

"I learned that I am worth something, so next time I think I am not worth much, I will remember Dunrovin."

-Junior high girl, Chicago

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

"I learned how God loves me even when I make mistakes." This comment, written in June 2018 by a middle school girl at Summer Leadership Camp, describes the essence of what makes the Dunrovin youth programs tick - bringing youth into an encounter with Christ where they can recognize their value and worth in God's truth. Perhaps you remember a time when someone walked alongside you, picked you up after failure, allowed you to mature and grow. These messages are available to the kids in Dunrovin's youth programs because your generosity, which enables young people who cannot pay to come on life changing retreats. Why do people give to help children in poverty? Because

they matter. Many voices fight for the lives and spirit of our kids - thank you for helping Dunrovin speak truth into their lives. Especially during this year of 2019 as the De La Salle Christian Brothers celebrate a Year of Jubilee, 300 years of Lasallian Legacy since the death of our founder St. John Baptist De La Salle, let us celebrate our children.



Jonne Meek

Jerome Meeds, Executive Director Jerome.meeds@dunrovin.org 651-433-2486, ext. 303

#### 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brother Michael Lee Anderson, FSC, Midwest District Appointee Fr. Jack Donahue, Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis Arlette Egan, Vice Chairperson Chip Hooley, Chairperson Dr. Scott Kier, Superintendent of Lasallian Education, Midwest District Paul Kiolbasa, Treasurer

Bishop James Powers, Diocese of Superior Fr. Tom Thompson, Diocese of Superior, Secretary



#### DUNROVIN'S MISSION

#### IS TO OFFER AN ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST FOR EVERY PERSON

The Board of Directors spent several months sifting through Dunrovin's mission statement, updating but not changing the essential goal.

The mission of Dunrovin is to offer an encounter with Christ for every person, particularly for underserved youth, through exceptional hospitality in the Catholic Lasallian tradition.

A day we always feared came on September 30, 2018, with news that a former retreat student, Lorenzo Magaña, was innocently shot down in Chicago violence. This is the neighborhood where our Chicago kids come from. We fondly remember Lorenzo's vibrant enthusiasm for life. God's image is imprinted in Lorenzo and in all our guests. Many people very special to Dunrovin passed away in 2018, including former director Brother Charles Kelly, FSC. May they rest in peace.

#### PARTICULARLY FOR UNDERSERVED YOUTH



### My Dunrovin Story

A Dliteful Experience by Sophia Loe

When I first came to Dunrovin, I was nervous because my friends told me that you step out of your comfort zone and become vulnerable by giving life stories. I was very scared because I do not let people know that I have feelings -- I am usually the tough person in my friend group. Unfortunately, the first testimony made me cry and the second, so when it was my turn, I just started to cry. They helped me become more confident and able to open myself up to others. I loved my group because they were so encouraging and helpful. Two of my friends also accompanied me and I was astonished with their testimonies because they told us troubles in their personal lives that I hadn't known about. My group helped me realize that God truly knows what he is doing all of the time. While listening to other people relay their stories, I was struck with how vulnerable people were, not knowing if the others would judge or not. When we were finished, I trusted those people very much. We never spoke of those moments fully again but we all remembered what each person was going through and it helped form friendships. I am thankful God brought me to experience his love and mercy and to develop greater trust of him.

"Something I learned at Dunrovin that I can bring back home is to help others to love themselves."

> -Summer Leadership Camp Minneapolis student





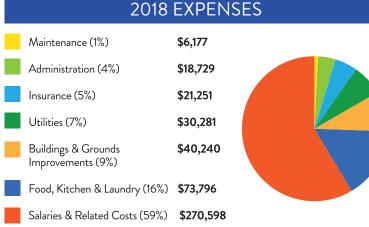
# THANK YOU!

Because of your generosity, the lives of kids are changed. When they experience God's love and truth, they discover dignity. You make this possible. We humbly thank you.

- 1 Grant
- 1 Matching challenge
- 9 Sunset Benefit Cruise sponsors
- 11 Christian Brothers gifts
- 23 Gifts in kind
- 116 Individuals who gave







Total Expenses: \$461,072

Total Income: \$461,153

### 2018 Sunset Benefit Cruise

- Thank you, Matt Burk and family, for joining us!
- Congratulations to Stella Lundquist, 2018 Recipient of the Brother I. Damian Award, for her support and commitment to Brother Damian's dream of retreats for youth. Thank you, Stella, for 15+ years of action-oriented service on the Board of Directors and for bringing your family on the cruise for 25 years!
- Thank you, Greg and Cathy Stevens, for the \$5,000 match challenge. Thank you cruise guests. You exceeded the challenge with a total of \$15,030 cash donations.
- Total net income for YOUTH PROGRAMS was almost \$27,000.
- Thank you to our cruise sponsors. Please support St. Croix Riverboats, Catholic United Financial, Mainstreet Bar & Grill, Grand Strategies, Premier Banks, Acme Metal Spinning, US Foods, Casper's Cherokee of Eagan, and a special friend.



"I learned that if you run far enough, you still can't get away from God's love."

-Getaway Retreat participant

"I am stronger mentally and physically than I thought."



-DLITE Retreat participant

## THROUGH EXCEPTIONAL HOSPITALITY IN THE CATHOLIC LASALLIAN TRADITION

Many thanks to Catholic United Financial who featured Dunrovin in "A Place to Find Tranquility" (Our Catholic Journey, by Jared Roddy, January/February 2018): "Every dollar that comes in goes to these student retreats – so come to a retreat, rent a cabin, go on our sunset cruise. Everything makes a difference. It's all in service of reaching that one student, making a profound impact, and allowing the ripples to fan out." Thank you, CUF, for your sponsorship and support of youth, education, and community!

"We were two weary moms who are now rested. We appreciated the variety of birds on the river and being able to soak in the silence and crackle of the fire. Alleluia for the fireplace this weekend! And a well stocked wood pile!

Blessings, R & K"
-River Cabin guests

In 2018,
Dunrovin welcomed
2,797 guests. We are
grateful for each person and
every group that comes and
desire to create an external
space for their internal
growth. Their use of this
space supports Dunrovin's
youth programs.

"I learned this week how to become a man in general. Being able to show kindness and love to others."

-Summer Leadership Camp Chicago high school student We asked our guests what updates/repairs they most wanted: THE BATHROOMS. Thanks to a generous anonymous donor of 2017, bathroom updates are humming along.

We heard you!

-Getaway Retreat participant

taught me

that there

is more to

God than

church."

going to



## **WWW.DUNROVIN.ORG**

651-433-2486 | dunrovin@dunrovin.org | 15525 Saint Croix Trail North | Marine on Saint Croix, MN 55047