

Hope in Action



Sharing the stories of people helped by the Catholic Charity Appeal

Mother of Hope Camp

Bringing hope, fun and faith to the children of Rhode Island

For over 70 years, Mother of Hope Camp (MOH), located on 126 acres along the shore of Echo Lake in Chepachet, has welcomed campers from across the state each summer. MOH prides itself on being a safe, fun and vibrant Catholic Community. Most unique is the faith aspect that its foundation has been built upon. Each summer, about 350 campers from ages 5–12, and from all walks of faith, have the opportunity to experience traditional camp activities. Once a week, Holy Mass is celebrated in the outdoor (but covered) chapel.

Michelle Ficocelli has been a part of MOH for 14 summers, the last four as Camp Director. She shares how important it is to spread the Gospel message among the campers, but to also incorporate it into every aspect of what they do at camp. Michelle also speaks joyfully of the lifelong friendships and connections that have been made through MOH. A significant number of campers transcend the years; those that were once campers now send their own children to camp. Many camp counselors also started out as campers. Former campers are invited to join the Counselor-in-Training program where they learn leadership and

team building skills. After completing the 1–3-year course, they can be hired as counselors, bringing their MOH experience full circle. Also of note is the interconnection of ministries within the diocese. Young men who are seminarians with our Diocese have the opportunity to work as camp counselors.

Michelle shares that the most meaningful feedback about MOH is the fact that campers keep returning. Families love the traditional camp format and the core values that are at its foundation.

Many families struggle to send their children to summer camp, but MOH continues to charge reasonable rates. They also offer financial aid for those who cannot afford it, ensuring that anyone can experience camp. MOH has been enriching young peoples lives through the generosity of those donating to the Catholic Charity Appeal. “To put it simply,” says Michelle, “without the Catholic Charity Appeal, the camp would not be able to run.” Your support of the Catholic Charity Appeal brings hope to each camper every summer as they participate in the life-changing experience that is Mother of Hope Camp.



Mother of Hope Camp (MOH) Mission:

MOH provides young people of all faiths and backgrounds the opportunity to grow physically, socially and spiritually in a Catholic Christian Community under the guidance of a trained and caring staff. We offer a broad range of recreational, educational, and spiritual activities. Through our camp programs and the experience of nature, participants learn ways to build relationships of love and justice with God, others, and all of God’s creation.

To donate to the Catholic Charity Appeal, visit givecentral.org/2024CCA

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