



# Summer 2018—NHSA Report



## 2018 Camp Sno-Mo Staff:

Once again, we had numerous countries represented from around the world. For returning camp staff, we welcomed back Yousaf, Katie, and Alex.

- **Marco** (South Africa) who runs a men's barber company back home and was looking for a new challenge as he has a family member with a disability.
- **Cristine and Clare** (Philippines) came as part of a new program managed by CIEE out of Portland ME. Both are fully qualified Occupational therapists in their real-life jobs.
- **Rebeca** (Spain) is a physical therapist.
- **Juan** (Spain) is a teacher back home.
- **Rayanne, Lauren & Lucy** (Ireland) are students studying early childhood.
- **Yousaf** (England) after three years Camp Sno-Mo, he will begin his master's in engineering when he returns to the UK.
- **Katie** (England) is studying hospitality and has one year left of school
- **Alex** (Wales) is studying outdoor education.
- **Thomas** is in school in VT and lives in Wolfeboro, NH. Tom volunteered last year at camp and did such a great job that we hired him as a counselor.
- **Lewelyn** (Wales) is PE teacher.
- **Lara** (England) is seeking employment as a teacher at home.



**Volunteer:**

*(At no time were volunteers used in place of fulltime staff to fill a position)*

Katiana and Emily (Emily did a 20-hour job shadow) volunteered from Easterseals Community Based Services. They are both NH high school students. Kat has volunteered with us for several years. We are thankful to the Gamache family for allowing Kat to help us out and attend camp again this past summer. Campers and staff really enjoyed having Kat around to assist with daily and evening program. Hillary also volunteered two days a week for five weeks.

**International Volunteers:**

Mhairi (Varri) from England volunteered for her 2nd year, returning for ten days. Back home, Mhairi is a social worker and used her vacation time to help us out this summer.

Catherine returned to camp following a year away, previously she had been with us for four year. It is always amazes me seeing just how much of an impression camp makes on people's lives other than campers.

Eyob was a new camper for one week and then returned Session 5 as a volunteer. He is an amazing young man with an even more amazing story. Originally from Ethiopia, Eyob reside in Hampton, NH with his adoptive foster parents and family. There are six children/siblings in the household.

We hope Eyob will return next summer to facilitate the "Disability Awareness Badge" which involves educating the Boy Scouts of Daniel Webster Council about disabilities and the challenges our campers face on a daily basis.

Eyob made such an impact that we will be submitting a nomination that he be recognized at the next CYLCC (Children and Youth Living with Chronic Conditions) awards in Concord NH, on November 25, 2018.



## SPECIAL EVENT:

- Muskrats Baseball from Laconia visit
- NHSA/Ride In kick off at the Fisher Cats
- Filming of This is Me video and commercial recording (30 sec).

Alton Rotary Executive Director Rick Hogg visit. Rick is very interested in forging a stronger partnership with camp.

Alton School 3rd graders raised \$900.

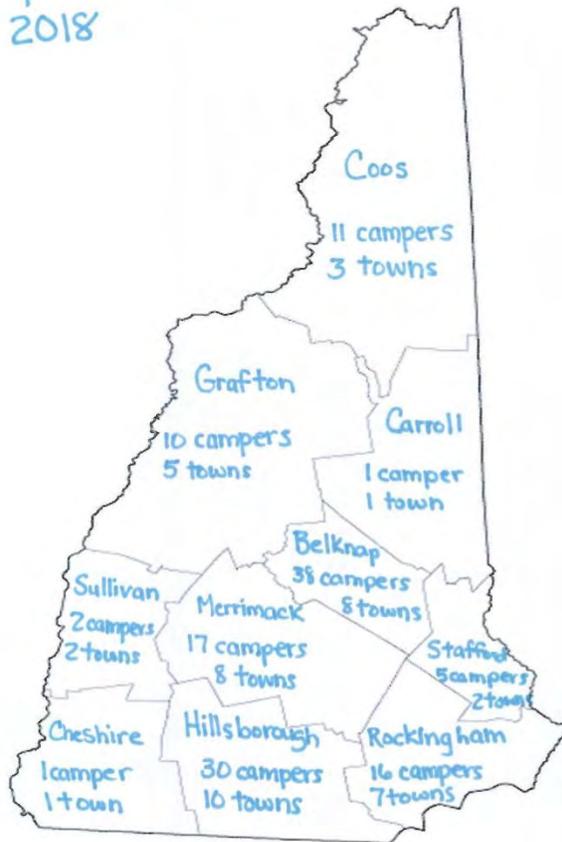
John Cook—\$7500 paid for the new communication system which was installed and up and running for camp opening day. What an improvement in clarity and range! The new system provides us with far greater communication to improve safety for our campers throughout the 3,600 acres of property. Thank you, John!

## Financial Review

*Easterseals New Hampshire  
Camp Sno MO Operating Statement  
12 Months Ending August 31, 2018*

<i>Revenues</i>	<i>Total Actual</i>	
<i>Fees &amp; Tuitions</i>	155,435	
<i>Financial Assistance</i>	<u>(9,630)</u>	
<i>Total Revenues</i>	145,805	
<i>Expenses</i>		
<i>Salaries, Taxes, &amp; Benefits</i>	120,948	
<i>Professional Fees</i>	20,633	
<i>Occupancy Costs</i>	74,463	
<i>Food</i>	63,519	
<i>Supplies</i>	7,836	
<i>Vehicle &amp; Travel Expenses</i>	7,115	
<i>Annual Boy Scout Membership Charges</i>	4,238	
<i>Minor Equipment &amp; Rental</i>	5,606	
<i>Other Fees</i>	<u>6,196</u>	
<i>Total Expenses</i>	310,555	341,610 <i>Total Cost to run camp</i>
<i>Net Operating Surplus (Loss)</i>	(164,750)	167 <i>Total Children enrolled (Day and Overnight Camp)</i>
		2,046 <i>Cost Per Child for Camp</i>
<i>Administration Fee Allocation 10%</i>	31,055	
<i>Development</i>	<u>181,949</u>	
<i>Total Net Profit/(Loss)</i>	(13,856)	

## Camp Sno Mo 2018



### Upcoming NHTSA Events that Camp Sno-Mo will be attending: Please stop by!

- Grass Drags
- NHTSA Snowmobile club fund raisers
- Camp fairs
- NHTSA/Easterseals Ride-In, and more.

If you have an event you would like Camp Sno-Mo to attend, please get in touch with Robert ASAP so we can add you to the calendar.

Daniel Webster Council (DWC): This summer our partnership with Daniel Webster Council grew even stronger with the addition of Easterseals campers being able to earn Boy Scout Merit Badges for all programs offered at Hidden Valley. Nearly 100% of our campers participated.

And, most of them went home earning at least one merit badge per session.

New for 2018, Easterseals Camp Sno-Mo became an official Boy Scout troop. Our Daniel Webster Council registration is listed as Venture Crew 1990. The number came from when the agreement was made 30 years ago to move camp from New Durham to its present location at Hidden Valley.

What this means, is that our campers will and did earn merit badges for almost every program area they attended. Resulting in an award ceremony where by the campers are presented with their merit badges. More importantly when they return home to their communities they can now participate as a venture crew member in their local troop. In the hope of opening up many more doors of socialization and friendships something that is much needed for the population we serve, sadly.

With 170 campers working, learning, and having fun they earned almost 400 merit badges in total. Truly an amazing number and success!

With the introduction of these badges came another amazing event. Every Friday at noon, before the campers went home, they were celebrated for all they had accomplished during the week at a Boy Scout Court of Honor. At this event, each camper's name is read aloud, and they are invited before all the campers, staff, family, and friends to receive their merit badges. Handing out awards is always a special occasion but even more so when the awards highlight how amazing our campers are.



*This camper earned the Boy Scouts "Triple Crown". This award requires the camper to complete all three-merit badge disciplines offered in the shooting sports program area: rifle, archery, and shotgun. He was one of five campers out of a 2,500 campers who attended the Boy Scout program this summer.*

Many of our campers completed the Emergency Medical Services Merit Badges which is an Eagle Scout requirement, and a huge accomplishment. With this stronger partnership campers can return to their communities and become part of local troops to continue earning merit badges and achieve higher ranks.





**A Word from Assistant Director Chris Ellis & Regional Camping Director Robert Kelly:**

We have some exciting news to share! Over the past few years, we have seen some amazing growth in the numbers of campers served.

This past summer, we were at 75% capacity by mid-March following a going live date of Feb. 1, 2018. We are in a very healthy position going forward, in regards to families and campers wishing to attend camp, which is great and speaks volumes about this program.

To give you an indication of this growth, when I began at Camp Sno-Mo in January 2006, we served 110-115 campers each summer. This past summer we served an amazing 170 campers and their families.

To be totally transparent, not all of our campers were residential camper. For example, we had three-day campers sent to us from the Gilford School District for six weeks. If you multiply these three by six it is an additional 18 campers. Hooksett also sent us one day camper for three weeks giving us a total of 21-day campers served this summer. This has been totally organic. An opportunity was presented to camp and we made it happen.

In order to accommodate more residential campers, we will need to increase staff and their living quarters. What we are proposing is that it is time for camp Sno-Mo to consider adding another level or building to the current location. Included in this would be to relocation of the director(s) office. We would also look to include the two directors and medical staff accommodations. Increasing more rooms for camper capacity.

The camper/trailer we purchased over four years ago was never intended to be a permanent solution to our housing issue. We will consult with the Daniel Webster Council to establish if they have any plans to increase housing given the recent announcement that as of January 1, 2019 the Boy Scouts of America will be accepting female scouts aged 11-21 allowing them to attend all sessions as members of their troop.

## **A letter written by Chris Ellis 2018 Assistant Camp Director**

*Dear NHSA,*

*This past summer was my fifth year at Camp Sno-Mo. I couldn't be happier to be back working at such an amazing camp. When I left camp in 2011, it was hard to leave because of all the amazing memories I had from camp. Now, I would find myself humming camp fire songs or repeating catch phrases thrown around throughout the summer.*

*I returned to something amazing! As a staff member, I had worked with campers completing activities and projects with the Boy Scouts during their week in camp, however when they left, they only left with pictures and sometimes pieces of what they had accomplished. However, this year campers went home with actual scout badges. This year, almost every camper (170 total) went home with a badge in some area. These pieces of material were not handed out but were earned. Campers worked hard creating art for the art merit badges, they played many, many rounds of chess (some of which I came close to winning) and spent hours on the archery range trying to get a better score. Staff were always nearby for encouragement and a reminder to drink water, but it was the camper who was responsible for everything they accomplished.*

*I watched robots move plastic containers in the robotics lab, I watched rockets shoot into the air, and most enjoyably, I watched campers work with boy scouts to save dolls or camp staff through the EMS merit badges. On the last day of the week before campers went home, the Daniel Webster council sent up a representative to conduct a "Court of Honor".*

*A special event, which takes place at the end of every scout camp week where scouts who have finished the requirements get their merit badges. At this ceremony, our campers felt like they were part of the scout's organization while being recognized for all their accomplishments that week. There truly are no words to describe how amazing these ceremonies were for our campers, their families, and the faculty.*

*I leave you with my favorite quote from the summer, it came from a response to our survey that we send out to parents. The parents stated; "earning the Merit Badges instills confidence in everyone! That my son could do 'what other boys got to do as scouts' made him realize that becoming an adult is also within his reach!"*

*This is what camp is; a place for children with special needs to come and experience a normal camping experience safely. So, I thank you so very much for all that you do and all that you give to make help make this camp the amazing place that it is. Thank you!*

## Camp Sno-Mo Wish List for Summer 2019

- Staff uniforms: camp polo shirts or hoodies
- AED defibrillator
- **High Importance:** Laundry room revamp. Shelving, cupboards, sink, new washer dryer is needed (may be industrial given the wear and tear they take running 24-7 during the summer months).
- Camp Sno-Mo Camping/Tent site platforms need attention and securing. Log benches for the campers are rotten and need to be replaced. Weather this past summer took out the power box. We purchased a small generator to get us through as the repair work would have been extensive.
- **High Importance:** Four passenger ATV the current one is 6 years old and tired. It is used on a daily basis because it can reach almost any program area. The Can AM manufacturer has a loaner program whereby you loan a new one for a year with an option to buy after 12 months.
- New clothing is always welcome for ages 11-21 male and female.  
Paint and repairs for interior and exterior of lodge.
- Replace windows and sliders—they are probably the original ones.  
Wall mounted cabinet in the nursing room and work station(s). We currently use a table.  
Interior lighting especially in main room.

**We don't have the space to list everyone who has helped over the years but we do want to recognize the following groups and individual for their ongoing and generous support:**

- Newt Coryell (previously of Merrimack Sno-Buds kits, wood stain etc. etc.)
- Louie Perkins & friends (lighting, in-kind donations of camper items, labor and materials)
- Tom Willand (prior labor and materials for our kitchen)
- Belmont Bogie Busters: Nelly, Jay and club (all that they have done and continue to do)
- The amazing past and present Ride-In committee(s)
- Scrub Oak Scramblers: Sean, Steve and club including John Cook (communication system)
- The Weare Winter Wanderers Melissa, Naomi and club (poker run etc.)
- Tom Paul Sutton Ridge Runners Turkey/Italian Dinner(s)
- Helga Ziegler – Pittsburg Craft Fare and Item donations
- Steve Livingston (camper t-shirt sponsorship)
- Tim Lorenz (camper and staff apparel etc.)
- Alton Elementary School (\$910 donation, they've raised money for several years!)
- Grass Drags Committee

Last but certainly not least, everyone at the NHSA, the executive Board of directors and all of their wonderful members.

# THANK YOU, EVERYONE!



Please take comfort in the thought that all the smiles and joy you help to provide to these wonderful campers and their families for more than 45 years is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to learn more about Camp Sno-Mo or have us attend any of your meetings or fundraising events, please contact Rob Kelly.

Thank you again for everything you do.

Robert Kelly  
Regional Director of Camping & Camp Director

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