



# Daring Boys to Become Men Since 1949

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## 2021 Accountability Report







**Adam "Stripes" Bell,  
Executive Director**

**A**fter 2020 offered 2 once-in-a-generation challenges for Pyles Camp, 2021 brought some relief. The restrictions on operating overnight camps in California were lifted, guidance was in place, and we were gearing up for an historic summer. That is, until we were notified in April that due to hazards remaining from the 2020 Castle Fire, we were unable to operate our program at our camp in Lloyd Meadows.

With less than 2 months to prepare, our team acted quickly. New facilities were rented, equipment was transported across the state, campers were enrolled, and staff were trained.

To the team who made this summer possible, my words will never properly convey the gratitude I'd like to express. With limited time, you sprang into action to make sure we could execute a program to serve our boys. Through many long days, a lot of miles driven, and a little bit of creative reimagining of our schedule, you made it happen. This showed me that you not only talk the talk, but walk the walk. You

utilized the lessons that you teach our campers and executed an outstanding program.

It was wonderful to see that the mission of Pyles Camp can happen anywhere. Even though we weren't in the space that we've grown comfortable utilizing, the magic of Pyles was present. I am so glad that we put in the extra effort to serve our boys and young men in 2021, and am even more thankful that we will be able to return to our home in 2022.

To borrow a quote from Mr. Pyles himself, we look forward to bringing our campers back to "...a beautiful site in the mountains; where the cool, clean air will fill their lungs and give children renewed strength and vigor; where the clear, flowing waters of a mountain stream will afford them a place to fish and swim and rebuild their depleted bodies; where the grassy meadows, the winding trails and the tall trees will furnish them the means of regaining free hearts and free minds, and instill in them once more a feeling of security, a belief in self, and the desire to become the finest citizens in the finest country in the world"



R.M. Pyles Boys Camp promotes long-term positive behavioral change for low-income, disadvantaged boys by providing a multi-year wilderness camp experience supplemented by year-round mentoring that builds life skills and instills the values of hard work, education, and positive choices.



Thank you to the hard-working staff and volunteers who make possible the Pyles camp program!



Board of Directors Visited UCLA UniCamp



Camp Nurses



Alumni working with the USFS



Board of Directors Visiting Pyles



Summer Staff

## Irrelevant Week Donated a Van!





# WHAT DID WE DO IN 2021?

After finding out in April that we could not access our main camp facility, our team quickly secured other facilities to be able to run our programs and serve our campers. We loaded our program equipment in trucks, ordered cases of Covid-19 tests and PPE, and prepared for a summer like no other.

Cleanup near Pyles Camp



Camper Session:



Our friends at UCLA UniCamp offered us use of their camp facility at Camp River Glen in Barton Flats. 67 Campers signed up and took the bus ride to this beautiful location near Big Bear.

Lioneers and Voyagers:



Our second and third year programs utilized campsites in Mineral King as their base camp, with backpacking trips winding through the Sequoia National Park and Sequoia National Forest

## 2021 OUTREACH EVENTS

10 Virtual Fitness Activities Between February and March



Cliffs of ID Climbing Event in Culver City



Staff/Alumni Trip to UCLA Football Game



Staff Trip to Six Flags Fright Fest



Staff/Alumni/Camper Trip to Los Angeles Chargers Football Game



A group of alumni and staff gathered at the George Bush Tree to remediate hazards that still remained due to the 2020 Castle Fire.





# 2021 METRICS

With the inability to host our program at our home in the Sequoia National Forest, we were limited to one session for our campers, and 2 sessions for Lioneers and Voyagers.

## 67

Campers Enrolled

## 37

37 Lioneers and Voyagers

## 33

teens and young adults—most of whom were previously Pyles campers— went through our Leadership Development and Employment Training Program.



## By County

## Ethnicity

## We surveyed our campers before and after camp. Here are a few results:

Los Angeles - 52%  
Ventura - 21%  
Kern - 14%  
Other - 13%

Hispanic or Latino - 74%  
White - 18%  
Black or African American - 6%  
Asian - 1%  
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander - 1%

### Adults like it when I'm around

Pre Camp 74% agreed

Post Camp 91% agreed

### If kids were choosing a leader, they might choose me

Pre Camp 49% agreed

Post Camp 63% agreed

### Other kids like when I'm around

Pre Camp 72% agreed

Post Camp 84% agreed

### Before I make a decision, I think about what will happen

Pre Camp 76% agreed

Post Camp 82% agreed



# Changes in 2021

Pyles has secured a 20-year Special Use Permit, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. We greatly value our relationship with the Forest Service and this agreement will allow us to continue calling Lloyd Meadows “home” through at least 2041.



Late in 2021, Pyles welcomed 2 new members to its year-round team. Our new Administrative Manager, Jessica “Sky” Walter attended Pacific University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and received her teaching degree in Elementary Education. She comes to us from her previous position at the International Network of Children’s Ministry where she was their Volunteer Coordinator for their annual flagship conference. She has a heart for children as well as non-profits.

Ivan “Navi” Trigueros Ramirez joined our team as Program Director late in the year. Navi joins the full-time team after entering the Pyles Program as a camper in 2012 and serving as a counselor for several summers. He earned his B.S. in Psychological and Brain Sciences from U.C. Santa Barbara this December.





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# Alumni Story

## Alumni Perspective - "Hajikoo"

### R. Anthony Sanchez Rodriguez Lee

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I grew up in South Los Angeles in the early 90s, where drugs and violence were rampant. Both of my parents struggled personally to provide for our family. When I was about 11, my parents divorced, leaving my siblings and me to pick up the pieces. Although my parents continued to struggle, I knew I wanted more out of life than the struggle my parents faced. Around that time, my older siblings went off to college. Modeling them, I also wanted to be a first-generation college graduate. When I look back at my life, now at thirty-four years old, I recount the mainstays that have contributed to my journey, including those from R. M. Pyles Boys Camp.

### **When I was about thirteen, I was selected to attend R. M. Pyles. Boys CAMP. I took any chance to escape the confines of the inner city and my family trauma.**

I arrived at the Long Beach pickup early in the morning. There was Dolphin and Wolf greeting families and organizing the newly arrived campers. After loading our luggage onto the bus, we headed to Beach Park. I can remember it vividly. I was nervously excited about the adventure that waited ahead.

We arrived at Beach Park, offloaded the bus, and loaded more campers onto the bus. Then we made our way into Sequoia National Park. The windy road meandered as we passed the Kern River and into vast groves of sky-high sequoias. Once we reached the top, we again offloaded the bus and were separated into age groups. Each counselor began to select their campers from the group of anxiously awaiting

kids. Lobo was the first pick. At that moment, Lobo introduced himself. When Lobo picked our final group member, we grabbed our bag of sandwiches and apples for lunch and were off. I can still taste the bologna and cheese sandwiches. We hiked towards the main camp after eating our lunch. On the way, we introduced ourselves to one another. We were Lobo Familia.

When we arrived at the main camp, we gathered our belongings and toured the facilities. Around 5:30 pm that evening, the dining hall rang, and Lobo ushered us to the field behind the mess hall. He herded us into a line from shortest to tallest and asked us to tuck in our shirts. While waiting to be released for dinner, we watched the flag ceremony, prayed, and went off to eat. Bonding with my fellow campers and Lobo would begin a relationship with Pyles that would continue almost 21 years later.

After dinner, I volunteered for KP. Throughout the session, Lobo pushed all of us out of our comfort zone. Prior to Pyles camp, I never experienced backpacking before and it was one to remember. Lobo had the ambitious goal of reaching Coyote Lakes on day 1. A few of us rebelled but came to somewhat of a happy medium. As the camp session came to a close, I did not want to leave. The amount of integrity that was instilled in me affected my life greatly. I grew to love my new brothers and mentor through our shared experience.

When I got home, life picked up as normal. My family dysfunction continued and I entered the foster system. However, I stayed in contact with Pyles camp. Through this rough patch, both Dolphin and Wolf stayed in contact. I can honestly say that Dolphin became a father figure to me. At about 15, I returned to Camp for my Voyager year and would later become a worker. Our voyager year was guided by Duke and Unique. Both of them were complete opposites of each other but made amazing leaders. That year, Pyles camp was presented with a great opportunity to explore the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT). It was a transformative experience.

Hiking the PCT was the most thrilling trip I had backpacking with Pyles. The trail spans from Mexico to Canada. During this particular backpacking trip, a group of us spent 10-days in the backcountry and hiked about 60 miles while carrying 75-pound backpacks. We trekked the Central Valley portion of the PCT near Bishop, California. Halfway through our trip, we scaled the top of Olancho Peak. In the backcountry, I experienced the sinuous mountain trails, the meandering rivers, and groves of towering trees. As campers at Pyles Camp, we learned that the mountain trails paralleled our lives. In life, there are many "twists and

turns" and "ups and downs". If we were capable of hiking such rigid trails, then we could overcome our adversities. We were collaboratively supportive of each other. These are the values I teach the high school students I mentor. I borrow from my experiences to challenge them to push beyond their circumstances just as I did. I serve as an example to many that with resiliency and determination nothing is impossible.

As an adult, I share my narrative as an example of encouragement for students to attend and graduate college. As a statistics supplemental instructor leader for the Black Collegian and Adelante programs at Santa Monica College, I express the importance and impact of education to my students. I understand that without proper guidance, many of them will not succeed due to external factors. That is why I implore them to be resilient. I teach my students that if they stay focused and persistent, they can achieve their goals. I used my past to fuel my ambitions and used education as a catalyst for success. I have not and will not let my circumstances define me, and neither should they.

The moment of peripeteia occurred in my early twenties. I earned my GED just before my twenty-first birthday and transferred to Los Angeles City College (LACC) in 2008. I utilized the Guardian Scholars, a program that helps former foster youth matriculate into college, and the Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) programs. Both programs were instrumental in my academic success. I would mentor younger students struggling to figure out their journeys while tackling my adversities. Despite my many hardships, it was necessary to use my experience to encourage and inspire the students I mentored. Education is my north star. Eventually, I transferred to UCLA with a full-merit scholarship and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and minor in 2014.

Again, using education as my catalyst, I returned to school during the pandemic to show my commitment and readiness for an MBA program. Over the past year and a half, I completed seventeen classes. In June 2021, I graduated, with honors, with an Associate of Science for Transfer in Business Administration, an Associate of Arts for Transfer in Economics, an Associate of Science in Business, and an Entrepreneurship Certificate of Completion. Earning an MBA from Rice is my new north star, which will allow me to enter upper management roles and propel my career even further.



## Selector Appreciation /Selector List

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### How Do We Select Our Boys?

Selectors in each community work hard to send deserving youth from local neighborhoods to camp. More than 100 selectors volunteer their time annually to make Pyles Camp a success. These community-minded individuals and organizations help make possible a brighter future for deserving boys from your community!

Below are some of the organizations with whom we collaborated with in recent years to select boys to attend camp. Additional organizations may be added throughout the year. Please refer to our website for the most up to date list.

#### School Partners

Adelante Bridge Academy  
Bassett Unified School District  
Briggs Elementary School District  
Conejo Valley Unified School District  
Di Giorgio School District  
Fillmore Unified School District  
Jefferson Middle School  
Long Beach Unified School District  
Montebello Unified School District  
Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District  
Oxnard School District  
Poly Tech High School  
Pomona School District  
Simi Valley Unified School District  
Ventura Unified School District  
Whittier City School District  
William S. Hart High School District

#### Youth-Serving Agencies

ATAP Family Services  
Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley  
Boys & Girls Clubs of LA Harbor  
Boy Scouts of America - Long Beach Area Council  
Children's Law Center of Los Angeles  
City Impact  
City of Oxnard Office of Youth & Safety  
East LA Rising Youth Club  
El Nino Family Centers  
Long Beach Child and Adolescent Program  
Masada Homes  
New Dawn Counseling  
Santa Maria Valley Youth & Family Center  
Ventura County Youth and Family Services  
Victory Outreach  
Youth Mentoring

#### Law Enforcement/Public Agencies

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department  
Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD)  
Oxnard Police Department  
Ventura County Fire Department  
Ventura County Sheriff's Department  
Ventura County Office of Behavioral Health  
Ventura County Office of Education





# BOARD PERSPECTIVE: **Sabrina Demayo Lockhart,** BOARD MEMBER



My annual summer road trip to Pyles Boys Camp may take more than seven hours one way, but you'll never hear a complaint about it from me. My journey to Pyles pales in comparison to the roads our campers have traveled to get there.

Many of our boys have dodged gang members and drug dealers to and from school each day, worried about how their family will get their next meal, stepped in as parents to their siblings when they're still children themselves, or escaped abuse by a trusted adult.

For two weeks each summer, our campers can temporarily push aside those unimaginable challenges and take on new adventures leading them toward self-transformation. Campers have told me that they remember the first time in their entire lives that someone has ever told them they did a good job and it was at Pyles Camp.

That's the magic of Pyles: helping young men who are at a crossroads in life understand that they are more than the sum of their circumstances. Our boys learn that they are worthy, they are capable, and that they are loved.

We don't just leave the boys at the end of summer and tell them we'll see them next year. Pyles provides year-long mentoring to help our boys stay on track. We further help them on their pathway to success with scholarships, where many have gone on to become the first college graduates in their family.

Many of our campers return summer after summer as counselors or volunteers, once again reaffirming the power of Pyles. Our campers want to continue to give back to something that has given them so much opportunity.

Each board meeting starts with a visit from a former camper who shares his Pyles experience. These powerful testimonies set the tone for the meeting and remind us of what's our highest priority and what serves as the basis of every board action: the Pyles campers.

As the mother of a young teenager, I feel a kindred connection to the Pyles boys. Nothing makes me tear up faster than one of the campers telling me that they want to be a better son, that the only place that feels like home is camp, and that this was the best summer of their life. Remembering those boys' faces and how their eyes light up when they talk about Pyles are why I volunteer my time to ensure more campers have the same life-changing experience.

**Since its beginning more than 70 years ago, Pyles Boys Camp has served nearly 29,000 boys.**

Those boys have grown up to be men that have lifted the communities around them. Pyles Boys Camp reminds me of one of my favorite quotes from Mother Teresa, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples."





# Donor List

## Trusts and Foundations

American Endowment Foundation  
Crummer, Roy E. Foundation  
Richard and Mary Curtin Family Trust  
Don and Lorraine Freeberg Foundation  
Ekstrom, Stanley W. Foundation Inc.  
Freeman Fairfield Foundation  
Halliburton Charitable Foundation  
Henry Mayo Newhall Foundation  
Hunter-Dooley Family Trust  
J.W. and Ida M. Jameson Foundation  
Kang, Don and Susan Charitable Foundation  
Keep Climbing Foundation  
Richard and Carole Keller Family Trust  
Lon V. Smith Foundation  
Don and Catherine Lucas Family Trust  
Obren B. & Marilyn M. Gerich Foundation  
Robert J. Keown Trust  
Rose Hills Foundation  
Wood-Claeysens Foundation

## Corporate

B.E. Conway Energy, Inc.  
B.E. Conway Sugar Oil Lease  
Cal Coast Acidizing  
Capital Group  
Chevron  
Costco  
Cruizin-4 Charity  
Di Drill Survey Services  
Diversified Project Service, Inc.  
Drilling & Production Co.  
Fraternal Order of Eagles  
General Production Service, Inc.  
Grimmway Enterprises  
Harbor Distributing  
Holmes Western Oil Corporation  
J. D. Rush Company, Inc.

Katherman Exploration Company  
Kern County  
Kings Oil & Tools, Inc.  
Los Angeles Association  
of Petroleum Landmen  
Loyd's Aviation  
MacPherson Oil Company  
Miocene Operating Services, Inc.  
MMI Services, Inc.  
MTS Stimulation Services, Inc.  
Network for Good  
Pacific Petroleum Golf Assoc.  
Paradigm Hydraulics, LLC  
PCL Industrial Services, Inc.  
Pinnacle Recruiting Services, LLC  
Production Logging  
Pyles Alumni Committee Members  
Santa Maria Noontime Lions  
Seneca Resources  
Sproule, Incorporated  
Target Corporation  
Teen Challenge International  
Titan Oilfield Services  
TRB Oilfield Services, Inc.  
Valley Wellhead, LLC  
Wildcat Committee  
WSPA

## Individuals

Adenbaum, Ann  
Allen, John & Beverly  
Allen, Scott  
Anspach, Robert  
Arias, David  
Avila, Bertha  
Badillo, Michael  
Baker, Charles Dean  
Bender, Heidi  
Bender, Symon

Bell, Adam and Carlin  
Bell, Ursula  
Berkley, Jessica  
Betts, Peter  
Boiler, Eric  
Buhr, Lupe  
Burzlaff, Alan  
Cabrera, Anglica  
Carlson, Gary  
Combs, Ralph  
Cooper, Jeffrey  
Contreras, Fernando  
Craggs, Jere  
Curti, John & Martha  
Devine, Robert  
Dohr, Peter and Patti  
Dorr, Robert and Cynthia  
Elchlepp, Derek  
Evans, Mark  
Favela, Alonso  
Fiddler, David Wilson  
Fisher, William  
Fitch, Edward and Melanie  
Frisch, John  
Galloway, Gordon  
Gorfain, Louise  
Greenfield, James and Karen  
Hall, James  
Handren, Michael  
Harris, Kristen  
Heublein, Bruce and Barbara  
Heun, James and Colette  
Hill, Alonzo  
Hinsley, Kimberly  
Hoffman, Christina Nyhan  
Holmes, Fred and Barbara  
Hoover, Chris  
Houts, Crystal

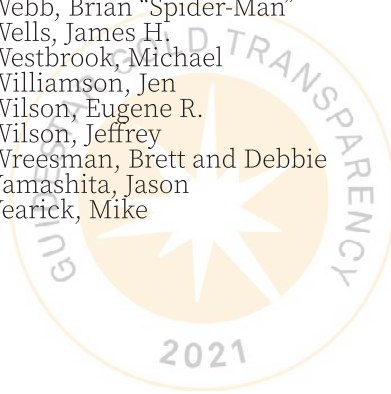




# 2021 Financial Report

Johnson, Alan  
 Johnstone, John and Connie  
 Karschner, David  
 Kilpatrick, David  
 Knowlton, Jack  
 Landis, Donita  
 Lazzerini, William  
 Leitzell, Paul "Rocky"  
 Lockhart, Sabrina  
 Lusk, Candice  
 Macpherson, Emelie  
 Mansdorfer, James  
 Massey, Brian  
 McAdams, Ryan  
 McCurdy, Ted  
 McFarland, Carolyn  
 McMahan, Barry  
 Mendoza, Jorge  
 Miller, Bruce and Elena  
 Moe, Stan  
 Kenneth Morris  
 Morris, Wesley  
 Navejas, Amy  
 Niehaus, Mark  
 Neilsen, Ryan  
 Noland, John & Susan  
 Nyhan, John  
 Ogden, Leslie  
 Patterson, William  
 Perrot, Rob  
 Christoffersen, Peter and Diana  
 Pomerantz, Steve  
 Redgrave, Jessica  
 Reedy, Helen  
 Reimer, Becky  
 Rider, Jack  
 Rider, Schaloiaas  
 Riestler, Joanne  
 Riley, Jim & Diane

Roberts, Jim  
 Roller, Kenn  
 Romero, Ray  
 Romley, Ted  
 Ruiz, Dorene  
 Salata, George  
 Salata, Linda  
 Sarver, Don  
 Sauer, Richard  
 Selvig, Bill  
 Senecal, Patty  
 Shaw, Kevin  
 Shelby, Allen  
 Smith, Douglas  
 Stewart, Richard  
 Sturmer, Gerald and Susan Ehrlich  
 Sylva, George  
 Tafoya, Robert  
 Trichell, Mary  
 Valle-Schwenk, James  
 Van Noort, Kathryn  
 Van, David and Joan  
 Voiland, Eugene J.  
 Webb, Brian "Spider-Man"  
 Wells, James H.  
 Westbrook, Michael  
 Williamson, Jen  
 Wilson, Eugene R.  
 Wilson, Jeffrey  
 Wreesman, Brett and Debbie  
 Yamashita, Jason  
 Yearick, Mike



R.M. Pyles Boys Camp raises funds each year to give disadvantaged boys the opportunity for fun and adventure while turning around their lives and overcoming barriers to success. Thanks to our enthusiastic volunteers and staff members, we are able to devote the majority of our income to our program services

## Income:

PPP -	\$349,513
Investment Distributions-	\$325,000
Trusts & Foundations -	\$217,593
Individual Contributions -	\$210,407
Special Events -	\$121,802
Corporate Contributions -	\$91,332
Other Income -	\$107,049
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,422,696</b>

## Expenses

Program Services -	\$987,812
General & Administrative -	\$236,059
Fundraising -	\$100,782
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,234,653</b>

For full audited financial reports, please visit our profile on [Guidestar.org](https://www.guidestar.org)







27211 Henry Mayo Drive  
Valencia, California

91355 661.294.1394  
www.pylescamp.org

R.M. Pyles Boys Camp operates in partnership with the Sequoia National Forest/ Giant Sequoia National Monument on a non-discriminatory basis.

## Board of Directors

### Officers

Jeffrey Wilson President  
Eugene Voiland Vice President  
Chris Hall Chief Financial Officer  
John Nyhan Legal Counsel

John Allen  
Logan Allen  
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Rod Eson  
Michael Handren  
Christina Hoffman  
Fred Holmes  
Richard Keller  
David Kilpatrick  
Jack Knowlton  
Sabrina Demayo Lockhart  
Stan Moe  
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## Board of Trustees

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Bill Stevenson  
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## R.M. Pyles Boys Camp Management Team 2021

Adam "Stripes" Bell - Executive Director  
Danny "Trek" Tobin - Camp Director  
Darren "Shotgun" King - Facilities Manager  
Jessica "Sky" Walter - Administrative Manager  
Ivan "Navi" Trigueros Ramirez - Program Director



R.M. Pyles Boys Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association, which demonstrates our commitment to the boys we serve. We comply with nearly 300 industry-established health and safety standards, which are developed as a result of collaboration and review by experts from many fields including risk management, child development and health care.