

Working together until Metro Richmond is...

TRANSFORMED



Choosing Partnership

In April I interviewed fourteen potential junior counselors to work at Camp Alkulana this summer. Each of these teenagers had been a camper, and they are growing up.

I try to accomplish several things during these interviews. One of my tasks relates to perspective. I want these former campers to make the transition from seeing camp as a place that served them to a place where they could serve.

I always take a moment to tell them about our camp as though they've never heard of it before. I tell them, "It's important to know who you're working for and to know the full scope of the mission you're committing to." I explain that they won't just be working for Camp Alkulana, but for a bigger



Volunteers at Camp Alkulana Workday

organization made up of about forty churches around Richmond. Those churches choose to come together, bringing their skills, their enthusiasm, and their money to do this important work in our city and at camp. The people who lead the churches come together and share these things because they care and because they're called. Then I ask these young people, "How does this mission resonate with you?"

Some of our former campers are surprised to know that this partnership of churches made their childhood camp experiences possible. They had never considered all that goes into it. I can almost see on their faces the moment when they realize a entire network of churches has have been supporting them and rooting for them all along.

River City Faith Network asks its member churches to give extra attention to our mutual missions work this time of year. We celebrate what God lets us do together, work that touches lives across the city and surrounding counties. We ask people to pray for our missionaries and the people they serve. This emphasis includes a missions offering too.

Every summer for more than 100 years our campers have experienced the fruits of church partnership a very tangible way. This summer, church partnership will feel like new mattresses on their bunks and new blankets to snuggle under on a cool mountain night. Members of Derbyshire Baptist Church partnered with us in a Camp Alkulana work weekend last spring. What they saw while they worked touched their hearts, including our old cabin mattresses. They went home asking what they might do about what they had seen.

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NOTEWORTHY DATES

RCFN Search Committee

June 2
 2 p.m. RCFN Offices

Camp Alkulana Workday

June 4
 All day at Camp Alkulana

CHCWC Support Team Meeting

June 4
 11 a.m. Bethlehem Fairmount

Camp Alkulana– Junior Staff Training

June 5
 1– 6 p.m. Room 265

Camp Alkulana Staff Training

June 13-21
 On-site at Camp Alkulana

Camp Alkulana Older Boys Session

June 27– July 5

MINISTRY OF THE WEEK

- 6/5– Grace Baptist Church
- 6/12– Gravel Hill Baptist Church
- 6/19– Hatcher Memorial Baptist
- 6/26– Huguenot Road Baptist



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The people who visited Camp Alkulana on that work day had given their day and their labor to help the camp. They had seen a greater need and asked what they and their church might do about that need. I was thrilled when they asked, "How much does a camp mattress cost, and how many mattresses does the camp have?"

Derbyshire set a "Dream Big" goal of raising \$8,000 during a 6-week campaign. They raised \$12,000! That is enough money to replace every mattress in camp and also the mattresses at our retreat house, plus buy new blankets for our cabins!

I love the story of people who come to Camp Alkulana, see a need and leave asking what else they can do, and then do something about that need. I love that Derbyshire set a goal and then reached it and more. Most of all, I love that Derbyshire's partnership effort grew out of more than a desire to meet a physical need. The church members want to help our campers know they are beloved and valued by them and by God. The members want our campers and our counselors to know they deserve a clean and comforting place to rest at the end of their camp day. That is one way the Derbyshire Baptist Church family is living out the Gospel at Camp Alkulana.

How does this mission resonate with you? Will you join us for a work day at camp? Will you and your church pray for RCFN missions and take an offering? However you feel God leading you, we thank God for you, our partners in fulfilling what God calls us to do together.

—Beth Wright



Volunteers replaced flooring during a recent workday

**CAMP ALKULANA
WORK DAYS**
MAY 21 & JUNE 4



ANNOUNCING THE 2022 RECIPIENTS OF



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| OLUWASOLAMI AFOLAYAN | AMBER GUTIERREZ | | |
| JORDYN BUTTS | KAIA HADNOTT | ALFONZO MOORE | |
| KYNEDI BUTTS | JENYSE HILL | AZHANÉ POLLARD | SAVANNAH THURSTON |
| TUCKER DAGLIANO | SHA'LELIA MOORE | SABRINA SIMMONS | KATE WAKELAND |

The Westhampton Scholarship Fund was established in 2017 to support former Camp Alkulana campers attending college or vocational training. Westhampton Baptist Church (Richmond, VA) generously endowed this fund in order to advance Camp Alkulana campers for generations to come. Additional contributions are accepted toward this fund.



THANK YOU!!

To River Road Church Baptist, the volunteers, and all who attended or donated items to the Camp Alkulana Auction! It was a wonderful event and a great success!



Bless Others With Your Gifts!

The RCFN Ministry Placement Committee is working to enlist servants to fill current vacancies and to complete the Leadership Roster to be voted on at the October Annual Meeting. ♦

River City Faith Network and the Greater Richmond faith community **NEEDS YOUR PARTICIPATION!**

Many individuals, small groups and congregations have stepped up to the great needs currently in our city (and the world), but there is also a great need for new persons to represent all our churches and serve in leadership roles so RCFN will truly represent and serve all persons.



If you are willing or know others that might be willing to serve and lead RCFN into its new future, contact the office@rbaonline.org, phone 804-329-1701 ext:101 or a member of the Ministry Placement Committee:

Nancy King, Chair	NancyKing53@gmail.com
Rev. Jennifer Turner	Jennifer.Turner@rbaonline.org
Susan Hughes	susan.hughes01@comcast.net



Richmond Area Churches. . Together. . Changing Lives.

RCFN Office Dedication Service

RCFN offices moved to 2828 Emerywood Parkway on May 10, 2021. We had planned to have an Open House and Dedication Service earlier, but COVID and winter weather delayed it until May 1. RCFN church members, pastors, volunteer leaders, staff, and guests from neighboring associations attended. God blessed us as we celebrated together, saw familiar faces, and met new people on that beautiful day!

During the Open House, RCFN staff provided tours and insights for guests to see how the new spaces serve our ministries' needs. Guests and staff made connections, and we got to personally thank some of people who share in RCFN's work by their prayers and gifts of time, money, and donated items of many kinds.

Our Richmond WMU, led by Mary Palmer, hosted a reception that showcased the large meeting space. There guests enjoyed both fellowship and refreshing treats.

Rev. Phillip Brown, Associate Pastor for Worship at Huguenot Road Baptist Church, provided Dedication Service music. Several staff members, including Dr. Steve Allsbrook, Rev. Glinda Ford, Rev. SaraAnne Burgess, and Rev. Wesley Garrett led in parts of the service.

Fred Anderson, former RCFN and BGAV Clerk and Historian, told how the offices of Richmond Baptist Association have migrated since we opened our first office in the BGAV office building at 1 West Franklin Street. Allsbrook highlighted the need for RCFN's "home base for connection and ministry."

RCFN Board Chairperson Bob Thompson led the Dedication Prayer. He asked God to "help us use this sacred treasure for all [God makes] possible as we use it for ministry."

The photos below show some of the Dedication Service congregation, Allsbrook and Anderson, and Brown (at the piano). We are grateful for all who attended and welcome you or your group to visit our offices whenever you have the opportunity to do so.



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Electronic Service Requested

*Working together until
Metro Richmond is...*

TRANSFORMED

June 2022



THE **River**
City FAITH
NETWORK
Richmond Baptist Association

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RCFN Calendar Highlights

www.RichmondBaptist.org for the latest updates

June 2022

- 6/2– Search Committee Meeting
- 6/4– Camp Alkulana Workday
- 6/4– CHCWC Support Team Meeting
- 6/4– VCLA Spring Conference
- 6/5– CA Junior Staff Meeting and Camp Physicals
- 6/13-6/21– CA Staff Training
- 6/27– Camp Alkulana Older Boys Session

July 2022

- 7/4– RCFN Office Closed
- 7/9– Camp Alkulana Younger Boys Session
- 7/23– Camp Alkulana Older Girls Session
- 7/26– RCFN Board Meeting
- 7/30– SRBC Support Team Meeting

August 2022

- 8/4– Camp Alkulana Younger Girls Session
- 8/19– SRBC Back to School Celebration
- 8/16– OHBC Back to School Celebration
- 8/20– CHCWC Back to School Celebration

September 2022

- 9/5– RCFN Office Closed
- 9/20– OHBC Support Team Meeting
- 9/27– RCFN Board Meeting



October 2022

- 10/1– Camp Alkulana Golf Tournament
- 10/16– RCFN Annual Meeting
- 10/17– RCFN Office Closed
- 10/29– SRBC Support Team Meeting