SPECIAL ISSUE LIT CAMP 2020







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## LIT CAMP

Leaders-in-Training (LIT)
Camp 2020 was held
virtually this summer in
response to the current
global pandemic. The
current health crisis did
not stop youth in the
Shippensburg Area School
District (SASD) from
joining the virtual
programming! LIT Camp
was held via Zoom from
June 2 - June 5.

#### SCRC

The Shippensburg
Community Resource
Coalition (SCRC) is a
collaborative effort to
provide quality social
services and youth
programs that are
accessible and safe and
that recognize the dignity
and worth of each person.
Our goal is to help
community members reach
their full potential.

# LETTER FROM DIRECTOR

Hello,

My name is Alexandra, and I served as the director of the leadership camp this summer. The SCRC offered a leadership camp every summer from 2013 to 2015 for youth in the SASD. In 2019, the SCRC's leadership camp made its long awaited return. The leadership camp was previously known as Teen Leadership Camp but was recently renamed. The camp is now called Leaders-in-Training (LIT) Camp. This year, the SCRC offered its leadership camp virtually for the first time ever! LIT Camp had 19 teens register and participate. During the four-day camp, participants learned positive peer role modeling, problem solving skills, active listening skills, and basic interpersonal management skills. By the end of camp, participants were able to define leadership and determine how their own strengths make them a good leader.

We created a Word Cloud during camp which is pictured above. The larger the word, the more often it was said when asked, "What comes to mind when you think about leadership?" The word empathetic kept coming up throughout the four days I spent with the teens. Empathy means "showing an ability to understand and share the feelings of another" and our youth embody this trait through and through. The many positive traits our youth possess will help them to connect with others which is crucial to effective leadership. I can confidently say that our future is bright. Joey Loffio, LIT Camp program assistant, and I thank all the teens who committed to growing and learning with us. We would also like to thank all the guests that joined us virtually and demonstrated what it means to be a leader.

All the best,

Alexandra D. Jones

## LEADERS AREN'T BORN, THEY ARE MADE.



## **CAMP RECAP**

LIT Camp began with a personality and leadership style quiz. Some participants were authoritarian or autocratic leaders and others were more democratic or participative. No matter what the results, participants recognized that they can evolve and change over time. Campers planted flowers at home to symbolize their own growth. They also created vision boards that displayed their future goals as leaders. Throughout the final three days, community leaders joined the Zoom sessions to discuss leadership and best practices to be an effective leader in school, home, and/or the community. On the last day of camp, participants learned about and discussed community organizing and influential teen leaders. Campers learned about Malala Yousafzai, Greta Thunberg, and Joshua Wong. Change comes in many forms—whether it be for education or the environment. Click on each teen's picture to learn more about their activism efforts.



## **WE ARE HERE**

Campers watched *Troop Zero* on the third day of camp. The film, an American comedy-drama released in 2019, follows the life of Christmas Flint. She is a young person living in Georgia during the late 70s. Christmas is highly interested in outer space and believes that she can communicate with other life beyond planet earth. Christmas wants to join the Birdie Scout youth group in order to win a talent show. The winners will have their voice recorded and transmitted into outer space. Christmas forms a troop and this spunky cast of characters realize the highs and lows of being a leader. The characters in this movie taught us to remember that even when we feel small, we are here.

### **CAPTAIN MCGILL**

Captain Connie McGill of the Shippensburg Emergency Medical Service (EMS) crew spoke with campers about CPR and First Aid. Captain McGill emphasized the importance of leaders being aware of their surroundings at all times and knowing what to do to keep themselves and others safe.

#### DR. SENECAL

Dr. Christine Senecal,
Associate Professor of
History and Philosophy at
Shippensburg University,
conducted a yoga lesson
with campers. Dr. Senecal
also led a breathing
exercise to decrease
anxiety. After this guest,
the campers were able to
make a connection between
effective leadership and
being in tune with one's
inner self.

With this knowledge, campers can be mindful not mind full when others are counting on them.

### PEER EDUCATORS

Julie Lieback and Marcus
Carter, Peer Educators for
the Shippensburg
University Opioid
Prevention Peer Education
Team, spoke to campers
about substance abuse and
misuse. The pair
highlighted prescription
medication abuse and
misuse. Campers were able
to discuss the dangers of
alcohol and other drugs
with the presenters and
their peers.

Peer Educators emphasized the importance of leaders making healthy decisions.

## YOUR DEEDS ARE YOUR MONUMENTS.





## **SLP 2020**

LIT campers are welcome to participate in the SCRC's Summer Learning Program (SLP) 2020 in a leadership capacity. LIT Camp was designed to prepare participants to take on a more involved role in SLP. If interested in fulfilling this optional role, campers should reach out to the SCRC for more information. This year, for the first time in its 8 year history, SLP will be offered virtually until further notice. Teens will need to register for SLP online whether or not they wish to serve in a leadership role.

SLP participants will be reading Wonder by R.J. Palacio. The theme for SLP this year will be about celebrating and acknowledging differences. Click on the picture of the book cover to learn more about Auggie Pullman. Get ready to #ChooseKind this summer!



## **CONNECT**

The SCRC would like to connect with youth and families! Please visit our website, send an email, and follow us on social media.





scrc@shipresources.org





#### DR. SUPPO

Dr. Chris Suppo, the Superintendent of SASD, spoke with campers about being leaders at school. Dr. Suppo reminded campers that you can be a leader with just one person. He suggests reading Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us by Daniel H. Pink to learn more about autonomy, mastery, and purpose.

### **CHIEF DOMINICK**

Police Chief Meredith
Dominick of the
Shippensburg Police
Department talked to
campers about respect and
safety. Chief Dominick
reminded youth that
protesting injustices is a
constitutional right.

After speaking with Chief Dominick, participants gained a better understanding of how local law enforcement enacts leadership within their own community and the importance of teamwork.

## **MAYOR COY**

Mayor Kathy Coy of Shippensburg came to speak with campers about being a public servant and the importance of giving back to the community, especially when in a position of leadership. Mayor Coy told campers that communication is key to being a good leader.

