

NEWS IN BRIEF



September 25, 2008

JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY

You can receive free and helpful advice and information to strengthen your fundraising efforts, all through the convenience of your telephone. Call the IYI Youth Service Helpline for help with identifying potential funders and other fund raising assistance. Consultants on the Help Line can read your proposal before you submit the draft to a grant maker, provide strategies on special events fund raising, offer suggestions for your annual fund and provide other timely fund raising advice.

IYI Youth Service Help Line:
1-877-IYI-TIPS.

EEAI Annual Meeting and Conference: The Environmental Education Association of Indiana has announced the dates for its 2008 Annual Meeting and Conference. The Conference will be held November 14th – 16th at Camp Camby Conference and Retreat Center in Indy. The Conference is titled “The Hidden Treasures of Environmental Education: An Urban Perspective.” Registration information is available on the EEA website:

<http://www.goshen.edu/eeai/conference2008/eeaireg08.pdf>

FROM THE SECTION OFFICE

You are invited to submit your proposal and share your knowledge at the Sixteenth Annual Mid States Camping Conference in March 26-28, 2009 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL.

Presenter Guidelines:

1. All educational sessions are limited to 1¼ hours.
2. Honorariums for all sessions are \$100. Repeat session honorariums will be paid at \$50. In the event of multiple presenters, honorariums will be given to only one speaker. Honorariums may be accepted or donated to the ACA Mid States Camping Conference.
3. Session leaders are responsible for their own expenses related to the conference including: transportation, lodging, meals and conference attendance fee or exhibit fee, if they intend to participate in the conference.
4. Session leaders are asked to bring the appropriate number of handouts for your session. Please add your email or web address to your materials. Please check in at the Speakers/Hospitality Table (near the elevators) at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled session. We would like all handouts emailed to the ACA Mid States World Headquarters at michelle@acamidstates.org prior to the Conference.
5. All rooms are equipped with a flip chart and markers. Presenters are encouraged to provide their own AV equipment. Extension cords, overhead projectors and screens are available on a limited basis. LCD projectors, TVs and VCR/DVD projectors are not available and must be brought by the presenter.
6. Speakers who are involved in any way with providing a product or service for a fee are required to refrain from any promotion of their product or service during their educational session.
7. The emphasis of the conference is on staff and administration learning together therefore, educational sessions will include both theory and experiential sessions.

Please contact the Program Committee Chair [Carissa Miller](#) with any questions.

WANTED!!! YOUR INPUT

The online Enrollment Survey is open from Wednesday, Sept 24th through October 31st!

The link to the survey is:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CTPSW DYPyDzoRct6SW CAmQ 3d 3d>

Please take 15 minutes to go online to complete the survey. We need your input if we are to tell our enrollment and recruitment "story" accurately!

Questions? Contact Deb at dbialeschki@acacamps.org.

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Furthermore...The Laura Jane Musser Fund support projects that build relationships across cultural lines in areas that include youth, community service and the arts. Grant range: \$5,000 - \$25,000. Deadline: October 1, 2008. More info: <http://www.musserfund.org/harmony.php>

FOOD SERVICE

BETTER THAN A CUPCAKE: "The Healthy School Campaign" has lots of resources that you can use at camp, including several free books and a monthly newsletter.

<http://healthyschoolscampaign.org/campaign/wellness/cd/1-1-improve-food.htm>

Let's talk FOOD – First, start with the great stuff from former YMCA camp chef and current camp cooking guru Viki Kappel Spain.
<http://www.campcookbooks.com/index.htm>

Peanut Allergy Questions –At www.foodallergy.org/school you will find a nice publication called "School Guidelines for Managing Students with Food Allergies." Also, at www.allergy.org.au/pospapers there is a position paper that makes some similar recommendations. The biggest worry is "cross contamination"— folks having residue on their hands or clothing and coming into contact with an allergic person. Other helpful Web sites include www.aap.org and www.health.nih.gov ."
 Peggy Ottke, Y-USA Early Childhood & Afterschool Technical Advisor

Kid Chefs! –

<http://www.seattleyymca.org/page.cfm?ID=youthPrograms&catID=79>

STANDARDS SECRETS

"Have you signed your Statement of Compliance for the 2008 year? In order for camps to keep accreditation status, a camp MUST have a signed SOC on file for each year. If you have not signed one for this year, there is still time!

Please go to the following link for the form to be signed.
<http://www.acacamps.org/soc/>

You can use the above link to pull up the form, sign it and send it in. It can be done electronically or by snail mail – whichever is easiest 4 you!

Please let Elizabeth know if you have **any** standards questions
esnell@tuliptrace.org or 812-336-6804!

SOUP FOR THE CAMP STAFF

The Daffodil Principle

Several times my daughter had telephoned to say, "Mother, you must come see the daffodils before they are over." I wanted to go, but it was a two-hour drive from Laguna to Lake Arrowhead. "I will come next Tuesday", I promised, a little reluctantly, on her third call.

Next Tuesday dawned cold and rainy. Still, I had promised, and so I drove there. When I finally walked into Carolyn's house and hugged and greeted my grandchildren, I said, "Forget the daffodils, Carolyn! The road is invisible in the clouds and fog, and there is nothing in the world except you and these children that I want to see bad enough to drive another inch!"

My daughter smiled calmly and said, "We drive in this all the time, Mother." "Well, you won't get me back on the road until it clears, and then I'm heading for home!" I assured her. "I was hoping you'd take me over to the garage to pick up my car." "How far will we have to drive?" "Just a few blocks," Carolyn said. "I'll drive. I'm used to this." After several minutes, I had to ask, "Where are we going? This isn't the way to the garage!"

"We're going to my garage the long way," Carolyn smiled, "by way of the daffodils." "Carolyn," I said sternly, "please turn around." "It's all right, Mother, I promise. You will never forgive yourself if you miss this experience." After about twenty minutes, we turned onto a small gravel road and I saw a small church. On the far side of the church, I saw a hand lettered sign that read, "Daffodil Garden."

We got out of the car and each took a child's hand, and I followed Carolyn down the path. Then, we turned a corner of the path, and I looked up and gasped. Before me lay the most glorious sight. It looked as though someone had taken a great vat of gold and poured it down over the mountain peak and slopes. The flowers were planted in majestic, swirling patterns—great ribbons and swaths of deep orange, white, lemon yellow, salmon pink, saffron, and butter yellow. Each different-colored variety was planted as a group so that it swirled and flowed like its own river with its own unique hue. There were five acres of flowers.

"But who has done this?" I asked Carolyn. "It's just one woman," Carolyn answered. "She lives on the property. That's her home." Carolyn pointed to a well kept A-frame house that looked small and modest in the midst of all that glory. We walked up to the house.

On the patio, we saw a poster. "Answers to the Questions I Know You are asking" was the headline. The first answer was a simple one. "50,000 bulbs," it read. The second answer was, "One at a time, by one woman. Two hands, two feet, and very little brain." The third answer was, "Began in 1958." There it was, The Daffodil Principle. For me, that moment was a life-changing experience.

I thought of this woman whom I had never met, who, more than forty years before, had begun—one bulb at a time—to bring her vision of beauty and joy to an obscure mountaintop. Still, just planting one bulb at a time, year after year, had changed the world. This unknown woman had forever changed the world in which she lived. She had created something of ineffable (indescribable) magnificence, beauty, and inspiration.

The principle her daffodil garden taught is one of the greatest principles of celebration. That is, learning to move toward our goals and desires one step at a time—often just one baby-step at a time—and learning to love the doing, learning to use the accumulation of time. When we multiply tiny pieces of time with small increments of daily effort, we too will find we can accomplish magnificent things. We can change the world.

Daffodil- continued

"It makes me sad in a way," I admitted to Carolyn. "What might I have accomplished if I had thought of a wonderful goal thirty-five or forty years ago and had worked away at it 'one bulb at a time' through all those years? Just think what I might have been able to achieve!"

So, stop waiting... Until your car or home is paid off... you get a new car or home... your kids leave the house... you go back to school...you finish school... you lose 10 lbs...you gain 10 lbs.... you get married...you get a divorce... you have kids...you retire... summer... spring... winter... fall...you die...

There is no better time than right now to be happy. Happiness is a journey, not a destination. So work like you don't need money, Love like you've never been hurt, and, dance like no one's watching. If you want to brighten someone's day, pass this on to someone special and give them a daffodil!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Major Gifts: Finding the Perfect Donors (Presented by Tammy Zonker)

What would it look like to have an ever-increasing stream of major donors who love your mission? Join us for this free seminar on how to create sustainable funding for your nonprofit.

Wed, October 1st, 2008 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. South Bend

Wed, October 1st, 2008 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Warsaw

Thur, October 2nd, 2008 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Indianapolis

Cost: No Fee to Attend

To register: <http://sforce.benevon.com/intros/midwest.htm>. **RSVP Required! Space is Limited. Questions:** Contact Alaina at 206-709-9400 ext. 132 or alaina.szlachta@benevon.com

Learn a tested system to identify and cultivate donors who love your mission—donors who will give for operations, capital, and endowment. Find out how to grow your organization's visibility in the community and engage your board in the fundraising process without requiring that they ask for money. This entry level workshop is designed for board members, executive directors, CEOs, and fund development professionals. By the end of this seminar you will have the fundamentals to embark on the path to sustainability and grow your major gifts programs year after year. If you are unable to attend this session, please visit our Introductory Sessions Web page at benevon.com/introductions/default for information about conference call opportunities and other live in-person sessions in your area.. **Please forward to board members, ED, CEO, funders or foundations, and other nonprofit professionals.**

20/20 VISION

We are challenged by our own thinking.

One of the trends we see in the world today is an increasing awareness of social responsibility and moral responsibility—and how one creates benefit. Yet, we continue to talk about camp instead of talking about the tremendous contribution we make to positive child and youth development, and therefore, to the community and family.

Another trend we are witnessing is the dramatic change in the landscape of the world population. Yet, we cling to a shrinking minority market of people and camps. This kind of limited articulation of our value in the broader context of the world serves as a barrier to those who are impacted both by the global and social issues; those, in fact, that we are well positioned to serve. The time is now to create a 20/20 vision—a vision of commitment to serve 20 million by the year 2020. Today, 10 million children and youth go to camp annually. Yet, we only directly impact 3 million of those experiences. By 2020, we want no fewer than 20 million children going to camp annually with the ACA camp community directly impacting the lives of those 20 million children.