

The apostle John wrote in 1 John 3:18, "Our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action."

At Dunrovin Retreat Center, we admire those who raise the level of love in the world through their actions of creative generosity. During 2016, you gave a gorgeous black ebony piano to provide music. You gave an entire wall of books to inspire minds. You gave comfy quilts and colorful pillows to make our guests feel cozy. You gave a fun paddleboat to give enjoyment on the water.

You also opened your hearts to those in need. You gave the financial means to shape lives for young people through spiritual retreats and leadership camps. Our society is built up as you show in action that you care about others. God has used you powerfully to show His love, truth, and freedom to many people here at the Retreat Center this past year.

I offer you this Annual Report 2016 to be accountable to you for the ways we have used your gifts to Dunrovin. Although we do the day to day work here, it is truly you who puts this retreat center into action. We say "thank you" to you for your kindness, and pray that God will be active in your life.

In Christ,

Jerome Meeds, Executive Director Jerome.meeds@dunrovin.org

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## YOUTH in action

- Andrew Kostohris and DLITE friends hosted a garage sale in May, donating \$400 to sponsor a San Miguel grade school student for a week of Summer Leadership Camp. Way to go Andrew. Thanks!
- Congratulations to Eagle Scout Sam Schraut who led Stillwater Boy Scout Troop 132 in purchasing wood and building twelve sturdy attractive benches for the fire circle. Awesome work, Sam!
- Sarah Becker, student at Hillsdale College in Michigan, featured in the May 12, 2016 edition of the Catholic Spirit, spoke of how DLITE affected her life:



"Some of the most powerful weeks of my life were spent at the DLITE program through Dunrovin Christian Brothers Retreat Center running summer camps for kids from inner city Chicago and Minneapolis. I encountered a kind of brokenness that I never had before, as many of them come from incredibly challenging situations at home, but I also saw God work powerfully in both the staff and campers when we opened ourselves up to the incredible potential God has for each one of our lives."



Getaway cared for 165 students during six weekend retreats, with 54 young adults serving them. A Getaway retreat provides faith and friendship for Minnesota and Wisconsin youth. One attendee evaluated her retreat:

"Before I started coming to Dunrovin, I was really lost - in my faith, friends and mentally. Dunrovin helped me make friends and find God."

- During June and July, 233 middle school students/alumni and 29 adult helpers from San Miguel School Chicago and the St. Paul/ Minneapolis area participated in Summer Leadership Camp. The campers' favorite parts of Dunrovin: Rope swing! Swimming! The food! Everything!
- Fifty-five high school youth served the Summer Camp as they worked through the DLITE program – Dunrovin Leadership Intensive Training Experience.
- Our LEAD program (Leadership Experience At Dunrovin) takes the skills and teambuilding challenges that bring about life change in the DLITE program and offers it in smaller pieces to at-risk populations from Minneapolis, St. Paul, and area churches and schools. This year LEAD served 89 youth and young adults.

"I've learned to place all my trust in God – fully, not just partially, or only on occasion." -DLITE Participant

# TREASURE in action

- 100% of donations are used for programs that touch lives of underserved youth.
- In 2016...

133 individuals

6 religious priests/deacons

5 Christian Brothers/communities

4 institutions

3 grants

3 matching gifts

3 parishes

16 gifts in kind

...gave donations, along with many others who abundantly supported youth programs through prayer, service, and encouragement.

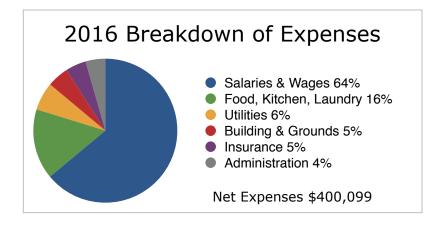
Special acknowledgement offered to Christian Brothers Youth Home for their generosity!

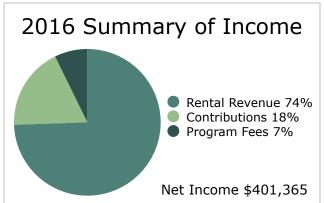
### Contributions

Total \$ Available for Mission	\$73,906
Total \$ Raised	\$78,789
Miscellaneous Giving	\$15,871
Appeals	\$1,670
Give to the Max Day	\$2,510
Sunset Benefit Cruise*	\$9,042
Grants	\$27,000
Sponsor a Child Campaign	\$22,696

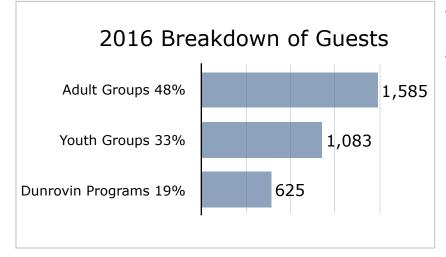
<sup>\*</sup>Some monies donated on the cruise are recorded under other categories

### Funds raised 36% increase over 2015.





## STAFF in action



- Staff welcomed 3,293 guests into Lasallian hospitality.
- A 13% increase over guest totals in 2015.

"To offer a clean room provides a space for a guest to experience God's peace."

- Julie, Housekeeper

"I appreciate helping with the mission here. It is a place for people to come, to think, to sit. If you need a meal, if you need a rest, you can get it here. You never know what people are dealing with."

- Paul, Maintenance Manager

<sup>&</sup>quot;They always do a good job with the food here. I never worry about it when I come." - Guest, September 2016

# AWESOMENESS in action

- The Dunrovin Prayer Team, reinstated this year, includes ten people praying powerfully for our needs. Alfred Tennyson once said, "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." Thank you, faithful Dunrovin prayer force!
- Fifteen young people cheerfully contributed their sweat and brawn on a May work day. They
  developed a beautiful woodland garden, which the deer enjoyed eating all summer. However,
  the other four buildings which they landscaped survived and greatly added to the outdoor
  beauty of Dunrovin.
- Under a brilliant autumn sky, WCCO meteorologist Mike Lynch beguiled Dunrovin guests with his signature Starwatch Party in October. You're a star in our book, Mike!



In July, Dunrovin's 24<sup>th</sup> Sunset Benefit Cruise greeted VIPs Christian Brothers Provincial Br. Larry Schatz; Archbishop Hebda; Terry Zoller, MN DOT supervisor for the St. Croix River Crossing bridge construction; and Salvador Chavez, coach at San Miguel School Chicago. On a dazzling summer evening, 257 guests relaxed on the river cruise, sponsored by St. Croix Boat & Packet, Catholic United Financial, and Premier Banks.

- Archbishop Hebda visited with Dunrovin youth retreat participants and they all agreed that he is "awesome"!
- Fr. Tom Thompson accepted the Brother I. Damien Award for his many years of supporting Br.
   Damien's dream of touching the hearts of young people.
- Dunrovin gratefully acknowledges that cruise guests abundantly met the generous matching grant challenge given by Greg and Cathy Stevens.

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