



**CAMP SLOANE
YMCA**

**WITHSTAND.
EXPAND.
THRIVE.**

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Unprecedented has been a ubiquitous descriptor for 2020. It certainly was an unprecedented year for Sloane. Camp Sloane YMCA was established just prior to the Great Depression. The depression lasted until 1939. Sloane remained open every summer during that unprecedented time. When World War Two came to our shores, Camp Sloane continued to operate. Even the most recent "Great Recession," which began in late 2007, did not stay our camp from operating. 2020 was different. For the first time since 1928, Sloane was forced to keep its doors closed.

Remaining closed for a year was an existential threat to Sloane. Could we withstand the financial burden of being closed for a year? This was the question that was on the minds of every staff member, board member and many of you. Like boards and staff members from previous tumultuous times in Sloane's history, we set about making plans to weather the storm. We applied for, and received, a grant from the YMCA of the USA to help with business continuity. The Small Business Administration and other governmental programs were instrumental as well.

While grants, loans and government funding were helpful, the most important and most uplifting was the support that came from our Camp Sloane family. We received over 400 donations ranging in size from a few dollars to \$50,000. You donated \$286,000 and, together with our grant from the YMCA of the USA, we raised \$326,000! This is the most we have ever raised in an annual campaign! For that, we sincerely thank you.

When we open our doors this summer, it will have been nearly two years since campers experienced the joys of Camp Sloane. This year it is so important that we be here to welcome children back to camp where they can be just a kid, where they can learn to make decisions, take responsibility, and gain confidence. You helped us make that happen. We are not out of the woods yet. 2021 will still be a difficult year for Sloane but with your support, we know that we'll be open this summer and for many summers to come.

Here are three easy ways you can help Sloane this year:

1. Tell 3 people about your connection with Sloane, that you think it is the best place for kids and that they should come and see us.
2. Come visit us (please call to set up a visit – Due to Covid-19, we cannot accept drop-ins). We are proud of our facility, proud of the work that we do and proud of the kids that we serve. We keep changing for the better, and we don't want you to miss it.
3. Continue to support camp with your donations of time, talent and treasure.

If you'd like to speak with me, I always love to talk camp, so give me a call anytime (860) 435-2557.

See You 'Round The Campfire,

Paul "Bear" Bryant
Executive Director/CEO
pbryant@campslope.org



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Bear". The signature is stylized and cursive.

A LOOK BACK AT 2019

638

TOTAL
OVERNIGHT
CAMPERS

23

MILITARY
CAMPERS

52

TIER 4
OVERNIGHT
CAMPERS

229

TIER 2 & 3
OVERNIGHT
CAMPERS



444

INDIVIDUAL
DONORS
IN 2020

192

TOTAL
DAY
CAMPERS

7

TIER 4
DAY
CAMPERS



106

TIER 2 & 3
DAY
CAMPERS





A Message from the Board Chair

Camp Sloane's motto has always been "Others." Every summer camp seeks to provide fun, care-free times at the lake or the performing arts building. Throughout our 93-year history however, Camp Sloane has also always placed emphasis on sharing and instilling our ethos of community and helping others. In this year of universal disruption and struggle, we are extraordinarily pleased and honored that so many in our extended "Camp Sloane Family" have chosen, among many competing priorities, to support Camp Sloane in its hour of need.

We at the Board of Directors thank you all for your generosity and care! We view your donations of resources and time as an investment in Camp's future, but more importantly an investment in the future of each and every camper and staff member who spends time at Camp Sloane in the coming years. We will continue to work to provide the best possible return on that investment by guiding Camp through both the good and the difficult times and ensuring that Camp Sloane will always pass along the strong message your help sent us this year: "Others"

As Bear stated in his letter, with your unprecedented levels of support, Camp Sloane has weathered what we hope is the worst of the pandemic "storm." But getting Sloane truly back on its feet and thriving will take hard work from the Board, Camp Staff and the great Camp Sloane Family. If you are interested in expanding your help to Sloane in any way, from setting up tents, to recruiting campers, to providing financial support, to serving on our Board, please reach out to Bear or to me. We would love to work with you.

Sincerely,

Aitken Thompson
Chair, Board of Directors
Aitken345@gmail.com



2020 LIST OF DONORS

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