

LUETHI-PETERSON CAMPS, INC.

For International Understanding



Dear LPC Friends,

October 2019

Board Members

Another summer of Luethi-Peterson Camps (7 this year!) is over. I hope you enjoy the lively stories and photos in the enclosed annual LPC Newsletter, and that you will be moved to make a donation to help future campers share these life-changing experiences.

Peter Migliaccio
President
June Vinhateiro
Treasurer
Leslie Olsen
Secretary

I was 16 when I brought my younger sister from London to a village in the Netherlands to attend her first camp. The scene resembled a friendly beehive: campers from many countries being welcomed by counselors; languages spoken and translated at a rapid pace. It was exciting to watch this small community begin to bond, through singing, folk dancing, and working together. I left reluctantly the next morning, vowing that I would find a way to join this captivating group that felt like the best kind of family.

Chris Adams
Sara Bartholomew
Lily Bell
Deborah Drew
Jessica Gillis
Kai Migliaccio
Mike Misiolek
Patrick Neely
Claire O'Laughlin
Bethany Place
Michelle Place
Clark Roscher
Kate Roscher
Jessica Sculley
Maureen Tunney
Hannah Vinhateiro
Nathan Wigton Bell

Forty-five years later I have a treasure-trove of LPC memories, as a counselor four times and as a mother of two children who have been campers and counselors in their turn. I've witnessed my children develop independence and empathy through their LPC experiences, and build deep friendships that have continued in their lives beyond camp. We've all shared the fun and dedicated effort it takes to build an inclusive community in a few short weeks, and the tremendous rewards it brings.

In every corner of our Earth people are grappling with immense challenges, from global climate change to the rise of nationalism and prejudice of all kinds. These problems aren't all new ones. In 1949, in the aftermath of World War II in Europe, Natalie Luethi-Peterson brought the first group of campers together, creating a safe environment for them to respect and appreciate each other's cultural differences. She believed that providing children with the opportunity to create community across cultures would lead to a more just and peaceful future, and seventy years later LPC's mission is still relevant, and more important than ever!

Each summer boys and girls from different backgrounds come together to live simply (no electronics!) for four weeks in camp. Everyone cooks, cleans, sings, dances, and hikes together, sharing their cultures and learning to live cooperatively. In recent summers LPC has welcomed refugee children to camp, reaffirming Natalie's original vision of international understanding, and expanding our LPC family.

You can be part of building a diverse LPC community. Your donation will provide financial assistance for young people who could not otherwise attend camp, exposing them to new cultures, new skills, and new friends for life. Please be generous. We welcome checks made out to LPC Inc. – or if you prefer, your tax-deductible donation may be made through PayPal (see instructions below).

With many thanks for your support,



Sara Bartholomew
Chair, Fundraising Committee
U.S. Board / LPC Incorporated

Please make your contributions to LPC, Inc.

Mail: P.O. Box 82 | Wakefield Rhode Island 02880 USA

Online Donations via the LPC-US PayPal site: lpcinc.org/donations/