

Camp and Conference Task Force

Vision Statement: To develop a long-term vision and plan for meeting the program and facilities needs for camping and conferencing for the Diocese of Colorado.

Desired Results:

Based on a substantial understanding of the needs, hopes, and desires of the congregations, clergy, and leadership of the Diocese of Colorado:

1. Develop a **report for the bishop and the diocesan convention** that outlines recommendations for meeting the camp and conference needs of the diocese.
2. Develop a **program profile** that identifies desirable programs that would respond to the needs of the people of the diocese, including programming for a comprehensive summer camping experience that would serve up to 1,500 young people of diverse backgrounds per summer.
3. Develop a **vision and plan for a year-round conference facility** to meet the needs of the people of the diocese. This vision and plan would include facility needs for: youth and adults, small and large groups, parish-based and diocesan functions, as well as both diocesan specific and nationally promoted activities.
4. Develop a **facilities and site development profile and architectural recommendations** that would meet the needs of the program profile and encourage “state-of-the-art” facilities for camping, conferencing, and other diocesan and community uses.
5. Develop a **report evaluating current facilities** being used by the people of the Diocese of Colorado for meeting their camping and conferencing needs.
6. Develop a **report on available land and/or sites** for development in light of the program and facility profiles; taking into careful consideration Trinity Ranch and Camp Ilium.
7. Develop a **financial report** with thorough financial information and projections, including land acquisition or development costs, constructions costs, potential operating budgets, and the endowment required for the maintaining of the facilities and to make the programs accessible those with very limited income.
8. Make **recommendations for raising the capital** necessary to build and endow the camp and conference facility needs of the diocese.
9. Make recommendations to the bishop for **the process necessary for the ongoing oversight** of what is established.
10. Make recommendation on the **process necessary for the implementation of the results** of the work of the Camp and Conference Task Force.

Resources:

1. The professional expertise, gifts, and experiences of the Task Force members.
2. The people, stories, and history of Trinity Ranch and Camp Ilium.
3. Previous studies undertaken in the diocese.
4. Consultations with real estate and hospitality industry professionals.
5. Consultations, interviews, and/or visitations to camp and conference facilities.
6. The guidance offered through industry organizations such as American Camping Association, International Association of Conference, Christian Camping Association, Episcopal Camp and Conferences, Inc..
7. Budgeted funds from the diocese of \$15,000+ (2007) and \$25,000+ (2008) for meeting and research related expenses.
8. The logistic and administrative support of the Office for Faith Formation of the Diocese of Colorado.

Project Phases:

- There are five separate phases along the process to our final report and recommendations to the bishop and the diocesan convention in October 2008.
1. Exploration
 2. Discernment
 3. Writing
 4. Reviewing
 5. Reporting

Project Pieces:

- some initial thoughts on some pieces that would need to be included in this project.
1. To better understand the practices, preferences, and needs for off-site meeting spaces, conference space, and camping facilities and programs with the diocese there is a need to develop, distribute, and compile results of a survey. We would need to gather responses from: parishes, missions, diocesan organizations, diocesan staff, clergy and lay leadership. To make sure we get a good and timely response we may need to do some brief phone interviews
 2. Identify and interview “key stakeholders”.
 3. Compile a list of current practices/programs and facilities presently being used by parishes and diocesan organizations.
 4. Do comprehensive site evaluations of Trinity Ranch, Camp Ilium.
 5. Compile a list of camp and conference facilities in Colorado that are comparable to the type and scope we envision. Visit those that would enhance our ability to accomplish our goals.

6. Compile a list of camp and conference facilities outside Colorado that are comparable to the type and scope we envision. Visit those that would enhance our ability to accomplish our goals.
7. Set up visits to key Camp and conference facilities, especially during the summer camp season.
8. Go through resources available, and talk to consultants from American Camping Association, Christian Camp and Conference Association, and the Episcopal Camp and Conference Association.
9. Explore the present resources we have (financial, people, places, etc.)
10. Discuss and identify key values and priorities in developing a program profile.
11. Look at possible sites based on what we learn in the exploration and discernment phases.
12. Discuss potential “hotspots” and prepare alternatives or move forward in ways that minimize any detrimental pieces from the potential hotpots.
13. Others