

A child draws a memory of losing their home and belongings in a fire.

A BRIGHTER PATH FORWARD

There was little warning when the flood of water rushed into Lumberton, Texas in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.

Neighbors crawled onto roofs and scrambled to evacuate as water engulfed homes and businesses. Families looked on, helpless, as houses sat in standing water for more than a week after the storm.

"We never use snow shovels around here, but we used them to shovel out the debris," said Lumberton resident Megan Findley.

Megan directs Youth and Missions Ministries at Woodcrest United Methodist Church in Lumberton. About a year after Harvey touched ground, Woodcrest hosted Camp Noah.

At Camp Noah, Megan said many campers opened up for the first time about the terrifying nights of the flood. Together, the campers shared their disaster stories, grieved their losses, planned for the future and played with a purpose.

"No longer is it just about fixing the home. It's about the heart," said Megan.

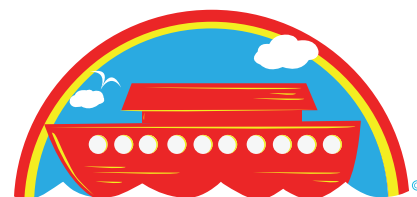
Fifteen Camp Noah sessions took place throughout Texas in 2019. These camps were made possible by a grant from the Rebuild Texas Fund along with support from the local communities.

Mission

Camp Noah brings hope and healing to communities that have been impacted by disaster.

Vision

Camp Noah will serve disaster-impacted children and families by building resiliency, restoring hope and changing lives.



CAMP NOAH 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

BUILDING RESILIENCY COAST TO COAST IN 2019

This year, Camp Noah brought hope and healing to more than 800 children who were impacted by devastating disasters throughout five states.

With the help of 448 volunteers, Camp Noah was able to reach:

- Children in Texas who were still struggling with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey
- Children in California affected by ongoing wildfires
- Children in Philadelphia who were displaced from their homes as a result of Hurricane Maria
- Indigenous children living on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota who were impacted by floods, tornadoes and hail storms
- Spanish-speaking children impacted by immigration in Minnesota

"Every camp is unique from one another in that it is tailored to meet the specific needs of the host community, regardless of a shared disaster or event that impact multiple communities."

– Victoria Lee, Program Manager



Camp Noah Senior Director Kim Dettmer and Program Coordinator, Tia Reed meet with community partners as they prepare for camp.



WHAT DID CHILDREN LEARN AT CAMP NOAH?

“How to trust myself.”

“I learned you don’t have to be like everyone else.”

“I learned how to be grateful.”

“Be nice, care about your surroundings, neighborhood.”

“What my hope and dreams for the future, want to be a police officer.”

96%

of campers reported learning two or more resiliency skills.

90%

said they learned that they are somebody special.

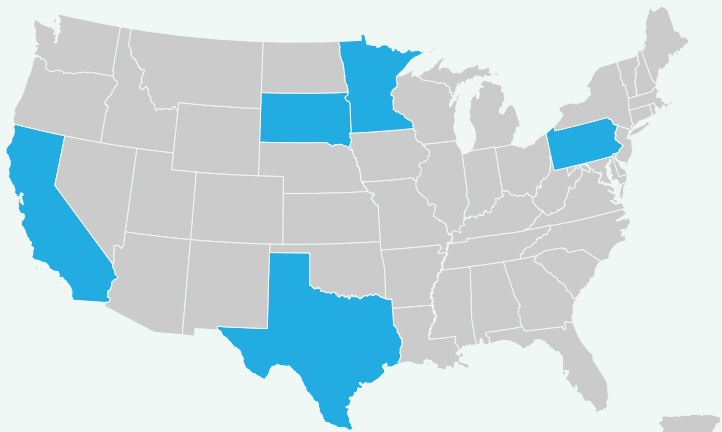
90%

said they know a safe place they can go to when they feel worried or afraid.

91%

said they had hopes and dreams for the future.

Where We Served In 2019



California

- Chico
- Redding
- Ukiah

Minnesota

- New Brighton

Pennsylvania

- Philadelphia

South Dakota

- Wanblee

Texas

- Dickinson
- Lumberton
- New Caney
- Orange
- Pearland
- Port Aransas
- Port Arthur
- Robstown
- Rockport
- Sargent
- Tamina
- Vidor

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Camp Noah is a service of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, which serves **all people** regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability or age.



CAMP NOAH