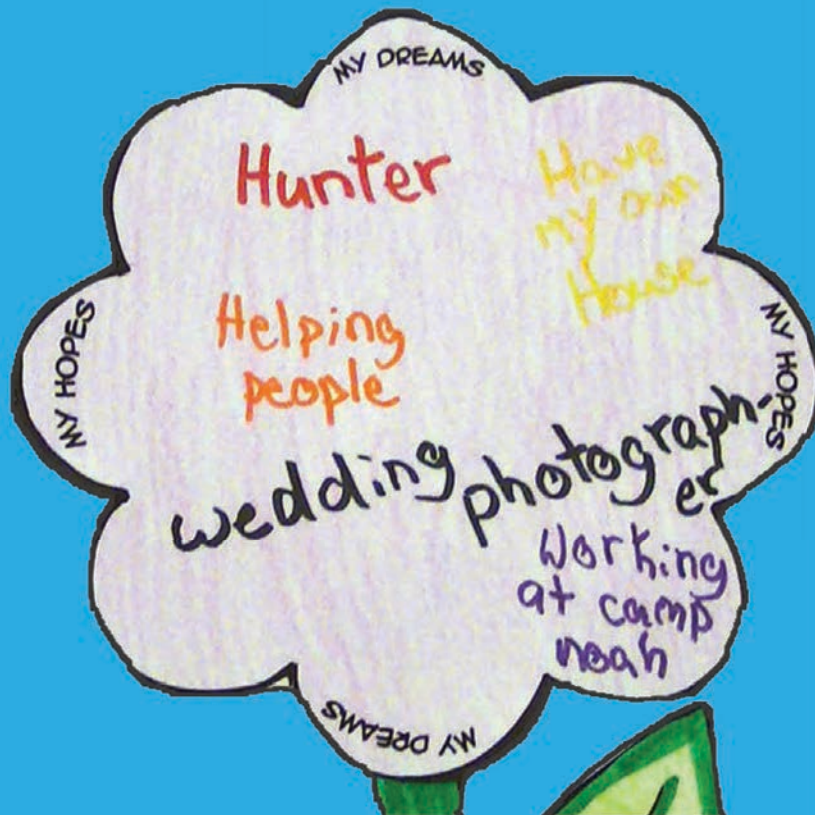
Building Resiliency. Restoring Hope. Changing Lives.

- Make Blankets
- Supply a Birthday Bag for a Camper
- Lead a Team
- Sponsor a Camper
- Provide a Preparedness Backpack
- Like Camp Noah on Facebook
- Become a Camp Noah Volunteer
- Bring Camp Noah to Your Neighbor
- Host Camp Noah in Your Community
- Subscribe to the Newsletter
- Treat Everyone Like it's Their Birthday



“It was epic!”

— Hunter, Newtown, CT, age 10



Find out more about Camp Noah

www.campnoah.org

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