

“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.” II Corinthians 5:14, 15

BELONGING – THE KEY TO PERSONAL GROWTH

“Having gone through personal growth learning experiences we are able to lead others through the same experiences or the experiences we create for them,” maintains Vladimir Shevchenko, CCI Ukraine’s Chief Executive Officer, responsible for leadership and program development.



“The access to knowledge and information is different today than it was before the smart phone and internet era. The primary role of a good teacher today is to be a facilitator, an art built upon a set of acquired skills through learning and much practice. My role and goal in CCI is to create experiential learning experiences for camp leaders that will be memorable, applicable and thus transformational.

“To be a competent teacher does not only require a set of acquired skills, but also character. Competence is doing the right things in the right way. Character is consistently being honest, disciplined, faithful, true, responsible, noble, confident, humble, displaying integrity at all times.

“At CCI, we understand that it is impossible to become a competent teacher/leader on your own. You must belong to and be part of a community in which you can develop into the person God gifted and planned for you to become. A community in which you are nurtured and in which you can contribute; a community in which you can experience the help of a Mentor, a Coach and a Sage, a spiritual director; a community in which you *SEE POTENTIAL*, are *STRETCHED BY OPPORTUNITY* and *FEEL SUPPORT* in your pursuit of excellence.

“Our goal at CCI/Ukraine is to develop a Camping Association to which every camp leader can belong. Our second goal is to teach camp leaders how to create the kind of camp their staff and campers will want to belong to. That is the setting in which eternal truths and values are communicated. All this can only be accomplished with the empowerment and leading of the Holy Spirit. God has given CCI a creative staff team that is passionate about achieving these goals. The responsibility lies heavily on our shoulders. Please add us to your regular intercessory prayer list asking God to grant us our desire.”

"We at CCI/Ukraine have the expertise to do it right. I am engaged in equipping camp leaders to give the touch of God's love correctly the first time. There may be no second chance!"
Vladimir S – CEO



Kingdom Ventures'

"I am committed to Christian camping because camp provides the opportunity to build moral principles into the hearts and minds of the next generation of our country. By working with children and youth we fulfill the Great Commission. This is what Jesus asked us to do on earth."
Oksana L – Office Secretary



"My desire is for our campers today to become a generation that continues the work of the Lord tomorrow. I mentor staff and campers through personal relationships."
Astghik M – Camping Coordinator, Armenia



Faithful Staff

"I am highly motivated when I see lives changed through the influence of the Holy Spirit. To be involved in the process of this change in our camps excites me."
Pavel B – Membership Director



"Camp is a place where God speaks personally in diverse ways. God's presence and love are concentrated here. I want to continue to serve Him through camping."
Viktoria K – Program Director



who

"I cannot preach or write spiritual books, but I can prepare and maintain accurate financial documents. The supportive emotional atmosphere and the integrity of each CCI team member is very valuable for me."
Elena C – Accountant



"I've been engaged in camping with KVI for 20 years. All these years, I had a dream to create a model camp where camp leaders would come to learn. Now this dream is becoming reality."
Pavel K – Alpha Camp Manager



Evangelize and Disciple Youth

"I am investing in the future of my country by spreading God's love and His Word to the next generation. God has entrusted this privilege and responsibility to me."
Valeri B – President, CCI/Transcaucasus



"A wise man said, 'if you want to put on a shirt, close the first button the right way. If you cannot do so, you won't be dressed the right way.' Camp is a place where we have the opportunity to teach children and youth to do up their first button correctly."
Eldar – Campsite and Greenhouse Manager



through

"During my years of directing camp, the CCI Conferences were amazing networking opportunities for gathering important information that was helpful for me and my staff team. Revelations of God came together for me. As CCI staff member, my passion is to influence the camping community by developing relevant and effective camp programs."
Alexey S – Project Manager



Church Camps in the

"I have been part of the CCI community as camp counselor, sports instructor, program coordinator, camp director and Staff Training Workshop (STW) director for twenty years. The people around me were passionate about sharing Christ through camping. My personal camping experience proves that camp is an unusually productive place and time for guiding youth into God's family."
Oksana M – Administrative Manager



"Camp is a powerful tool in God's hands to form character in teenagers, especially boys. Camp gives much more than theory. Boys practice the basic biblical values in their daily lives and eventually become real men. I am passionate about developing godly young men through Boys Camp Vertical."
Viktor K – Camper Follow-up Director



"Camping ministry is my calling. God has given me respect in the eyes of teenagers. Camp is the most effective method to reach teenagers with the Gospel. I facilitate camping for seven churches in our country."
Pastor Mikhail – Camping Coordinator – Transcaucasus



Former Soviet Union



Participant comments indicate that the Seminars, Workshops and Clinics prepared and run by our staff have made 2016 a BENCH-MARK YEAR for hundreds of camp leaders. "Everything CCI does is professional." "An atmosphere of adventure and investigation was present at every event." "I learned how to serve children better." "I received very important and up-to-date information." "The instructors were experienced people who have walked in our shoes." "I liked what I heard and it was presented in an easy-to-understand form." "The most memorable impression for me was the Prayer Walk in the forest." "The worship opened my eyes to the camping ministry. It helped me to repent and reconcile some of my issues with God." "I will apply the knowledge I learned here in my town which is in need of God's love and care." "STW was incredibly inspiring. We are waiting for the 2017 STW!"

Our staff team has a very full and ambitious schedule of seminars, STWs and production of resource materials planned for 2017. The cost of salaries alone is an average of \$850 per person per month. Their workload of providing their valuable services to hundreds of camps is huge. We need every one of them. We could not fulfill all ministries in 2016 due to a shortage of funds. So we are asking you to please be generous with donations to KVI.

"It is better to build character in children and youth than to repair broken lives of adults."

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"As you read this book you will be encouraged and surprised at what God can do through people who are committed to Him and believe that prayer and miracles go hand in hand."

Herb & Erna Buller

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Donation Policy: Spending of funds is confined to KVI Board approved projects. Gifts designated towards approved projects are used as designated with the understanding that when the need for a project has been met, or the project cannot be completed for any reason determined by the Board, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts are acknowledged with a receipt for income tax purposes.

The KVI Newsletter is written and edited by Dave & Elfrieda Loewen. We distribute it by email and post mail and on our website www.kvicanada.org If you want to receive the Prayer Partner or would like to change method by which you are receiving it, email kingdomventures@msn.com or call **204-224-4175** or post mail: **Kingdom Ventures Inc. PO Box 38144, East St. Paul MB R2E 1H3**

A GREAT STAFF TEAM

Thank God for the competent staff He has given KVI. Of the thirteen, 5 are part-time; the rest fulltime. Four of them have served us in various capacities for two decades or more. This is our work force which provides valuable services to the church camping communities. They planned, organized and carried out five Staff Training Workshops this year in five countries of the FSU. They prepared camp programs, online Follow-up programs, and camp manuals. They prepared resource materials for camp leaders, visited many camps and mentored camp leaders one-on-one. They and their families make many personal sacrifices to fulfill their calling and mission. Through them God is raising a new generation of leaders in countries harassed by satanic strongholds. They are truly our effective workforce worthy of our prayers and financial support.

and again on departure day. "I like camp very much," Bogdan said, "because I am loved here."

Olga, a counselor, brought orphans to camp. She said, "The children I brought to camp and the children I returned to the orphanage were as different as heaven and earth. Camp really works!"



HEALING NEEDED

Alexey S, a young father, innovative camp director, CCI Ukraine board member and energetic part-time CCI staff member, needs God's healing touch in his body. Due to his run-down condition he has chosen to reduce his work schedule to half time to allow time for rest and recovery. Please ask The Great Physician to restore Alexey so he can fulfill all the good works God has planned for him.

Tanya, a counselor, asked God to help her show God's love to her girls who had never experienced parental love. "One girl even argued that there is no God. The autistic girl in our group was hyper and needed much help, even to get dressed. The other girls joined me in making camp pleasant for her. Each evening the girls prayed in turn for her. Each camper received a Bible. This made my girls very happy. Before going to bed one night a girl turned on her flashlight and said she had to read her Bible before going to sleep."

ORPHAN CAMP EXPERIENCES

Bogdan, age 8, was sent to a psychiatric hospital because of his severe stuttering. We managed his release so he could spend two weeks in camp. He stuttered only twice, once on the first day of camp

Natalka's girls asked to discuss What the Bible teaches about intimate sexual relationships. After the discussion one girl said, "Thank you for telling us about...that thing' (she was too embarrassed to say 'sexual relationships). I didn't know I had to keep myself pure before marriage. I didn't know that God actually invented...that thing." She promised to keep herself pure before the wedding day.



CAMPS IMPACT CHURCHES

“Camp brings new people into church. In some churches, camp ministry is the foundation for all children’s and youth ministries inside the church”, says Pastor Misha. “Up to 80% of campers and their families, who didn’t attend church before camp, come to church after camp. Parents see the changes in the lives of their children and they want to know what caused the changes. As they discover what church is about they become engaged in church activities. Relationships develop and over time these new people become significant people in the church.



So much really depends on us. We must bring the campers to the point of discipleship. We must continue to contact them after camp and give them the encouragement and support they need.”



CHURCHES SOLD ON CAMPING

Christian youth camps have become so much part of church life in Ukraine that six denominations organized their own camping conferences in 2016. We thank God for this new development. Camping will do more than survive; it will expand. This creates a new challenge for CCI in Ukraine. Our staff has planned a series of mini seminars to provide advanced training for those responsible for planning

the programs and teaching at the denominational camp conferences. Thank God for this opportunity and ask Him to equip our staff with wisdom and innovative ideas to prepare the advanced training materials.



PERSECUTION

Persecution is inevitable when proclaiming the gospel in places where Christianity is not tolerated. A camp director sent the following request:

“My parents are strong Muslims and they are very much against me because of my faith. My father wants me to renounce God and return to Islam. If I don’t do it, he will disown me and put a curse on me. In our culture parents are almost equal to God and they have total control of their children even if the children already have their own families. I know who my God is and I didn’t accept my father’s requirements but I need to go through this period of persecutions with God’s strength. I love my parents. I want to continue to show them His light and love.”



MONGOLIA

Bob Hilts joined the KVI team 20 years ago as an instructor at our camp conferences. He and his wife Sharon have a heart for leaders who need help to expand their ministries. They have effectively helped many. Seven years ago, Bob together with Rudi Dueck from Germany, another one of KVI’s partners, were invited to do seminars in Mongolia. For several years they taught one week seminars for young pastors. God planted a vision among the pastors for 100 new churches by 2020. In September, Bob and Sharon returned from their Marriage and Family Seminar. Attendance was 45 Mongolian couples. They report a baptism of 265 people and the start of 20 new churches. God’s kingdom has no boundaries. What began as a youth camping ministry over 25 years ago in the USSR has expanded far beyond youth camps and far beyond the USSR. PTL! Our part is to continue to be faithful!