



## Report to Presbytery of Plains and Pekas October, 2020

**These are days of deep gratitude at Highlands!** Under guidance from Boulder County Public Health, Highlands has reopened to family groups and small groups of individuals. We have many precautions in place . . . along with a lot of Plexiglas! **We are grateful for the families, quilters, pastors, college students and neighbors who are coming to stay at Highlands this fall! It is good to have guests here!**

**Due to Covid 19 we continue to see far fewer guests than normal.** We anticipate approximately \$700,000 in lost revenue this year. This includes \$572,000 in cancelled and postponed groups, as well as about \$100,000 in summer camp revenue. **We are grateful to have reserves that make it possible for us to return deposits to groups as needed.**

**In the meantime, we are busy with projects we never seem to have time to do!**

- Staff House 1 siding has been repaired, four new windows have been installed and the exterior is being painted.
- Antelope and Blackbear cabins have been painted. The awnings have been removed and new awnings will be made over the winter and installed in the spring.
- We are moving forward with the Rock Creek Water Project. We are working with the blaster to schedule a time to blast rock, and dig this line from the Horse Corral to the Water Treatment Plant. We have seasonal (summer) water rights to use water from Rock Creek, which are very valuable to us as we continue to experience dry conditions.
- Repair to the Retreat Center roof is complete. We are working on replacement of the false chimney structures.
- Roof replacement on the Bike Shop and Staff Apartments is underway.
- The Bike Shop doors have been replaced, and the Bike Shop was painted with a first coat on the Fall Work Day.
- Five Bat Boxes have been hung throughout our property.
- We are in the process of sanding and resealing all of the interior wood trim on windows in the Retreat Center.
- On our Fall Work Day, volunteers cut downed and dead trees, and moved all of this wood into the barn for firewood. Mike and Terry Schantz did trail maintenance on the Three Crosses trail as well as repaired all three crosses at the top.
- Our IT Volunteer, Phil Miller, is building our new server. He will also install a Ubiquiti Network to provide wireless access throughout the Retreat Center and up to the Activity Center.
- A team of people are exploring Property Maintenance Software to document the Highlands infrastructure (water, waste water, electrical, propane, buildings, etc.)



**A key piece of the Highlands Strategic Plan, for over 4 years, has been to engage in an evaluation of the Summer Camp Program.** The Program Sub-Committee received proposals from three companies to provide this evaluation and to assist in the search for a new Director of Summer Camps. At their meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> the Highlands Committee approved moving forward with a proposal from Run River Enterprises. We will be scheduling open conversations for folks to participate in this evaluation. **We hope that you will make time to join in Zoom discussion about Highlands Summer Camp, Partnership Day Camp and Mission Work Camps!**

**Looking ahead . . . to the 2020 Highlands Christmas Party and Auction . . .**

Highlands will hold a two day  
**Open House and Gift Basket and Craft Sale**  
**December 5 & 6**  
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

With a maximum of 50 participants each day, by reservation.  
To make your reservation, please email [info@highlandscamp.org](mailto:info@highlandscamp.org)  
Or call 303-747-2888

**Highlands will also hold an online Auction**  
**November 30-December 6**  
for higher value items.

We are excited that a 7 day/6 night stay at Agape' Anchor Villas in Luquillo Beach, Puerto Rico has been offered for our online auction!

You can learn more about the work of the Phipps Family and the ministry of Agape' Anchor at [www.agape-anchor.com](http://www.agape-anchor.com).

**We will also be celebrating our fabulous volunteers on our website during the month of December.**

**If you are an artist who would like to donate an item to support the ministry of Highlands, please contact Maria Shupe.**

We ask that all items be at Highlands by November 14<sup>th</sup>.  
We are happy to pick up items!



## **2021 will be Highlands' 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**To mark this special occasion we hope to raise funds and complete a new sign for our entrance.** We are delighted by the design work done by Consillium Design and look forward to sharing more information about this project with you!

**Daniel Hastings, Director of Food Service,** will be on parental leave October 24<sup>th</sup> through the end of November. He and his wife, Josie, are expecting a son in early November.

**When we have no guests, office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** When we have no guests on weekends, manager's schedules are being adapted to allow as much weekend time off as possible . . . . a real gift to our long-term staff who normally work weekends. We usually make decisions about 2 weeks in advance so that staff can plan their schedules.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maria Shupe  
Executive Director