October 15, 2017

Annual Appeal & Send -A-Kid-to -Camp Fundraising Request

Dear Friends of Nichols Day Camp,

We just finished our 54th year providing summer adventures for area children. The good news ...we were packed with 80+ children each day. We passed state inspections and provided 40+ children with free and subsidized camperships. We added 5 new board members including Jacob Witting and River Plouffe-Vogel both beloved counselors. We are very pleased to announce and introduce Jeff Gray as our new Trustee President. He is a dedicated community member, who has given countless volunteer hours not only to Blue Hill Society for Aid to Children aka Nichols Day Camp, but for several local organizations.

All trustees ...Jody Murphy, Justine and Shawn Barry, Rick and Dawn Nason, Jeff Gray, River Plouffe-Vogel, Jacob Witting and Summer Camp Director Nathan Hardie rallied to adapt to several challenges before and during this season. Vandalism of our camp office in March, low staff to camper ratios which required program changes to maintain eyes/on requirements and lastly, Nancy Bates, our office manager/Trustee Treasurer was in a terrible car accident 2 weeks into the camp season. Thankfully Nancy is recovering well at home.

I had an amazing experience filling-in as office manager. I observed many acts of kindness and dedication by our skilled staff. Campers who needed help resolving relationship problems, some that needed lunch, or those that just needed a helping hand creating a day of fun were all supported by our caring counselors. Some campers who preferred to play video games were challenged getting into camp...but once “in” they were “in”. The inclusiveness of our program was felt by all.

On my first day at camp I had the impression that the campers were too loud! I had to be reminded by Nathan Hardie that screeching and yelling by campers was desirable. “It’s a sign of joy and enthusiastic energy.” My lasting impression was seeing how confident and capable campers became in a short time. How quickly they learned to row, sail and paddle a boat, swim, hike and make new friends while also running and screeching at the top of their lungs. My service as office manager came to an end when we hired Tracy Eisenhauer, now working full time preparing for our 55th season in our Blue Hill office.

We always need and appreciate your financial support. On behalf of the trustees, staff, campers and parents, I hope you will give generously to this local non-profit that has been dedicated to serve your community for 54 years because a gift to camp lasts a lifetime.

Sincerely,

Libbey Gulliver, Trustee
Blue Hill Society For Aid to Children, Inc. aka Nichols Day Camp

P.S. Remember camper registration begins January 2, 2018
www.nicholsdaycamps.org.

Nichols Day Camp is an IRS 501 (c)(3) organization, incorporated as a non-profit in Maine.