

## **Camp Director's Report:**

### **Winter meeting January 30, 2021**

As the year 2021 begins and thankfully 2020 is over. But, not forgotten. There are accomplishments for 2020 and new beginnings for 2021.

Back during the summer of 2020, the camp took on a project of becoming one step closer to making the premises more handicap accessible. There will still be some areas to update in the near future.

One of those projects was to widen sidewalks that were not up to ADA standards. This job is complete.

Another project was the Renovation of what is known as the Staff Building. This building has been transformed to accommodate Family Camping Programs. Each bedroom can sleep up to 5 people. All rooms are handicap accessible and two rooms have access to handicap showers and toiletries. The interior part of this renovation was completed in May of 2020.

Handicap ramps were installed in July of 2020 by volunteers from a group from First Baptist Jasper, Ga.

One thing that was not completed was the installation of Handicap rails and railing. With the crisis of the Pandemic going on, the availability of materials was hard to get.

I am delighted to announce that these rails and railings have been installed and the renovation of the interior and exterior of this building is complete. Some exterior Vinyl siding had to be reinstalled and this portion of the project is completed also.

Our local codes department has inspected and approved all renovations. We are now in the process of acquiring our CO permit from the State Codes Fire Marshal.

Through volunteer help we have acquired some of the bedding furniture that was needed. Furniture such as night stands, lamps, cabinets, linens, and etc. are still needed.

An update on the project to install 4 full-service RV hookups. These are to be used by Lions, volunteers, rental groups, and fundraising activities.

Installation of the septic system was done by a contractor back in late October. In November the electrical contractor installed the conduit needed for each power station. They also installed all the electrical wiring and outlets needed. Services will include 4 full-service RV hookups, three power and water supply stations and one 100-amp power supply for excess power needs.

In early January an inspection was done for the permit to operate. Our local power company came and installed power to this site. Currently we are in the process of leveling the landscape. Project is ready for use.

The camp has received some new inquiries about the camp's availability for rentals. Some of last year's rental groups have reserved the camp for their programs. Many are still waiting to see how the Pandemic affects their programs.

The camp maintains all facilities with sanitation and upkeep. Rental groups are responsible for their Health and Safety protocols.

As we move forward with planning this year's summer camp season, we are implementing Health and Safety Guidelines with the information that is given to us. COVID-19 will surely make Summer camp different.

Camper registrations will be open by mid- February. All campers are encouraged to register thru [Campdoc.com](http://Campdoc.com). They can go to the camp's website and follow the link.

Once again, our goal is to increase the 6 thru 12-year-old campers for the upcoming 2021 camping season. Through the camps recreational activities, they will gain self-confidence, learn team building, become independent by learning how to overcome obstacles, and of course have fun.

With your help we can get the word out that this summer will be spectacular. We are implementing new programs that they definitely don't want to miss out on.

A little history on last years plans for summer camp was that we were bringing in different consultants each session who would work with each age group. These

professionals all worked in the Visual Impairment field. Some teachers, some parents, and some who work with children and youth services at the Center for the Visually Impaired.

All of these consultants had prepared for last summers sessions and were disappointed when we had to cancel. Although there was no camp, I continued to stay in contact with these consultants. One in particular. They showed extreme interest in helping here at the camp! They had also agreed to help with Christmas Camp.

Over the past several months through many emails and some phone calls this person has become more and more enthused with what the camp has to offer. Encouraged by experiencing camp themselves. Campers learning through camp, anyone can do anything if they just set a goal. Nothing is impossible.

I would like to introduce this person to you, her name is Krista Maccullum.

I am pleased to announce that Krista will be the camp's Program Director for the 2021 summer camping season, Special Programs, and Christmas Camp, and beyond.

I am so excited to have her as a staff member here at the camp. She will bring so many views and ideas to the camp through her personal life experiences. By reading her attached Bio you can see how your Georgia Lions Camp has been a large contributor to her achievements.

Things are being accomplished here at the camp. You don't want to miss out. Make plans to attend this year's Lions Day at the camp. It is scheduled for July 17, 2021. Can't hardly wait to see you.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and we will see you soon.

Mike Williams

Camp Director

Georgia Lions Camp Inc.

I am visually impaired and grew up receiving services through the Center for the Visually Impaired in Atlanta. This is what initially ignited my passion for nonprofit organizations. When I was 14, I attended GLCB as a camper, and fell in love with the camp. Since then, I worked as a summer camp counselor for various summer camps.

I received my bachelor's degree from Georgia State University in Nonprofit Leadership and Management. Since graduation, I have worked as a Children and Youth Services Instructor at the Center for the Visually Impaired. I also began a Graduate program to receive my Teacher of the Visually Impaired Certification last year.

I have worked with blind/visually impaired children from ages 2-22. I have a strong passion for promoting the independence of blind/visually impaired people and assisting them develop the skills they need to succeed at all stages of their life. I believe that one of the biggest ways to set a blind person up for success is to build confidence. This is why I was so excited to get the opportunity to work with Lions Camp last year! I know firsthand that Lions Camp gives blind people the confidence they need to be as independent as their sighted counterparts by providing a space to try new things, have adventures, and build relationships.

Although last summer did not go as planned, I did join the advisory committee for GLC Inc. and am excited to continue to work with camp this year. There is power in learning you can do something you never thought you could,

and I am so thrilled to get to be a part of imparting that on the GLC campers this year!

Krista

Remember: Let's **“KEEP THE CAMP FIRES BURNING”**

**FLAME ON!!**