

Summer SEALS Day Camp 2014 Annual Report March 19, 2015

With the completion of its eighth consecutive year, the 2014 Summer SEALS Day Camp continued to build upon the successes of the previous summers, *enriching lives...* of 30 youth academically, socially/emotionally and behaviorally... *one summer at a time.*

Programmatically, the staff worked to improve campers' core reading and mathematics skills while exposing them to a host of related activities to maintain a high level of engagement in learning through out the summer. The three integrated units in 2014 included: **Pirates (*Pirates Past Noon*)**, **Ireland (*Leprechauns in Late Winter*)** and **African Safari (*Lions at Lunchtime*)**. Campers received the books noted above to keep, wrote and solved math and science problems, and completed crafts related to each unit. Field trips included: a visit to the Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing in Philadelphia, Lake Tobias, and the Selinsgrove Pool. Additionally, the campers sponsored a free community car wash and collected clothing for the Mustard Seed. And of course, an annual highlight, the campers visited Mike & Kathi Flock's pond in Kreamer where Mike and John Bickhart delighted them with a nature experience. The end of camp celebration included campers giving presentations to parents on the various units, diplomas and prizes for the campers to celebrate their many achievements and good foods (including pizza donated from Papa John's and fresh cantaloupe and watermelon from Hoover's Farm).

Program evaluation results (i.e., interviews with campers and parents) were compiled by Holly Morgan, School Counselor at the Selinsgrove Area Intermediate School. These results are attached for your review and are posted on our website, www.summerseals.org. Having to relocate the program at the High School last summer because of the roofing project presented unique challenges, and in 2015 we look forward to being back at the Intermediate School.

In addition to programmatic and academic concerns, the Summer SEALS Day Camp Board works to maintain and expand its fundraising efforts. The camp website and a Facebook page are part of those efforts. The website links to previous annual reports as well as EITC information, serving to inform others of who we are and what we aim to do. Our status as an Educational Improvement Organization by the state under the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program (i.e., for the second and third grade portions of our program) has garnered significant contributions from several local businesses and banking institutions. Consequently, the Board of Directors recently decided to add rising second graders to the camp starting in 2015. Expanding the program to include second graders will result in helping to close critical achievement gaps earlier and more significantly. Our fundraising goal for 2015 is \$50,000, which will finance the 2015 program while we also work to grow our endowment funds.

The charitable contributions received from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 totaled \$94,052.10. This includes EITC contributions from M & T Bank and Weis Markets (\$20,000 each), Northumberland National Bank, Mifflinburg Bank & Trust and Swineford National

Bank, SRS Electric and Waste Management. It also includes proceeds from a pancake breakfast at The Pepper Tree, sponsored by one of our first campers, Kayleen Long, for her senior graduation project. Kayleen also volunteered at the camp in 2014. With expenses totaling \$43,919.69 (this is about \$9,000 more than in 2013 because of increased staff and the costs of transportation) we were able to continue to build our cash reserves. Having raised more than \$50,000 in 2014, the Board continued to engage the services of accounting firm, Herring, Roll & Solomon, P.C., to complete a compiled report. In addition, the Board has engaged accounting/booking services for 2015 with a CPA. We cherish the continuing support we receive from individual, business/corporate and foundation donors. As always, we are committed to remaining good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. The Summer SEALS Day Camp's success continues to reflect the collaborative synergy of its partners and the broader community.

We also gratefully acknowledge our program partners: Selinsgrove Area Rotary Club, Susquehanna University and its Education Department, and the Selinsgrove Area School District. Their unwavering commitment to Summer SEALS continues to inspire us.

Report Compiled by:

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