



Interim Vice President, CRISTA Camps

Shane Carlson

here this summer!

Miracle Ranch one of your child's summer adventures. We're looking forward to having you

Thank you again for making Island Lake and

connected!

that happens at camp and all the fun ways to stay

safety is our number one priority, the life-change

more about one of our incredible interns, why

In this handy edition of Round Up, you'll learn

embrace the value of a summer spent outside.

all campers take a break from the indoors and

to our properties. Our goal is to see

adventure for each camper that comes

experience filled with fun, faith, and

and Miracle Ranch. All summer long,

we work tirelessly to create a summer

summer at Island Lake

you to an incredible

We are thrilled to welcome

Hello!

A NOTE FROM THE INTERIM HEAD OF CAMPS



STAY CONNECTED

Online: information@cristacamps.com (both camps)

Camps Contact Information (main offices):

Island Lake
12500 Camp Court NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370
Phone: 360.697.1212
Fax: 360.697.1707

Miracle Ranch
15999 Sidney Road SW
Port Orchard, WA 98367
Phone: 253.851.4410
Fax: 253.857.4128

Snail Mail:

Island Lake Mailing Address
Camper's Name, Camp Week
12500 Camp Court NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Miracle Ranch Mailing Address
Camper's Name, Camp Week
15999 Sidney Road SW
Port Orchard, WA 98367

QUICK + EASY EMAIL *

Island Lake: ILcamper@cristacamps.com

Subject: Camper's Full Name, Camp Week

Miracle Ranch: MRcamper@cristacamps.com

Subject: Camper's Full name, Camp Week

*Note: Text emails only; please no pictures, attachments or e-greetings. Thanks!

WANT TO SEE YOUR CAMPER HAVING A BLAST?!

Visit the CRISTA Camps Facebook page to see daily photos from Summer 2017!

WHAT'S COMING UP AT CAMP!

- Fall Father/Child Dirt Bike Weekend | September 22-24, 2017
- Fall Dirt Bike Weekend | September 29-October 1, 2017 | Grades 4-12
- Horse Xravanza Weekend | October 20-22, 2017 | Grades 4-8
- Harvest Fest @ Miracle Ranch | October 26-29, 2017
- Winter Father/Child Dirt Bike Weekend | December 1-3, 2017
- Dirt Bike Weekend | January 26-28, 2018 | Grades 4-12
- Spring Father Child Dirt Bike Weekend | March 16-18, 2018
- Spring Break Dirt Bike Weekend | April 1-6, 2018 | Grades 4-12
- Family Dirt Bike Weekend | April 20-22, 2018
- Spring Dirt Bike Weekend | May 4-6, 2018 | Grades 4-12



ROUND UP

SUMMER 2017



Register now for all the fun at cristacamps.com



INTERN SPOTLIGHT

Noah Smith, 21, has been a part of the CRISTA Camps intern family since 2014. The Portage, Wisc. native is passionate about the camp experience and can't wait to share it with campers this summer!

Why did you feel drawn to join the staff and internship program at CRISTA Camps?

I wanted to pursue my love for youth ministry. I had been saved at a Christian camp when I was 16, so I had a strong connection to camps, and it was perfect timing in my life to try it out. I love church ministry and wanted to see if camp ministry was a different avenue that I could pursue full-time.

In what ways have you seen God stretch you over this last year as an intern? I have been challenged in areas of servanthood when I thought I was full in that category already, but God sure has a way of expanding your capabilities for His glory. Another thing I am learning is patience. Whether it is waiting for summer to roll around to dive into great groups or if it's waiting for my day off after an exhausting weekend, I need to wait patiently on God.

How have you seen yourself grow over this last year? I can get so caught up in worrying about myself, but I've seen myself grow in being a great listener to others. And I would be a liar if I told you this internship didn't teach me flexibility! God is taking me out of my comfort zone.

What is your favorite part about being an intern? The best part about this internship is when God shows up when you least expect Him to. From car rides to the pool for lifeguard training, to worship nights after team movie night - God is so good, and He has moved in conversations and interactions with my team in ways that I can't even begin to describe. The immense power and love that I felt those moments help me realize that this internship is way bigger and better than I ever could imagine.

What are you most looking forward to this summer? We have four residential camps that we put on, but I get to be part of setting up all the activities and props for skits and challenges for those groups. I am super excited to unleash my creative side for camp, while helping these kids and teens learn about Christ in a fun way. I'm blessed to be where I am with the people I'm with.

A CHANGED LIFE

Kara's Safe Place

There is nothing quite like a camp experience at Island Lake or Miracle Ranch. Many campers who would never have had a chance to come to camp had life-changing experiences that brought them friendship, fun, and a new outlook on life. Here's one of their stories!

Kara didn't like horses. She didn't like laughing or talking or even looking people in the eyes. As a young girl in foster care, she turned away from joy because of the abuse and hurt she'd experienced in life. She was awarded a scholarship to come to a special horsemanship camp at Miracle Ranch, and for most of the week she struggled. Her instructor noticed her hurt and would pursue small conversations with her each day. And each day, Kara opened up a little more. She shared her fears, and allowed her instructor to help her cope with them through the horses. Grooming them. Talking to them. And eventually trusting them enough to hop on. Her counselor saw a spark in her—Kara was smiling, laughing with her cabin mates, and riding every hour. By the end of the week, Kara was in tears because she didn't want to leave. She wanted to stay at the place that made her feel safe.

Learn more about how you can help make these stories possible at cristacamps.com/give



SAFETY AT CAMP

Safe experiences are a priority for CRISTA Camps. Our motto is #safetyfirstfunaclosessecond! Here are the standard practices we employ to take care of each child at Island Lake and Miracle Ranch:

Activity Safety & Certifications

- CRISTA Camp's lifeguards are Red Cross certified for swimming in lakes and Kitsap County tests the lake water weekly.
- Camps staff and interns are First Aid certified.
- Ropes course facilitators and each ropes activity are certified by an ACCT (Association for Challenge Course Technology) trainer.
- Miracle Ranch is site certified by the CHA (Certified Horsemanship Association) for all horse activities.
- We adhere to best practices for our trailbike, paintball, archery and all other activities.

Camper Safety

- CRISTA Camps includes parents in any decisions made about a child's need for medical treatment and takes advantage of the numerous local clinics nearby when a need is determined. A nurse oversees treatment at both camps.
- Each camp is equipped to execute general safety plans and crisis management plans when necessary.
- The presence of 50+ trained and caring adults on camp during any given week ensures that the activities of kids are closely monitored. There are always full time, adult, year round

employees at Island Lake and Miracle Ranch. We've hired a professional staff with years of experience and train in safety issues monthly.

- All CRISTA staff go through a careful screening process that consists of an application, interview(s) and character references.
- All adults at camp have completed a trak-1, WATCH and DSHS background check in which staff and volunteer leaders must disclose, as permitted by state law, any misconduct.

Bullying Prevention

- At CRISTA Camps, bullying is inexcusable, and we have a firm policy against all types of bullying. Our Camp philosophy is based on our mission statement which ensures that every camper has the opportunity to experience a safe environment at camp, gain new friends and go home with great memories.

Food Allergies & Food Safety

- We are able to address most food allergies with reasonable substitutions and by campers avoiding particular food items.

Cabin Inspections & Cleaning

- Cabins and beds are cleaned, disinfected and inspected between different group use. All high-touch surfaces are disinfected on a daily basis.