

Jeren, left, enjoyed making memories at camp after his family home was severely damaged.

HOPE & HEALING IN TEXAS

Few personal possessions withstood damage to seven-year-old Jeren's family home when Hurricane Harvey flooded his neighborhood in Rockport, Texas. His loss was greater than toys he no longer had. He and his family no longer experienced normalcy the way they had before the storm.

Attending Camp Noah the following summer helped Jeren process his feelings and connect with other kids. It also offered his mother, Kim, time to work on home repairs and address her family's needs.

"It was just a blessing for me to know Jeren was happy and having fun," Kim said. "It made me happy that he was happy."

Jeren attended one of five Camp Noah sessions throughout Texas, which were made possible by a grant from the Rebuild Texas Fund. This funding, along with support from local communities, helped deliver camp to more than 200 children throughout the state.

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.



BUILDING RESILIENCY IN 2018

This year, Camp Noah helped more than 980 children who recently experienced disasters in five states and Puerto Rico share their stories, build resiliency and restore hope. We responded to challenges brought on by hurricanes Harvey and Irma in 2017 as well as wild fires and flooding.

Camps brought children a week-long meaningful experience to process their trauma through group activities including music, crafts, games and storytelling alongside peers. And more than **98 percent** of campers reported they had fun at camp in 2018!

"A lot of the attention with disasters is right away, when there's a hurricane dropping down, but the reality is it takes communities years to recover."

- Kim Dettmer, Camp Noah Senior Director



RESPONDING IN PUERTO RICO

Camp Noah customizes its curriculum to meet the specific needs of each community we serve.



This year we developed Spanish-language programming to serve children in Aibonito, Puerto Rico. Families are still picking up the pieces after Hurricane Maria destroyed homes and left the community without power — and children without school — for months.

Due to limited housing and resources on the island, Camp Noah adapted its model and recruited local volunteers to deliver two camps to promote healing for children in the community.

"There is definitely a thirst for healing," Camp Noah Program Manager Ruth Talford said. "Puerto Rico is ready to move on, they're ready to heal, but they need support to do so." 95% said they learned they are somebody special.

90% of campers said they learned how to stay safe during stormy weather.

91% said they know their safe place they can go when they feel worried or scared.

of campers said they had hopes and dreams for the future.

Where We Served In 2018

California

- Santa Rosa
- Ukiah
- Ojai
- Ventura

Florida

_. . .

ImmokaleeMinnesota

- Forest Lake
- New Brighton

Pennsylvania

Reading

Puerto Rico

Aibonito

Texas

- Houston
- Lumberton
- Sour Lake
- Orange
- Rockport
 Wisconsin
- Cameron

CAMP NOAH

709 University Avenue West | Saint Paul, MN, 55104 800.987.0061 | campnoah@lssmn.org

www.campnoah.org

Camp Noah is a service of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, which serves **all people** regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability or age.