

SIOUX YMCA SPRING 2015 GUMBO GAZETTE

General Convention of Sioux YMCAs

FOR HEALTHY LIVING

PO Box 218 Dupree, SD 57623

Spring 2015

OUR MISSION IS TO DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN OUR RESERVATION COMMUNITIES SO THEY CAN FULFILL THEIR GREATEST INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL, AND PHYSICAL POTENTIALS.

If you are interested in receiving Gumbo Gazettes

electronically,

please send your email address to

amanda.held@siouxymca.org

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

How many ways are there to give?

We can give money or time or both; we can give art supplies or lumber or food, and we can give our hearts.

One of the elders once told me about a young woman who came from Germany and who was fluent in the Lakota language. This young woman spoke to Grandma Dora in Lakota but was answered in English. When the young woman asked why Grandma did not speak to her in her native tongue, she was told that Lakota is a language that comes from the heart.

YMCA is another language that comes from the heart. Every day the kids come to the Y to hear "YMCA" spoken. They know they are going to have fun, but more than that, there is somebody to listen, to understand, and to be there. They know they will have chances to do things that they cannot do elsewhere, like play Gaga ball or use a computer or play soccer or help the executive director sort and file papers.

We grew in 2014. We added on one more full time position which increased our full time staff by 50%. Having one more person here to work with the kids, to organize and create programming, and to train and supervise the part-time staff has increased our ability to serve this community by more than just 50%. It has almost doubled what we can do.

In addition, we have had a full time long term volunteer here since July. Her presence is a true gift; it has given us a chance to develop a long term volunteer program which we hope to have fully implemented soon. She has also filled in wherever we need her as she has many skills. In her words to potential volunteers about the experience here: "Your decision to volunteer with the Sioux Y will not only further the mission of the Y but also grow you in the most unimaginable ways... I find myself unrecognizable from the timid and wide-eyed girl who arrived in Dupree seven months ago."

And that is just the beginning. We had more kids attend resident camp last summer than ever before. We started serving supper at the Y five days a week during the school year which has had the unexpected benefit of providing continuity for our evening activities. The Initiative program served six communities, up from five. Our annual campaign went over the goal. We have had boxing, ballet, beading classes, and more.

Every bit of this is due to all of the support we have received -from monetary donations to volunteers coming to work on projects, to people advocating on our behalf, to supplies donated, to community members coming to our aid at the last minute when we have needed help.

To all of you who speak "YMCA" and have given your hearts to us, we say THANK YOU.

> We cannot say this often enough; WE ARE GRATEFUL!! —Carol Mann

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR **VOLUNTEERS!**

Total Policy Volunteer Hours=638

Total Program Volunteer Hours=

9414

Total Volunteer Hours x \$15.60=

the value of volunteer time in South Dakota according to www.independentsector.org:

Value of time donated to the Sioux YMCA

\$156,811.20

Friend us on Facebook for updates!



www.facebook.com/ sioux.ymca

So Many Ways of Giving

Here's to the many who made progress in 2014 possible...



YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities: sponsored the Sioux Initiative again for the 8th summer. This program allows us to serve several of the reservation communities all summer long, and this is almost always the only programming for kids in those communities.

YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City: sent us two camp counselors from Brazil and paid all expenses. The two were amazing; well trained, energetic, and extremely competent.

Camp Classen: (YMCA of OKC): donated six canoes and six kayaks to our resident camp. Oh, my, what a welcome addition to our camp!

Community of Darien, CT YMCA: Besides making two significant donations last year, they also sent two staff to participate in the Sioux Initiative

YMCA of Central Ohio: donated a life guard stand to our resident camp.

Oahe YMCA: provided life guard training for our camp staff and donated Frisbee golf equipment



Des Moines Y Camp: sent a group of teens to help out with summer day camp and to paint the cabins at camp.



Becket Chimney Corners YMCA Camp: sent two groups of teens through their REACH program. The teens volunteered with the summer day camp program and helped out at camp.

Montgomery, AL YMCA: sent two counselors to

our resident camp for two weeks and provided scholarships for five teens to attend the Christian Values Conference at Blue Ridge Assembly YMCA

Blue Ridge Assembly YMCA: paid for the plane tickets for our teens to attend the teen Christian Values Conference in July

YMCA of the Rockies: provided scholarships for housing for four young adults and one staff for the World Council gathering held at the end of June.

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe: As always, the CRST Game, Fish, and Parks Department helped take our dock out of the water, checked on camp during the off-season, and always helps us out when needed. The CRST Property and Supply guys took the three new cabins down to camp in July, loading them up in Dupree on a hot day and transporting them on flatbeds 70 miles down to the camp. It was a welcome sight to the campers and camp staff when those cabins came down the hill.

YMCA of the USA: Paid the conference fees for our attendees at World Council in July. This was an incredibly impactful experience for the young adults who were there on our behalf, something they will remember all their lives. Two YMCA of the USA staff participated in the Sioux Initiative, too.

Our Board of Trustees: Please look at the list on the address page of this publication to see who our Trustees are; perhaps you know some of them. This group of people have been an invaluable support for this Y. We would not be



where we are if not for their help and support.

Rich Wallis: We cannot begin to count the ways that Rich has contributed to our Y through his volunteer service. He came with a group of friends for a week in May to build three cabins for camp; he has led our annual campaign for two years now; he enters all of the data into the software program that we use (and he donated to us). He has inspired all of us to work harder and better for this Y.

Gary Price, Marv Bohlen, and Dave Lafferty: came from Spokane with Rich to help build cabins, picnic tables, and stairs for the trailer. Marv and Gary came last year, too.

Bill Townsend (Sioux YMCA Trustee) and his buddy Gary Kraisinger: Bill brought up the canoes and kayaks donated by Camp Classen on a nice new beautiful trailer that he purchased and modified for our resident camp. He and Gary helped with the cabins and everything else for camp.



Shane Pratt, Mike Roark, and Scott Mitchell of the YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City: joined the crew building cabins and picnic tables.

Continued on next page...

More Volunteers....

Amanda Held: Long term volunteer. Amanda has been here since July 2014 and has been instrumental in developing our new long term volunteer program. She has created a manual, application, and FAQ sheet and has contacted over 200 colleges and universities to let them know of our program. This is only a small part of what Amanda has done while here. She has also worked with the After School Program, taught ballet, coordinated a Girls' Night at the Y, and many other activities. We would be lost without her!

Bernie and Judy Anderson: Are always there when we need them. Bernie also helped with the cabins and picnic tables, and Judy has provided our bookkeeper with much needed assistance as she learns about her job.

Carla and Wade Stambach: Are also always there when we need them. They housed two of our camp staff on weekends all summer long and also housed the two counselors who came from Montgomery, AL for two weeks.

Bill McAllister: built new shelves in the camp kitchen. He drove all the way out from Ohio to do this for us! Bill is also serving as co-chair of our Leadership Immersion task force, a project which will help staff this Y with program staff.

Mike Grady: CEO of the YMCA of Greater OKC, is co-chair of the Leadership Immersion task force.

Harold Mezile, Vernon DelPesce, Tony Shuman, David Duro, Chad Lanners, and Mike Van Haelewyn: members of our Leadership Immersion Task Force who have given their time and energy to help us move this project forward.

Nate Danielson: a staff member of the YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities who has been one of our website and email support team members.

Ifrad Islam: Our other website support person. Both Nate and Ifrad have given countless hours of their time to keep our website up-to-date.

2014 Financial Report

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Balance on 01/01/2014:	\$96,746
Income: Individual Contributions: Partner YMCAs/Affiliates: Trusts/Family Foundations: Businesses/Churches: Government Food Grants: Grants: Arts and Crafts Sales: Program fees: Other: TOTAL INCOME:	\$105,182 \$150,591 \$9,103 \$5,000 \$16,963 \$67,250 \$3,782 \$3,241 \$14,883 \$375,995
Expense: Salary & Fringe Benefits: Office expense: Food Programs: Insurance: Transportation: Publicity & Fundraising: Sioux Initiative: Fair Share Support: Utilities: Other: TOTAL EXPENSE:	\$175,513 \$17,722 \$19,011 \$12,025 \$21,580 \$9,419 \$9,302 \$5,698 \$13,277 \$87,865 \$371,412
Balance as of 12/31/2013:	\$101,329
Endowment Contributions 2014: Capital Contributions 2014:	\$1,000 \$5,000
Grants: *YMCA of the USA: (Walmart and Camp Access grants) *Margaret A. Cargill Foundation: *Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe:	\$47,000 \$15,000 \$5,250

2014 Donors and Grants

\$10,000 +

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YMCA of the USA, IL

Margaret A. Cargill Foundation

YMCAs

YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, MN YMCA of Darien Community, CT YMCA of the Greater Houston Area, TX YMCA of Metro Ft. Worth, TX

<u>Individuals</u>

Anonymous

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Continued on next page...

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We do our best, but we couldn't function without friends like you. The Y operates entirely off of donations as there is no source of income in our area. To view our wish list, please visit

http://siouxymca.org/Wish% 20List.html





General Convention of Sioux YMCAs P.O. Box 218, Dupree, SD 57623

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Spring 2015

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