



Annual Report 2019



FROM SR. DIRECTOR MIKE DAVIS

Where All Are Welcome in God's Love to Explore, Grow, Rest, and Play.

Pyoca's 68th year of ministry began the same as many others. We start each year slowly, yet full of excitement for the first glimpse of spring and summer soon to follow. Days are busy leading up to summer, and all of a sudden the camp season is upon us: car loads of kids, eager and anxious for the week ahead, stream in. By Wednesday everyone is oriented and things are humming. In the blink of an eye it's Friday and time to do it all over again.

Before we know it, it's August and time for our busy fall retreat season, when we host groups every weekend. We welcome December, seeking a bit of respite, before preparing to complete this cycle again. Year after year it can be easy to be lulled by this cyclical flow of life at camp.

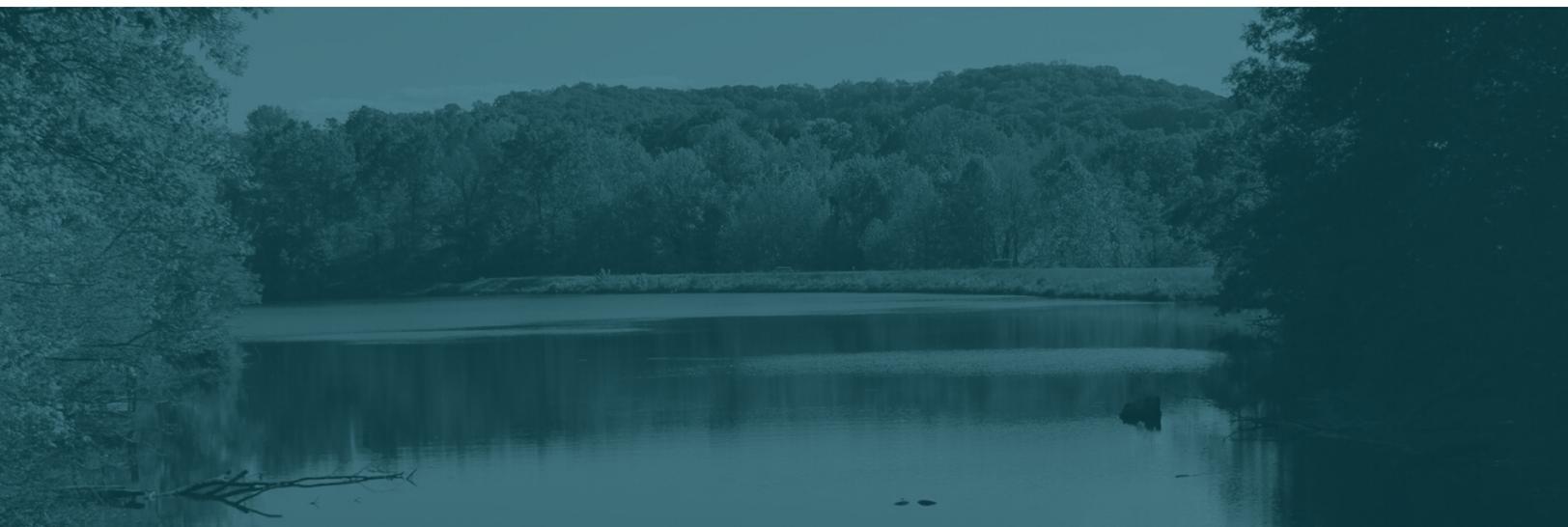
What is missed in that cycle are all of the memorable and valuable moments that renew our sense of call to ministry. These are the moments that cement our "why" as an organization, and reminds me of my "why," the calling that God laid before me to serve in outdoor ministry.

They're not always big moments; sometimes they are as simple as getting out of the office to canoe on the lake with campers, or heading up to high ropes to watch a camper tackle the swing for the very first time. It's helping parents who were nervous about sending their child to camp, and upon arrival see their child grinning from ear to ear, their fears assuaged. Most of all, it is God pushing me to be still, just like our campers, so that we can hear the quiet, small voice that transforms our hearts and minds.

We need these moments as perspective, particularly as we encountered many challenges in ministry in 2019. Throughout the summer we experienced rainfall of biblical proportions and ran into some major infrastructure issues, that if not for quick recognition by staff and skilled work from some amazing contractors, could have affected camp in serious ways.

It is so easy to let these challenging moments become what defines our work, rather than the moments of transformational ministry. Yet I believe that God is in the midst of it all. We grow and are transformed by the mountaintops and the valleys of our ministry.

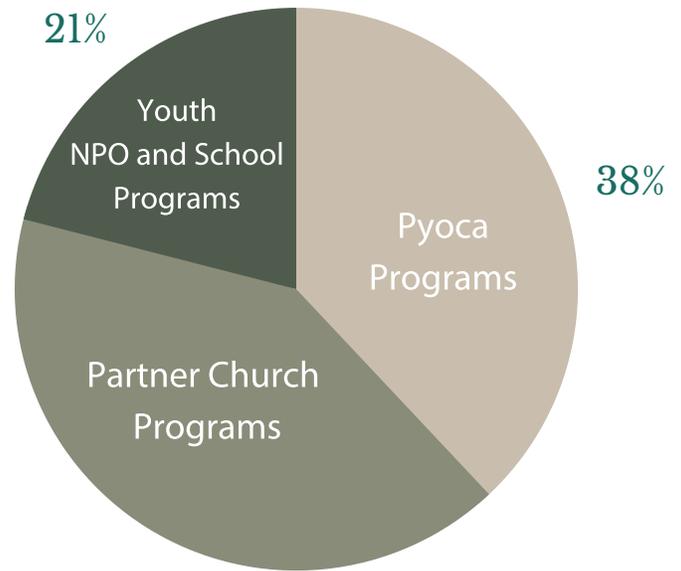
We give thanks for the cloud of witnesses that surround us in support, prayer, and love throughout the year. Your support is what enables us to continue serving God and our community so that each person who walks through the door can explore their call, grow in faith, rest in Creation, and play with a purpose. May we never lose this perspective.



519

SUMMER CAMPERS

200 from 3 weeks of Pyoca programming and 319 from 4 weeks of partner programming.

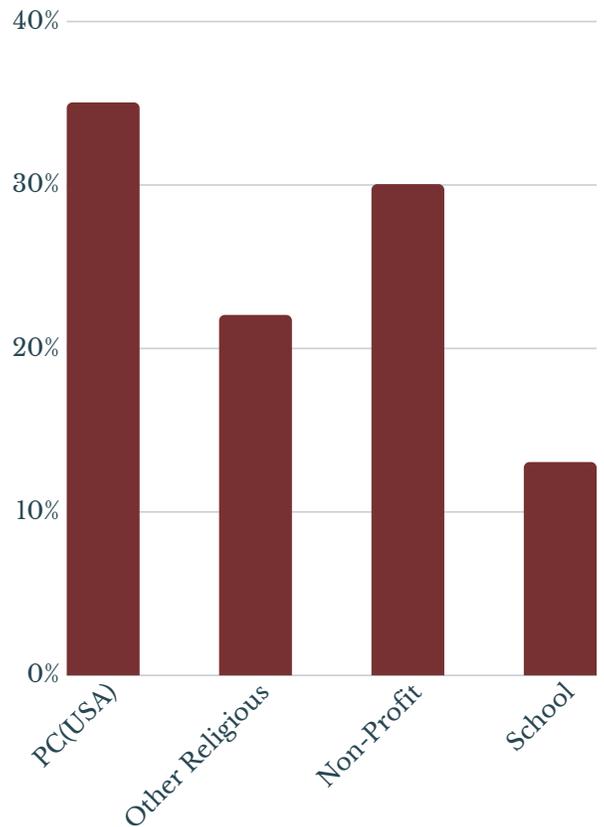


2019 Campers by Program Type

2220+

RETREAT GUESTS

In 2019 we welcomed youth, adults, and families, from churches, schools, and non-profits.



2019 Retreat Groups by Type



2019 PYOCA PROGRAMS

A note from Program Director Rev. Molly DeWitt

This was a great year at camp as we developed a variety of new programs, with a strong focus on enhancing our spring retreat season. In March we hosted over 60 youth and mentors from three different presbyteries at our confirmation retreat. This was the first confirmation retreat led by Pyoca since 2011, and we were delighted it was such a success. It will continue to be offered at minimum on a biennial basis.

We feel a strong call to serve our partner Presbyterian congregations with this retreat, particularly churches which are smaller and may not typically have the youth numbers to run their own retreat. We are incredibly thankful for the leadership of Rev. Don Summerfield and Rev. Wes Kendall as they led keynotes, and for the musical talent of Mr. Sunil Kotian who led worship.

We also hosted two new women's retreats: Finding Voice and Flow & Grow: Create. We extend our thanks to the Synod of Lincoln Trails (SOLT) for supporting Finding Voice, so that 25 young women could gather in fellowship and discuss faith in the context of the #MeToo movement.

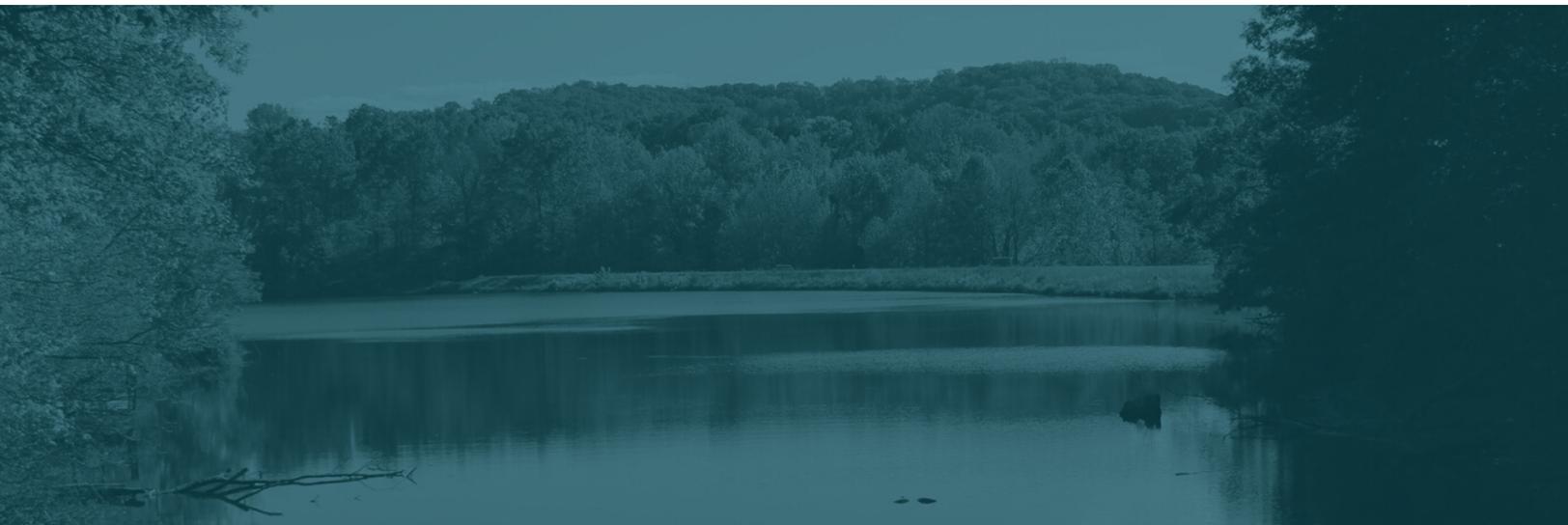
Our summer camp season was a great success. One of our greatest blessings over the past few summers has been our summer staff. In addition to serving our campers, we feel a strong call to develop our staff into strong, young adult faith leaders. We are incredibly proud of their personal and spiritual growth, as well as the commitment they make to serve at camp for an entire summer. In the coming years, we plan to develop more programming geared toward young adults, who are one of Pyoca's least served faith populations.

During the summer we introduced two new camp programs: You & Me Camp and Counselor in Training (C.I.T.), both with great success. You & Me Camp was a fun mix of brand new camper families and Pyoca alumni with their children. It's so wonderful to see camp passed down from generation to generation.

We cannot forget the work of numerous volunteers who helped ensure that our summer season went off without a hitch, as well as those who journeyed to camp throughout the year for service and mission projects. Thank you for your service and devotion to Pyoca!

We wrapped up our year of programming with our Fall Youth Conference, led with energy and gusto by Rev. Shelly Wood and Matthew Black. This program has been a fun-filled highlight for us each fall.

We are grateful to God for all of the blessings and lessons from 2019 and look forward to another great year in 2020.

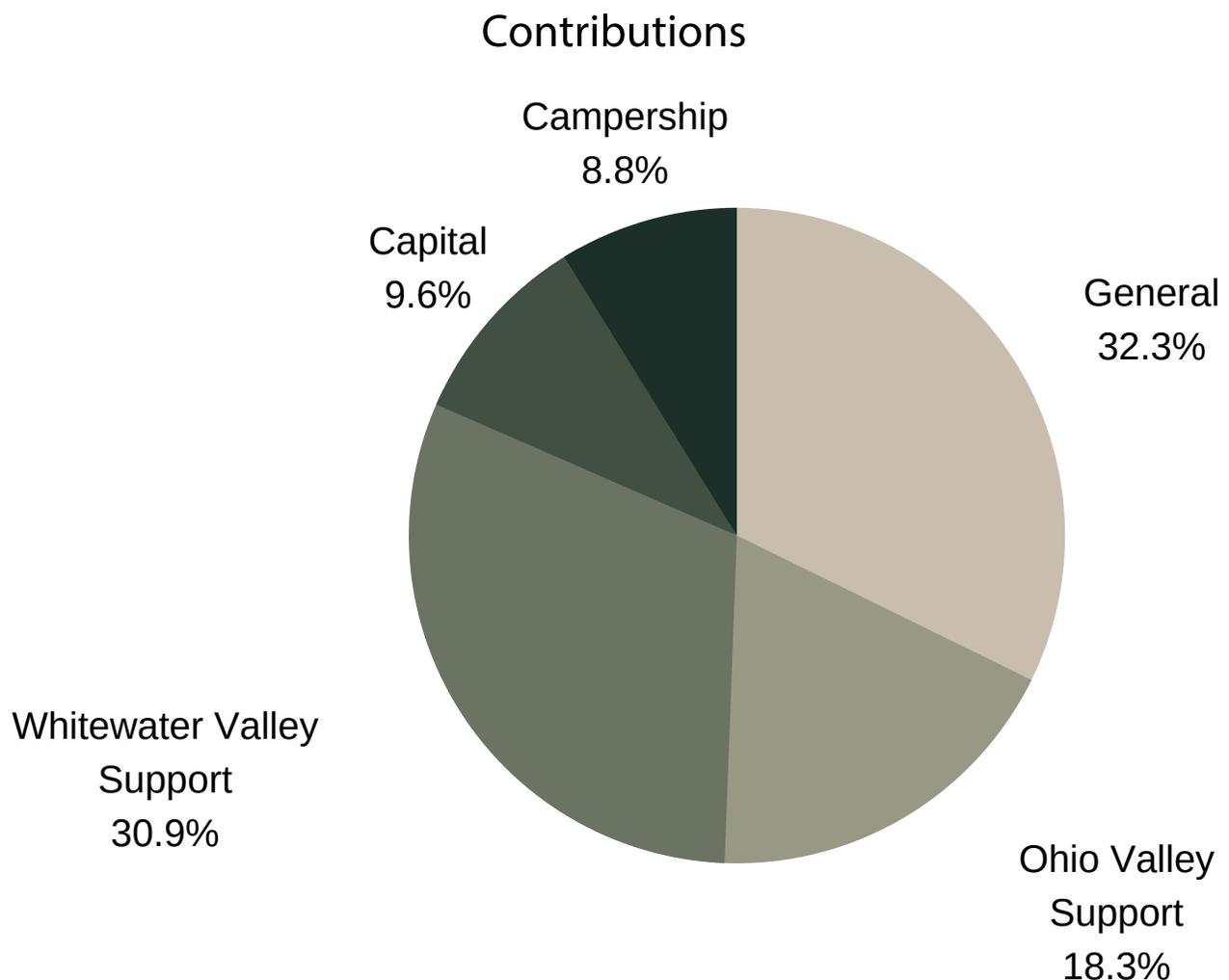


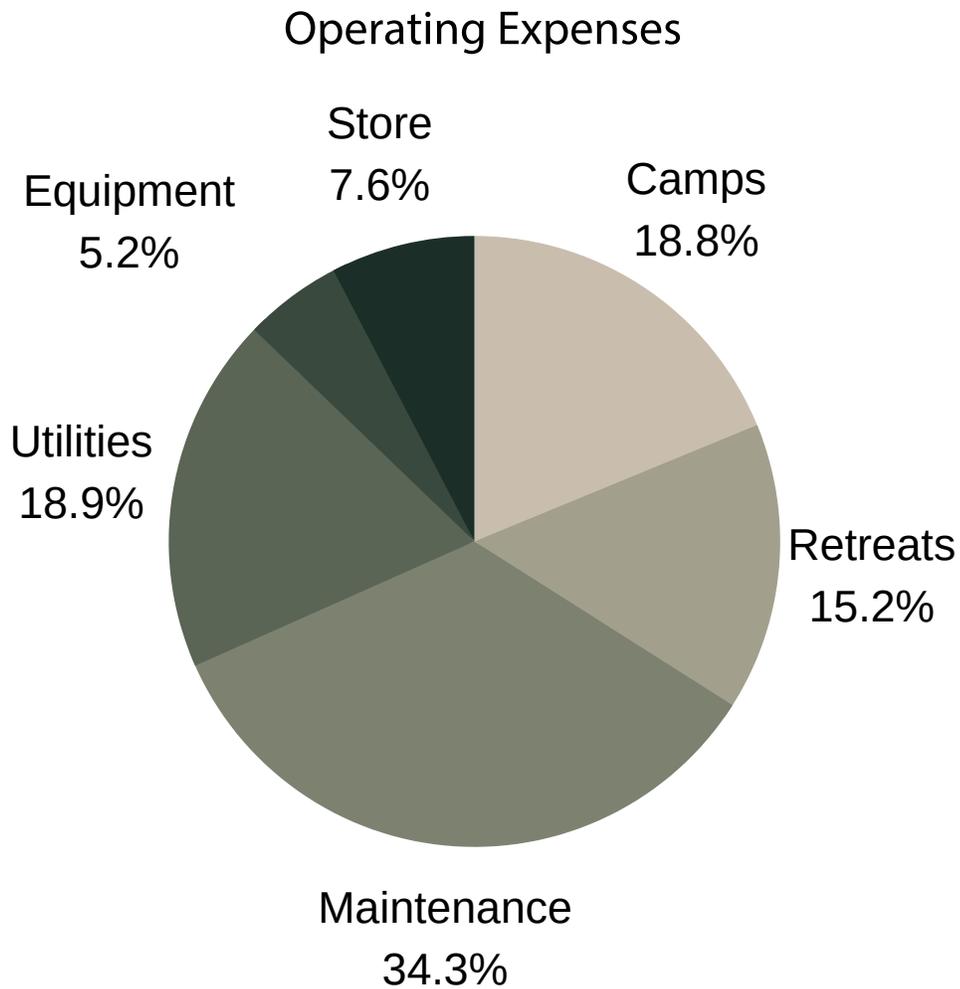
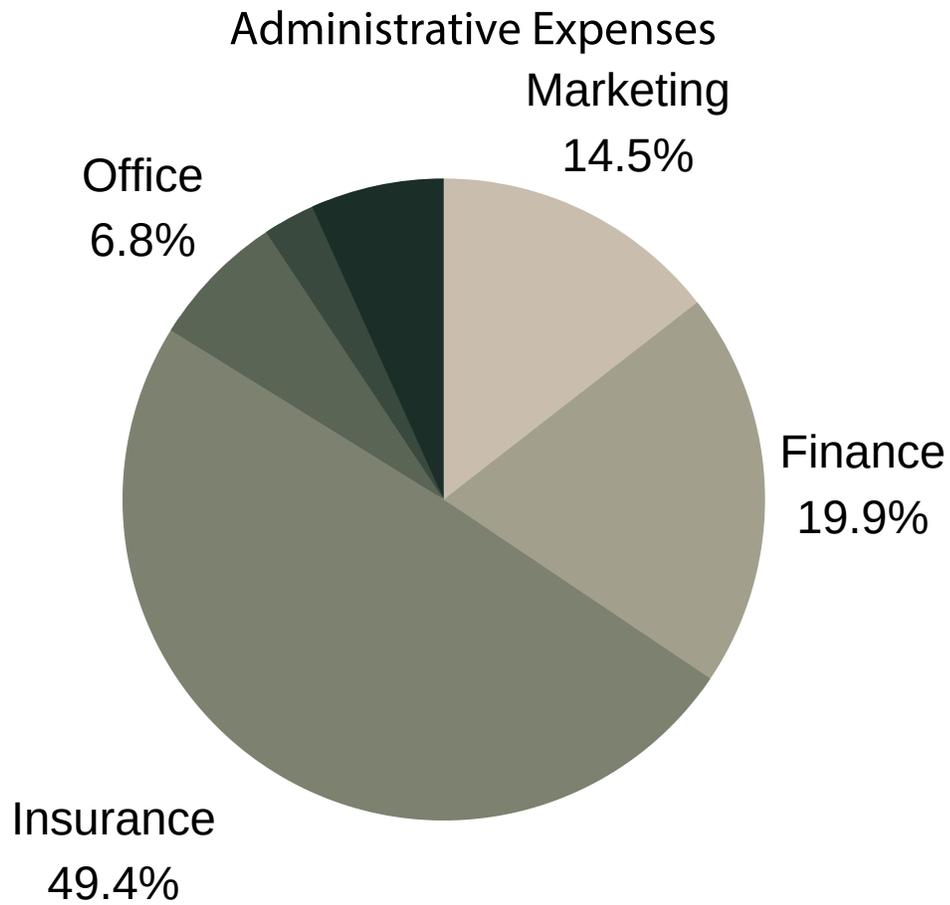
2019 was a financially successful year for Pyoca. Camper scholarship contributions more than covered the amount of camperships given away in 2019, thanks to your generosity during our Boat-a-thon. Surpluses like these are moved to our campership fund with the Presbyterian Foundation for use in years where donations are less than camperships given.

Capital contributions from a private donor allowed us to begin identifying infrastructure needs, exploring potential remodels to the Retreat Center and Staff Residence with an architect, and assessing the Chapel for preservation. Conversely, on the expense side, maintenance costs were high due to a number of emergency repairs to camp infrastructure and equipment.

We finished 2019 with a net surplus of \$29,611. This is a significant surplus for Pyoca and will be used in conjuncture with gifts from the Presbytery of Ohio Valley and Whitewater Valley Presbytery (monies recognized in 2020) to begin addressing infrastructure needs.

Summary financials can be found below. Detailed reports can be made available upon request.





| Income | |
|--|-----------|
| General Contributions | \$42,216 |
| Presbytery of Ohio Valley Support | \$24,000 |
| Whitewater Valley Presbytery Support | \$40,500 |
| Campership Contributions | \$11,544 |
| Campership Expense (Camperships given out in 2019) | \$-7,507 |
| Capital Improvement Contributions | \$12,600 |
| Capital Expense (Capital Expenditures in 2019) | \$-2,112 |
| Pyoca Summer Programs | \$86,143 |
| Partner Summer Programs | \$77,960 |
| Pyoca Year-round Programming | \$24,392 |
| Retreats | \$111,060 |
| Store | \$13,766 |
| Interest/Misc. | \$3,615 |
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| Total Income | \$438,177 |
| Expense | |
| Administrative | \$42,244 |
| Operating | \$172,940 |
| Exempt Personnel | \$52,648 |
| Non-Exempt Personnel | \$140,734 |
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| Total Expense | \$408,566 |
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| Net Income | \$29,611 |



CAMP STAFF

Mike Davis
Senior Director

Rev. Molly DeWitt
Program Director

Stacy Robbins
Food Service Director

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