

2016 ANNUAL REPORT



WHISPERING WINDS
Catholic Conference Center

OUR MISSION:

“...to provide a Christ-centered environment, apart from the everyday world, where **all are welcome** to increase their knowledge of and commitment to Christ, and join as fellow pilgrims on their journey of faith with God.”

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARTIN ROSALES

Whispering Winds has a new “first impression”! As our guests enter camp in 2017, they will be greeted not only by our friendly and dedicated staff, but they will be treated to a new building – The Welcome Center. This facility is a symbol of our mission “...where all are welcome...” The generosity of the Caster family and the faithful support of our community have allowed Whispering Winds to grow physically, enabling us to invite more and more people to experience God on the mountain.

Another exciting “first” for Whispering Winds is we have established an endowment fund! Men and women who have committed to a planned donation to the fund via their will or trust are members of our Holy Ground Society. These members’ invaluable contributions empower the camp to sustain our operations and provide scholarships to needy families and individuals.

In addition to these new happenings, we are broadening our scope of ministry to include specialized non-profits who serve our community and share the same values we hold. Programs designed to support those who have lost loved ones to cancer or military service are a few examples. Mother Teresa said, “Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier.” These non-profits are witnessing their guests leaving better and happier after visiting Whispering Winds.

Finally, the Whispering Winds team would not be as cohesive and fruitful without the support of the camp’s Board of Directors. We are thankful for their solid governance, commitment to kingdom values and hands-on support of all that happens on God’s holy ground.

May God continue to guard and protect this safe place for future generations to enjoy.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Martin", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Martin Rosales

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016

Impact on Local Community

Several specialized non-profits came to Whispering Winds this last year, finding a place of refuge and rest. Among them were Village of Promise, for youth who have an incarcerated parent; The Seany Foundation, which hosted a family camp for those affected by cancer; and The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), which held a camp to care for those grieving the death of a loved one serving in our Armed Forces. Time away from the distractions of the world allowed groups like these and others to experience the gift of nature and the love of the community surrounding them.



Holy Ground Society

Members of our newly-formed Holy Ground Society are those who leave a gift to the Whispering Winds Endowment Fund through a planned gift. We were blessed in 2016 as our Society grew to 30 members! We are committed to being responsible stewards of God's Kingdom. The true value of our Endowment Fund is that it will ensure sustainability for generations to come.

Building on our Faith Foundation

The Build-out project launched in 2016 and is well under way! Our Welcome Center will be complete in April and our 200-seat Shepherds Hall will be ready to host groups by the end of 2017. Be looking for news on our Disciples Lodge, which will add 80 more beds in 2018. Thank you to Terry & Barbara Caster and family for committing to building out our camp to support the many groups which minister on the mountain.



Welcome Center



Shepherds Hall



Disciples Lodge

2016

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

AN INVESTMENT IN MINISTRY

INCOME	2014	2015	2016
Camp Income	\$1,121,942	\$1,144,458	\$1,250,689
In Kind Donations	\$0	\$0	\$733
Grants	\$105,670	\$0	\$0
Private Donors / CRT's - Ops	\$558,752	\$634,292	\$594,745
Total Fundraising - Ops	\$664,422	\$634,292	\$595,478
Interest / Investment Income	\$1,226	(\$40,098)	(\$16,102)
Extraordinary Income / Exp	\$2,690	\$0	\$0
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,790,280	\$1,738,651	\$1,830,065
EXPENSES			
Camp & Programs:			
Salaries & Benefits	\$639,157	\$713,004	\$781,536
Operating & Other	\$610,308	\$608,568	\$621,279
Camp & Program Exp.	\$1,249,465	\$1,321,572	\$1,402,815
Camp Surplus (Deficit)	\$540,814	\$417,079	\$427,251
Administrative & Admin:			
Salaries & Benefits	\$195,704	\$209,710	\$223,289
Administrative & Other	\$77,799	\$99,065	\$168,945
Total Administrative Exp.	\$273,503	\$308,776	\$392,234
OPS SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$267,311	\$108,304	\$35,017
CAPITAL / BUILDING PROJECTS			
Balance at Beginning of Year	\$32,464	\$37,517	\$297,210
Capital Income	\$115,718	\$490,866	\$2,826,568
Capital Expenditures	(\$110,664)	(\$231,174)	(\$1,258,308)
Year End Balance - Capital	\$37,517	\$297,210	\$1,865,470

Non-audited financial data

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Est. Guests Served	10,000	WW Programs	8
Groups Served	121	Diocesan Programs	3
Guest Nights	18,678	Churches Served	34
Meals Served	43,768	Schools Served	18
Website Visits	25,000+	eNewsletter Opens	35,420

TESTIMONIES



Jimmy Tricco, Principal Xavier Prep High School

Whispering Winds is a place of discovery and rejuvenation. It's a place where young people have the time to recognize the beauty of creation embraced by God and where they can shed their masks and their burdens. It is sacred space of vulnerability; a space where they can finally be real. They discover the gift of relationships and a God of love.

Gabriela Spartz, Teen Camper & Volunteer

Every summer since I was three, we went to Whispering Winds for Family Camp. I wouldn't trade the experiences and the memories we've made for a million trips to Disneyland. One time, we painted benches at Mary's Grotto - the coolest part was I got to paint our family name under it. Now, even when we're not on the mountain, we're with our Blessed Mother. Whenever I hike up to Mary's Grotto, I am reminded of the awesome time we spent with her and each other.



Mo Kojis, Whispering Winds Founder

I first experienced God's amazing grace when my husband Don and the late Jerry Tisi founded Whispering Winds. We knew families needed time away from the craziness of the world and quickly God began doing miracles on the mountain. Many, many people have had a hand in continuing the Lord's work since then. We have a legacy to leave and we all know how important Whispering Winds is for the future of our families, our kids and our grandkids.

PLANNED GIVING

By leaving a gift to the Whispering Winds Endowment, you become a member of the Holy Ground Society. This select group of men and women believe in securing a bright future for the camp.

When you make a gift of bequest to Whispering Winds, you are not only creating a legacy for you and your family, but contributing to the future of Whispering Winds. A gift or bequest costs you nothing now, but offers you a way to support our endowment fund with an unrestricted gift or to support a program of your choice.

Making a bequest to Whispering Winds is easy. You may sign a new trust agreement, a codicil to your present will or amend your present trust instrument. You can designate a small percentage of your estate, a specific asset such as real estate or securities, or we can assist you with a charitable trust that generates lifetime income for you and provides a generous tax deduction. Alternatively, you may also name Whispering Winds as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

If you need help, our staff is ready to assist you in making the best charitable gift decisions to meet your financial needs. For more information, please contact Martin Rosales, Executive Director, at martin@whisperingwinds.org or 619-464-1479.



There are a number of ways you can become more involved in supporting our efforts:

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

As a member of our Monthly Donor Program, your sacrifice shares your faith with campers in a convenient way through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) or credit card from your designated account. Your consistent support allows us to make long term plans for facility and ministry improvements.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Your gift to the fund will send a child or family to camp.

STOCK, REAL ESTATE, OR GIFTS OF PROPERTY

Your gift of appreciated stock, real estate, art, vehicles, and other property is another way to support the camp and impact lives.

ONE-TIME DONATIONS

Your gift can be for where the need is greatest or designated for the specific area or program that has meaning to you and your family. A tribute gift is a heartfelt way to express your love, gratitude and appreciation for the life of someone while enriching the lives of many. Such a gift is a great way to remember or honor someone special or commemorate a special time in your life such as a birthday, anniversary, or retirement. Ask if your company makes matching gifts for donations.

ANNUAL DINNER DANCE GALA SPONSORSHIP

Your family or business can support our largest fundraiser, the Dinner Dance Gala, through numerous sponsorship opportunities. Donate wine, host a table, place an ad, or contribute an auction item.

VOLUNTEER

Giving of your time and talent is always welcome. Numerous opportunities at the camp and in the office arise throughout the year that benefit from the dedicated assistance of volunteers, young and old.

WISHLIST

Whispering Winds accepts items for the camp and office such as archery, tennis, and basketball supplies; gardening tools, etc. Consider donating your gently used items next time you do "spring cleaning." You will receive a tax receipt for your in-kind donation.



***If you are interested in participating, please
see our website at whisperingwinds.org and
click on SUPPORT or contact us at
(619) 464-1479 or office@whisperingwinds.org.***

2017

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Wiley
Chair

Craig Ghio
Vice Chair

Stephanie Kiesel
Secretary

Tim Cusick
CFO

Denise Casinelli

Bill Moran

Cheryl Doss

Glenn Wilhite

Dcn. Jim Scull

Mike Spartz

Chuck Woo

Msgr. Mark Campbell

FULLTIME STAFF

Martin Rosales
Executive Director

Steve Sapper
Controller

Terry Henberger
Marketing & Development

Gabriel Forrester
Director of Guest Services

Audrey Jarvis
Guest Services Assistant

Stacie Bales
Administrative Assistant

Paula Bott
Director of Programs

Jeanette Arellano
Executive Administrator

Annie Korn
Camp Director

Tim Lidberg
Director of Operations

David Rilling
Food Service Manager

Karen Coleman
Asst. Food Service Mgr.

Jose Montes
Lead Groundskeeper

Martina Michel
Lead Housekeeper

Lety Alvarez Nuno
Housekeeper



OFFICE

4636 Mission Gorge Pl. #203
San Diego, CA 92120
office@whisperingwinds.org
619-464-1479
whisperingwinds.org

CAMP

17606 Harrison Park Rd.
Julian, CA 92036
760-765-1600

Some photos courtesy of:
Bob Forrest Photography, your-precious-moments.com