

# NEWS IN BRIEF



November 14, 2008

## HELP WANTED

### **Program Director – Flat Rock River YMCA Camp** St. Paul, IN

Beautiful Flat Rock River Camp is looking for a fun, energetic, experienced, mission driven person to run its summer camp, outdoor education, and weekend programs. Responsibilities include: staff hiring/training/supervision, budget management, and program development and marketing. Resumes accepted until December 1, 2008. Medical Benefits, Exempt level position, 12% retirement, On-site 3 bedroom house included. Salary Range: 31-39K. Send resumes to [jobs@indymca.org](mailto:jobs@indymca.org) Questions – Contact Steve Heiny [sheiny@indymca.org](mailto:sheiny@indymca.org); 317-502-3392. [www.flatrockymca.org](http://www.flatrockymca.org)

### **Program Director -- Camp Potawatami**, Milford IN – Fort Wayne YMCA

Camp Potawatami is focused on giving guests a true camping experience while focusing on the Christian mission of the YMCA. Responsibilities include overseeing all aspects of the camp program, which include; summer resident camp, specialty camps, outdoor education, adventure education and group and family camping. Salary: \$30,000 – \$35,000. Housing provided; medical, dental, life & disability insurance; 12% retirement. Please e-mail resume to [craig\\_cheney@fwyma.org](mailto:craig_cheney@fwyma.org) or mail to P.O. Box 38, South Milford, IN 46786. Resumes until: 11/21/2008

## **FROM THE SECTION OFFICE**

### **Mary Ennis Retires After Fifty-Three Years of Service to ACA**

Mary Ennis has been part of the ACA fabric for as long as most of us have enjoyed this Association. She began her career at the American Camp Association in 1955. Hired for a temporary job to help move the ACA headquarters to their new building in Bradford Woods and get things organized, Mary's "temporary" job extended for fifty-three short years. Her warm smile and friendly voice helped many of us find the best ACA resources for our specific needs.

Mary had several titles during her tenure—her latest was corporate secretary, but, as she says, "The work was always the same." She saw ACA through several capital campaigns and building projects and the establishment of many new programs and projects. She witnessed the ACA's branding initiative and name change and helped the Association adapt to three logo changes, although she still has a fondness for the "acorn." During her fifty-three years, she has supported the work of five executive directors, five interim executive directors, and twenty-four national presidents. She has seen the organization grow from a technically bankrupt association to one with nearly eight thousand members. She has endured more board meetings than many of us can imagine.

Through all the changes, Mary Ennis was steady as a rock—always there to assist the staff and provide unwavering support for ACA volunteers. Her organizational prowess, her knowledge of ACA history, and her devotion to her work and to our volunteers will be missed. The American Camp Association had the remarkable good fortune that a temporary job in 1955 turned into a life-long commitment to ACA, the camp experience, and youth.

Mary will enjoy her retirement by traveling, gardening, and helping ACA as a volunteer prepare the Association for its 100th anniversary. We welcome Mary into this new role as a well-known volunteer. Who better to help us organize our historical documents and help us tell our story? Our story will be that much richer and all of our memories that much deeper because of Mary's grace and dedication.

Please share your memories and messages—your appreciation and celebration—with Mary by writing her in care of the ACA National Office, 5000 State Rd 67 N., Martinsville, IN 46151. We will forward all your letters to her.

## **E-INSTITUTE**

### **Coming in January 2009 Communication in a Time of Crisis—Are You Prepared?**

A one-hour course targeting camp directors and managers. Based on information from the American Camp Association's knowledge center, this course covers crisis identification, crisis key messages, media communications, and developing a crisis response team — a must for anyone working with risk and crisis management.

### **Camp Administrator 101: Preparing for Your New Role**

A three-hour course targeting new directors and managers. Based on the American Camp Association's popular New Director Orientation program, this course teaches the fundamentals of leadership, staff training, and supervision; risk management; and child development/behavior.

[www.ACacamps.org/eins  
titute](http://www.ACacamps.org/eins_titute)

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### **Reader's Digest Foundation: 'Make It Matter' Grants**

To identify people whose stories of giving back inspire others, the foundation will donate funds to a nonprofit organization associated with a particular story or cause. Anyone can submit a story about an effective or inspiring group, which will be published on the website; the nonprofits selected will receive funds up to \$100,000. **Deadline: Jan. 1, 2009.**

### **Federal Grant Opportunities for Children and Families**

The Administration for Children and Families within the Department of Health and Human Services oversees federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals and communities. **Deadlines vary.**

### **Allen Foundation**

The Allen Foundation supports projects throughout the world that promote human nutrition in the areas of health, education, training, and research. The Foundation's grantmaking priorities include: nutritional education for mothers during pregnancy and after the birth of their children, training for educators and demonstrators of good nutritional practices, and the dissemination of healthful nutritional information. Relevant nutritional research projects are also supported. The application deadline is December 31, 2008. Visit the website listed above to take the eligibility quiz and submit an online application.

## **SITE & FACILITY**

**SF-16 Bunk Guardrails:** Upper bunks must have guardrails if used for children under 16.

Mandatory federal safety standard for the manufacture of bunk beds.

<http://www.acacamps.org/publicpolicy/bunkbeds.php>

While the rule affects the manufacture and sale of bunk beds after July 1, 2000, consideration should be given to whether current non-conforming beds can be safely modified to meet this standard as funds and appropriately manufactured retro-fits become available.

## **STANDARDS SECRETS**

### **Myth #2 Our facility needs too much work**

Variations on this theme:

We need to add to/update our facilities first.  
All our facilities are not accessible.

**Reality:** ACA standards do not require modern buildings with the latest equipment or amenities. Camp facilities can be rustic and primitive, as long as they are in good repair. Cabins don't need air conditioning or electricity, as long as they are clean and screens, stairs, and bunks are in good repair. Accreditation criteria do not require 100 percent compliance with standards. Some non-mandatory requirements, such as shower ratios, can be missed and the camp or conference center can still be accredited.

## MANAGEMENT

Are We Great Yet? Planning and Evaluating Your Organization's Effectiveness

Jim Collins writes about the "Hedgehog" concept in Good to Great and the Social Sectors. Learn how this concept can help move a good organization to great. Examine "planning and evaluation" from a different perspective. Explore what your organization is truly great at doing, what resources you need to do it, and how it fits within your mission.

When: Monday, December 15th from 9:00 AM - Noon

Where: United Way of Elkhart County, Second Floor  
222 Middlebury St., Elkhart, IN

Cost: \$35 (Fee includes a copy of Jim Collins' Good to Great and the Social Sectors book)

Registration Deadline is December 5th

Presenters: Mike Stone and Kim Johnson

Please send registration form and a check payable to United Way of Elkhart County to: Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network, 222 Middlebury Street, Elkhart, IN 46516 or fax to 574-295-0033 or [baxtera@unitedwayec.org](mailto:baxtera@unitedwayec.org)

### Boards ... 5 ideas for high-impact governance

Most would agree on the need for good governance. Not all would agree on just what the term governing means.

In his book "Meeting the Governing Challenge," Doug Eadie maintains that governing is more than policy making. It involves making decisions and judgments. A governing "product" is one that helps an organization carry out its mission.

For Eadie, there are five key elements of high-impact governing. They are:

- A board-savvy CEO who is a real expert in the field of governance, who is strongly committed to high-impact board leadership and who takes the lead in building the board's capacity to do high-impact governing work.
- A clear, detailed board governing mission statement, describing the board's key governing functions and responsibilities and meticulously designed processes for involving the board creatively and proactively in such key governing functions as strategic planning, budget development performance oversight and monitoring and external relations.
- A well-designed structure of board standing committees that serve as "governing engines" in accomplishing the board's detailed governing work.
- A self-management program aimed at building board member governing knowledge and skills and strengthening board accountability for its own governing performance.
- Strong CEO and executive team support for the board and its standing committees in carrying out their governing functions.

## GREEN SPOKEN HERE

Why should nonprofit organizations consider going green? Senft, White and Edwards offered several considerations. For example:

- The paper industry is the fourth largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions among United States manufacturing industries.
- Paper accounts for 25 percent of landfill waste, the largest of any single component.
- Paper production accounts for over 40 percent of the world's industrial wood harvest.
- Paper production is one of the world's largest consumers and polluters of fresh water.
- Donors are starting to frame expectations based on type and volume of communications.
- Electronic communications can present a significant cost saving, both in paper and mailing or shipping.
- Pressure-sensitive labels are not recyclable.
- Smaller package formats can help save paper, possibly even postage.

The information presented here does not necessarily reflect the views of ACA Indiana. Special thanks for contributions: ACA Research Team, Connect For Kids, Nonprofit Times, Charity Advantage, Forum for Youth Investment, Youth Service America, ACA, United Way Elkhart County.

## OTHER RESOURCES

Established in 1956, the Foundation Center is the nation's leading authority on philanthropy, connecting nonprofits and the grantmakers supporting them to tools they can use and information they can trust. The Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. grantmakers and their grants — a robust, accessible knowledge bank for the sector. It also operates research, education, and training programs designed to advance philanthropy at every level. The Center's web site receives more than 47,000 visits each day, and thousands of people gain access to free resources in its five regional library/learning centers and its national network of more than 340 Cooperating Collections.

([www.foundationcenter.org](http://www.foundationcenter.org))

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### [New Action Kit to Help Cities Create Youth Master Plans](#)

[National League of Cities](#) has published a new action kit for municipal leaders on [Creating a Youth Master Plan](#). This publication offers practical advice to cities using the familiar concept of a master plan to better coordinate services and opportunities for young people. [Click here.](#)

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### A SURVIVAL KIT FOR FUNDRAISING IN A BAD ECONOMY

A tumultuous economy can present unique challenges for nonprofit fundraising. Looking for ways to cope? AFP (Association of Fundraising Professionals) has compiled a toolkit of resources to advise and guide fundraisers in tough economic times.

<http://www.fundraiser.com/oct08/news.html>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Ready by 21 2008-2009 Webinar Series

Webinar: Introduction to the Ready by 21 Challenge  
Presented by the Forum for Youth Investment  
November 19 from 1:00 PM- 2:00 PM EST

Space is limited. Confirm your seat today! To register for the session, please go to the following weblink-  
<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/560353532>.

Ready by 21 isn't a program or a campaign or even an initiative. It is a challenge to all who care about children and youth to think differently - to learn a different way to approach all of the tasks associated with trying to manage, make or measure change at any level from the classroom to the capitol - so that they can act differently. Specifically, so that they can make decisions that lead to bigger goals, bolder strategies, better partnerships. This webinar will guide participants through the essential components of the Ready by 21 Challenge- the Big Picture Vision, Strategic Planning and Priority Setting, Big Picture Changemakers and Ready by 21 Introductory Guides and Materials.

## 20/20 VISION

Many people ask me how will we ever get 20 million children and youth going to camp?

Here are a few of my 'short' answers.

1. I bet, we will discover there are more going to camp than we realize. (Okay, that may be cheating but will still be good news.)
2. There will be more sessions at camp, shoulder programs.
3. There will be more camps.
4. We will fill current vacant beds.
5. We will embrace the larger camp community and expand our influence on positive experiences based on our learnings. They, too, will expand sessions and fill beds.
6. We will fight for policy changes (government and foundations) that will dedicate dollars to 'out of school' camp experiences.
7. We will expand our partnerships bringing the camp model to existing programs wanting to improve their outcomes.

What are your ideas?

<http://www.acacampsblog.org/?p=17>