



CAMP HARBOR VIEW NEWS 2015

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SEASON 9





When One Bridge Closes, Opportunities Open

CHV 2015

The summer of 2015 began with the reputation of the summer the Long Island Bridge closed. What seemed like insurmountable challenges at the time were in fact bridges in their own way. With every solution came an abundance of kindness and support, and new partnerships were formed. In the end, the summer of 2015 became the summer of determination and community.

ALL ABOARD Perhaps the greatest outcome of the changes that occurred during the 2015 season is the new normal of traveling to camp by ferry. In the past, campers arrived to camp via small buses, divided



in groups by neighborhood until they came together for breakfast in Menino Hall. In 2015, campers were able to begin their day as a community aboard the Provincetown II (PII). Upon

boarding the ferry, campers joined their groups and enjoyed breakfast provided by City Fresh. The day's announcements were made and the fun kicked off in the usual way - with 500 campers, LITs, and staff building up energy through camp songs together. By the time they arrived on Long Island, all were ready to jump into various activities. Beginning the day in this way reinforced the family values that make the CHV experience so unique.

A wonderful partnership was formed with Bay State Cruises, provider of the Provincetown II. The PII is Boston's largest passenger vessel, with a capacity of 1,100. While the campers now feel a fond sense of ownership and pride for the PII, it also serves other youth organizations during the day and hosts various event cruises during the summer and fall.

Once transportation for the campers and staff was confirmed, Bay State Cruises owner, Mike Glasfeld, introduced Camp Harbor View to the McDevitt brothers, owners and operators of the Miss Peddocks Island (MPI).

The MPI is a 55 passenger charter boat that serviced CHV throughout the day, allowing for program partners, City Fresh staff, and other visitors to conveniently come and go from the island.

THANK YOU Funding for "the fleet", as Camp Harbor View co-founder Jack Connors named the initiative, was an initial concern. The adjustments that needed to be made to Camp Harbor View's campus, dock, and logistics as a result of the closing of the Long Island Bridge increased the camp's annual budget by 24%. Not only was road access lost, but energy and water lines that ran with the bridge were as well.

The initial concern was met with outstanding generosity and support from Camp Harbor View's community. We would like to thank the many donors that responded to our call for help, both through the campaign to raise funds for the fleet as well as the Beach Ball gala.

Support not only came in the form of monetary contributions but in the form of goods, services and counsel as well. CHV was embraced by the maritime community and valued partnerships were made.

The 9th season of Camp Harbor View would not have been possible without the extraordinary measures taken by our donors and partners. On behalf of the 900 children who enjoyed a Camp Harbor View summer this year, thank you.



A WORD FROM CAMP HARBOR VIEW DIRECTOR, GREG STODDARD

Dear CHV Extended Family,

Worries about water, power, and transportation ushered in the planning for Camp Harbor View's 9th summer. I am pleased, having just closed out the summer season, to report that those worries proved no match for the collective power of those who believe in Camp Harbor View. Hundreds of people worked countless hours to make sure that CHV was not only open, but continued to be what it has been: a literal and figurative island of safety, positivity, and fun for over 900 youth from Boston.

Camp Harbor View is not numbers, however. Camp Harbor View is best expressed in its names and its stories. Camp is staff member Nichelle, who returned to us after three years away from camp, determined to change the life of at least one camper the way that camp utterly transformed hers. It is return camper Westin, who vowed the first day of camp to stay out of trouble and contribute in a positive way this year. It is camper Rob

ert, who after panicking halfway up the climbing wall and came down shaking, spent the rest of the period building the courage to try again - and did with the support of his group. It is Leader in Training David, who has some speech difficulties and developmental delays, but built the skills at camp to ask questions each rotation as part of his new job in the leadership department. There are about 896 other stories just like them.

Summer 2015 turned out not to be about water, power, and transportation after all - too many people cared too much to allow that to be the focus. Summer 2015 turned out to be about fun, and helping 900 children write their own stories - just how it always has been and will be.

Sincerely,

When a man like Jack Connors asks his high-powered friends for help, they respond in a big way. The Hill Holliday founder, author, philanthropist and force behind Camp Harbor View used his legendary charisma to gather together more than 700 of the camp's supporters at the organization's annual Beach Ball on Saturday night to raise a whopping \$5.2 million.

Some of the funds will cover the sizable extra operating costs the camp recently took on after the only bridge to CHV campgrounds on Long Island was condemned. This summer, campers will be bused to the Seaport's World Trade Center and commute to camp on the Province-town Two, operated by Bay State Cruises — a first-ever boat ride for some of the tweens and teens hailing from Boston inner-city neighborhoods.

It costs about \$3,500 to send a camper to CHV, and Connors invited the audience to sponsor 10 campers, then five, then one. It may have been the generously poured wine (thanks to Max Ultimate Food and Bryan Rafanelli) or the fun vibe in the room, but hands (holding playful pink bidding shovels) shot up everywhere, including those of Gov. Charlie Baker and Mayor Marty Walsh. "See, that's the difference between the Democrats and the Republicans — Marty Walsh went for 10

campers and Gov. Baker went for five," commented Connors, which had the crowd roaring. Walsh joked about Connors' powers of persuasion earlier in the night saying, "He knuckles me pretty good once and a while, but we can't talk about that tonight," and then thanked the former ad exec for all he does for the city of Boston.

Once the financial business was taken care of, it was time to party with America's favorite surf-loving musicians, The Beach Boys, who played hits like "Surfin' USA," "Kokomo" and "Don't Worry Baby."

Enjoying the good vibrations were: Event co-chair Joe Tucci, U.S. Sens. Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren, couple-about-town Michael Ratty and Amy Deveau, chef Jody Adams, socialite and former co-chairwoman Roberta Weiner, retail royal Joan Jolley, Citizens Bank's Rick Musiol, Lycos tycoon Bob Davis, real estate wunderkind Michael Harper and Rafanelli events guru Marne Rubinstein.





Growing Minds, Growing Hearts At CHV

CHV 2015

Camp Harbor View campers enjoy various traditional camp activities such as soccer, swimming, football, basketball, arts and crafts, music and more. In addition, it is important to CHV that the campers continue to learn and grow throughout the summer. Knowledge Is Power(KiP) Director, Amber Goodreau, reported a few of the campers' favorite activities this past summer. Varying from deep relaxation to the ultimate team competition, the kids were challenged to open their minds and have fun.

THINK CRITICALLY Campers experienced a taste of structural engineering and architectural design when they were asked to **design** their own bridge using photos of different types of existing bridges from around the world. They then brought their design to life by building models from balsa wood.

HEALTHY EATING CAN BE FUN! Campers learned how to make **ice cream** with nothing more than frozen bananas and a blender. Though simple to do, the process takes three days. The response deemed the wait worth it, as campers proudly enjoyed their homemade ice cream with different toppings on a warm summer day.

NAMASTE Each group experienced **yoga** classes to promote relaxation and healthy living this summer. "The best part of yoga was watching the campers challenge themselves with different poses, and then having even the toughest campers fall asleep during the rest and relaxation time," reported Amber.

COMMUNITY BUILDING Staff recreated a CHV version of **The Amazing Race**, a reality television scavenger hunt game show in which teams race around the world in competition with other teams. Campers raced in teams, were given clues at different locations on campus, and were ultimately led back to the KiP building where they started. Throughout the game, campers were cheering each other on, motivating their team, and helped other teams to finish the race.



BOSTON LANDMARKS ORCHESTRA

Latin Grammy nominee and renowned classical and jazz composer, Clarice Assad, brought **culture and music** to CHV this summer. Campers were exposed to various instruments and musical styles while learning about different cultures. They also had the opportunity to perform at the DCR's Hatch Shell for Highland Street Foundation's Free Fun Friday, alongside the Boston Landmarks Orchestra and the USS Constitution Museum.



STEM ACTIVITY FAIR BY EMC

EMC Corporation brought the STEM Fair to CHV for the second year in a row. Campers enjoyed learning different elements of **science, technology, engineering, and math** through activities led by EMC volunteers. Examples of subjects included learning about molecules through Making Slime with Chemistry, engineering force through Roller Coaster Exploration, and static electricity through Magnet Balloons.



4th ANNUAL PARTNERS HEALTHCARE CAREER FAIR

Partners Healthcare volunteers returned to CHV to educate campers in health-related subjects, holistic learning, and the variety of **career opportunities** available in the healthcare sector. This year's interactive activities piqued the campers' interests in stress management, healthy relationships, healthy heart rates, and sports medicine.

SPOTLIGHT CHV ALUM, JAMAL GRANT



Jamal has been a part of Camp Harbor View in a variety of capacities since its inception in 2007. He began as a camper, completed the Leader in Training Program, and is a four-

time recipient of the Camp Harbor View College Scholarship award. Recently, Jamal updated the Camp Harbor View Foundation on his progress since graduating from UMass Lowell with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in May 2015, and to express his gratitude to all who made his Camp Harbor View experience possible.

Jamal spent this past summer in Atlanta, Georgia with Humanity In Action as one of 20 American and 10 European John Lewis Fellows. The fellowship focused on various human and civil rights in the United States, including immigration, women's rights, slavery, mass incarceration, Native American rights, and more.

Through his experiences at Camp Harbor View, his fel-

lowship, and many others during his college years, Jamal has decided to work towards finding creative ways to give back to his community.

"There were many 'eureka' moments that I had at camp when I began to understand and care about the struggles of others,... and when I started to look at the world through a lens that suddenly connected me with people in a way I had not previously experienced. The Camp Harbor View staff, whom I truly consider my second family, showed me that much of the value of life is not in what you do for yourself, but what you do for others," said Jamal.

Camp Harbor View assisted Jamal with college tuition through the Camp Harbor View Scholarship Fund all four of his undergraduate years. During his senior year, Jamal was an intern at M.I.T. Lincoln Laboratory and upon graduation, was made an impressive offer for a position as systems engineer, working on mechanical and aerospace national security challenges.

"The scholarship money not only served as a great help throughout my school years, but now has opened an entirely new world for me in the near future... Thank you for all of your support and for making this possible!"

BY DELORES HANDY | WBUR NEWS AUGUST 19, 2015

Eleven-year-old Damien Booker, of Mattapan, hangs by a harness a few feet off the ground, ready to be hoisted high in the air. He has finally worked up the courage to try the high-ropes course.

Damien swings in a wide arc, careering toward the ground, then seesawing back into the air, before his



teammates ease him back to earth.

"It was pretty scary at first," he says. "It's like going on a roller coaster."

Camp Harbor View, an oasis for inner-city youth on Long Island in Boston Harbor, has been on its own roller coaster this past year. Since its opening in 2007, campers have taken buses across an aging bridge to the island.

But the bridge is gone now. Deemed dangerously decayed, it was condemned in October and later demolished, taking with it the power and water lines that connected the island to the mainland.

"We blinked hard a couple times when we heard that the bridge was going to come down," says Sharon McNally, president of the Camp Harbor View Foundation.

"And then we immediately knew that we were going to continue to have camp out at Long Island."

But, she says, "We had very little idea just how difficult

it was going to be. Getting the kids here to the camp is the easy part."

Now buses deliver hundreds of campers each day to the Seaport District, where they board a ferry to the island.

"The ferry was a wonderful solution," McNally says, "but we didn't know that the power lines were going to come down, that the water lines were going to come down, so we worked through each of those challenges as they confronted us."

Water, food and other supplies are shipped in by barge. Generators were brought in to supply electricity, while the city of Boston works to build underwater delivery lines.

Camp Harbor View has always had a close relationship with the city. The camp was a dream of late former Mayor Thomas Menino, who partnered with businessman and philanthropist Jack Connors.

Menino and Connors called these kids "the tweenies." McNally says they are at a critical point in their lives, in between stages of childhood.

"The campers are between the ages of 11 and 14, and that's the age where they are too young to work, they're really too old to have a babysitter, but too young to be left on their own," she says. "It's that between stage when there's nothing really wonderful for them to do in the summer."

There's plenty to do out here at Camp Harbor View. There's an art barn, amphitheater, music studio and every kind of sport imaginable: from rugby, to lacrosse, to tennis, to sailing, to kayaking, to swimming.

It's midday and 15-year-olds Jasmyn Dore and Aisosa Ombre, of Hyde Park, are taking a ferry off the island with a group of older teens. They're all former campers, now leaders-in-training at the camp on a field trip, headed to a Boston courthouse for a program called Discovering Justice.

For Jasmyn and Aisosa, the camp is a life-altering experience: "It's a really affordable camp," Aisosa says. "I really like how you're able to do a lot of things here."

Affordable is an understatement. Though a camp official says it cost over \$3,500 to fund each camper, the campers only pay a \$5 application fee.

Over the years, the camp has been made possible through fundraising and generosity. Support has come in many forms: vans donated by car dealerships, sailboats funded by a family with a love of sailing, even dental screenings, cleanings and treatments provided free by a dental office.

But the closure of the bridge presented a particular financial challenge. But McNally says the camp's supporters rallied around the crisis.

"We raised \$5.5 million at our gala this year, which is an all-time record," McNally says. "They knew this was important and we needed to make sure that we prevailed despite the obstacles."

Part of that money will go into an endowment. There, it will help bridge the challenges not just for this year, but for many years to come.

Delores Handy Host/Reporter, WBUR





Fall Is The Time To Get Involved

CHV 2015

FOR DONORS *The CHV HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM helps the families we serve create special memories and enjoy the holiday season. Last year, donors like you contributed to making over 120 families' holidays a happy time to remember. We hope you will participate in the program again this year. Getting in the holiday giving spirit is easy with these three campaigns to choose from!*

THANKSGIVING FOOD

ASSISTANCE Send Stop & Shop gift cards in the denomination of \$25 to the Camp Harbor View Foundation office, address below, before November 19th. Donation amounts are up to the donors discretion. Gift cards will be dispersed to families who sign up for the Thanksgiving Food Assistance program prior to the holiday so they can enjoy a true Thanksgiving meal. The deadline for sending in Thanksgiving Food Assistance gift cards will be November 19th.

HOLIDAY WISH LIST CHV families are asked to complete an extensive Holiday Assistance Request Form to determine their needs and provide details on what they are dreaming of receiving this holiday season. We will share a family's wish list items with you along with some other helpful details about the gift recipients to help with your shopping. The deadline for

dropping off Holiday Wish List items will be Thursday, December 10th. Contact Elizabeth at econnolly@connorsfamilyoffice.com or 617-369-0070 to sign up to support a Camp Harbor View camper or family.

#GIVINGTUESDAY Join the movement and celebrate this global day dedicated to giving by making a contribution to Camp Harbor View on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at <http://chvf.org/contribute> or by mailing your donation to the address below. Proceeds collected on December 1 will be allocated to fulfilling campers' holiday wish lists and providing grocery assistance to those in need during the month of December.

Camp Harbor View Foundation
200 Clarendon Street, 60th Floor
Boston, MA 02116



FOR CAMPERS

ADVENTURE CLUB

Once a week campers experience local outdoor excursions, such as hiking, kayaking, rock climbing, geocaching and more.

MONTHLY REUNIONS

This monthly gathering event includes fun games, art projects, and various challenges. It's a great opportunity for campers to reconnect with friends from camp!

CHV STUDIOS

Art-loving campers meet weekly to create different pieces of artwork while learning the various mediums (paper, clay, pastels, metal, print, etc). Art is a powerful outlet for youth to express themselves, manage stress, and engage in creative thinking.

FOR ALL

1,2,3 LEAD THE WAY!

THIRD ANNUAL FEED THE HOMELESS EVENT

1, 2, 3 Lead the Way! events are monthly, organized community service days throughout the City of Boston, inspired by CHV's core values - fun, respect, responsibility, character, courage, and community. In November, the CHV community will make soup and sandwiches and deliver them to the homeless around Boston.

COUCH TO 5K RUNNING PROGRAM

For parents and children ages 11+, of all fitness levels. Participants will set weekly goals and are encouraged by CHV staff who will run along with them. Those who attend four community runs in a row earn a \$50 gift card for new running shoes. The program ends with a celebratory 5k in November!

Camp Harbor View offers over **20** programs for campers, Leaders in Training, and parents during the school year. Here is a sampling of what's happening at CHV this fall!

FOR LEADERS IN TRAINING

MULTIMEDIA GROUP

LITs will have the opportunity to attend classes and be trained in the technology required to run a public access television show. By early November, CHV will have a cable television show which will air twice a month on BNN.

COLLEGE TOUR GROUP

Junior and Senior LITs are invited to travel to and tour various colleges of interest with the LIT staff during the school year.

WRITING WORKSHOP

On the fourth Tuesday of every month LITs are invited to Orchard Gardens for writing workshops. This time can be used for writing resume and cover letters, college and scholarship essays, or to complete homework with support from LIT staff.

FOR PARENTS

CHV PARENT COFFEEHOUSE

Parents meet weekly and have the opportunity to connect, talk, learn, and relax with good food and good company. Dinner and childcare are provided.

SUPER FOODS COOKING PROGRAM

This bi-weekly nutrition education and grocery assistance program helps parents learn how to integrate healthy cooking practices at home with their families in a fun way. Parents leave with recipes, educational materials about the food, and produce to take home and share with their families.

THRIVING FAMILIES WORKSHOP SERIES

This monthly workshop series engages parents in meaningful learning experiences and discussion in order to enrich their lives and allow them to network with other parents in the CHV community.



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