Chapter Development Leadership Call – Jan 14th, 2021

Steve Jang from Boston shared info on a virtual activity that he is doing with a couple USA Chapters and a Couple NA’s. Trying to expand to include additional USA and other NA’s.

Some information we have been asking from the participants

1) Name

2) Chapter, NA

3) gender identity

4) date of birth

5) comments about participants (to better connect them to their "partners"

6) English level of participant

7) other language participants speak

8) participant communication (phone/ email)

9) parent's name

10) phone number for parents (for Whatsapp)

11) email for parent for communication

12) parent's level of English

13) is the family new to CISV (these groups have been prioritized)

We also ask the chapter to have a leader and a chapter representative. The leader will be responsible for working with other leaders from other chapters to plan and organize activities. The chapter representative supports the logistical support - reaching out to parents to make sure we get their feedbacks as well as provide any other support such as translation as well as RM. We also ask the families to understand what this is - this is a 6 month commitment - even though it's only one activity per month, we ask the families to continue until the end to make sure we don't lost a participant in mid-program (ie. there are 6 participants per group. They will form a small CISV community so we all depend on each other).

There is no age restriction as we have participants as young as 9 and as old as 17.

The monthly rhythm (schedule) is..

- first sunday of the month (12:00 EST) is the chapter rep meeting

- second sunday of the month (12:00 EST) is when leaders meet to discuss activities for the month

- third monday of the month - leaders will send out an email to the participants to describe their activity

- fourth sunday of the month (12:00 EST) - designated CISV time - this is just to make sure the families can plan accordingly. this does NOT mean that there will be a monthly virtual call, but it's a designated time so leaders can utilize this time for whatever they feel appropriate.

Tanya from RMD shared that they are having a virtual mini camp on Feb 6th that will take place over a two-week period. She also asked if decision were made about December programming. Laura said it was too early to tell but she was very optimistic about winter programs. However, there will only be a handful of invitations this winter so local programming and engagement will still be very important.

Connie from Maine shared that their goal for the year was to raise 20K for their 2022 YM. Connie asked about Fall Reports. Laura said not to worry about Fall Reports as much of it is not relevant due to cancelled programs. Connie asked if the interchange with the middle east and refugees was moving forward and Laura explained that we did not get that grant. We would like to move forward with virtual Interchanges though.

Jean Marie from BV Chapter shared her goal was to keep engagement high. She shared that she asked that people are 15 mins early to the virtual meetings to connect but made it about something everyone could relate to instead of people talking about what programs their kids are/did go on. This way it includes people who don’t have kids in CISV which she has found very valuable.

Jess from Philly explained how she felt awkward at meetings because it was all around parents and as a young 20 something you are kind of caught between the JB and adult boards. She mentioned even in a flyer that went out advertising to the Chapter it said JB and Parents which is not inclusive for this important 22-33 year range of volunteers. Philly is celebrating MLK day with a focus on diversity. More info is in the attachment.

Dawn from Columbus shared that she is feeling a bit isolated with the cancellation of programs and that their Chapter was struggling with membership renewal. Her Chapter is doing a Mock Radio Hour to have Alumni share their experiences and will use the end video as a recruiting tool. They are also doing a fundraiser bourbon tasting for adults and ice cream tasting for JB.

Shannon from NEO shared that they are trying to get membership up with a snail mail letter and newsletter. She said many of her members don’t like paying online so this was their alternative to get sign ups. Her Chapter also had a terrible, tragic loss of a family this year and have a difficult time with that.

San Fran’s Amy and Justin shared several things that they have implemented; (2) Co JB Advisors, they had a former trainer Caryolyn Shavel teach several virtual trainings on the different content areas, they did activities with the JB out of, “The character playbook” with each activity being a different character trait., They are working on (2) mosaic programs for this year, one on sustainability and the other with an LMO who supplies essential supplies to homeless populations. There goal for this year is to re-engage their 22-35 year olds.

Cris from SoCal Chapter shared that the cancellation of programs took a toll on their new Chapter and that they needed to switch the mentality of the members from a travel program to and Educational program. Her Chapter is doing an exchange with a Chapter in Italy (their head of Programs is a friend of hers). It starts on Feb 6th and will be 11-15 year olds and will end with a family virtual pot luck on Feb 27th. She had a question about best practices on FORMS and Kerry from JAX said there she had examples if she needed one and to not recreate the wheel. She also reminded everyone about the videos/podcasts that were done that take you month by month for a Chapter President. Here is a link to the videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2kEfc5OFjJstPILofokGFQ>

Kerry shared that they are trying to focus on young leadership and would like to do a 1 week day camp with 14-17 year olds. She also shared she would love to do their 1 week Faces overnight camp with 11 year olds but is having a lot of trouble getting a site.

Kelly from Boston asked the group when they transitioned. There were many different answers and timelines so it’s just what is best for the Chapter right now.

Charles from Pittsburgh said that their Chapter was meeting in person, socially distanced prior to the winter and got a meeting in even in November but now with the cold weather is moving to virtual activities. The LJR’s put together 4 game nights and 4 movie nights that weren’t well attended. He said one learning from the call is that there might be more attendance if the timing of the activities was consistent each month.

Ed and Molly from DFW shared their goal is trying to get the kids together this summer when it is safe to do so. He is very concerned about losing two years worth of 11 year olds and their parents as volunteers and what that will look like for Chapters down the road.

Carissa from Detroit shared that they had a great JB activity where they were on a call and had to get a friend who was new to CISV on the call. Then are planning a bigger virtual call with more new CISVers as well.

Gursharan from DC shared they are trying to fundraise for their 2022 program and increase membership. Her goal is to get the Chapter involved in some activist type activities without offending anyone.

Jamie Chapman from Smoky Mtn shared how much she loved CD workshop in March before everything shut down but that she had not an opportunity to use all that information yet with the cancellation of the programs. She shared that they have a strong adult board with older members but that their JB was struggling and they have a new JB advisor.

Julie from Cincinnati shared that they were struggling with the lose of their JB advisor as well but tried something new for their JB for this year in which no one had a certain position (like secretary or treasurer) that they are all working together and it is working very well for them this year. They had a successful and fun wine night that made an easy 700 and are doing an International Candy tasting for the JB soon.