



**Camp Fire Columbia's largest Corporate Sponsor-The Standard**

**Recognized as a Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion**

The Standard was recently named one of the best places to work for disability inclusion by the American Association of People with Disabilities, the nation's largest disability rights organization, and Disability:IN, the global disability inclusion network.

The Disability Equality Index is a comprehensive benchmarking tool that helps companies build a roadmap of measurable, tangible actions to achieve disability inclusion and equality. Each company receives a score on a scale of zero to 100, with those earning 80 and above designated as "Best Places to Work for Disability Inclusion." The Standard scored 100!

"We're thrilled to be included on the 2022 Disability Equality Index and named a best place to work for disability inclusion," said Susan Bruechner, vice president of Human Resources. "The Standard promotes diversity, equity and inclusion because it is an essential part of how we attract and retain the best employees, build leaders, serve our customers and strengthen the communities we call home."

Globally, more than 1 billion people experience disabilities. Disability is a natural part of the human experience, crossing lines of age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status and religion.

"Helping people who have experienced a disabling event is a core part of our business," said Dan McMillan, president and CEO. "We offer financial well-being and peace of mind to millions of customers facing a disability caused by an accident or illness. With our deep expertise in providing support and workplace accommodations, we help those who are ready to return to their careers. Focusing on an inclusive workplace ensures we have the experience and empathy to make a real difference for our customers."

The Disability Equality Index is designed to highlight best practices and help employers identify resources to improve their disability inclusion efforts.

Learn more about the [Disability Equality Index](#).



**Program Updates**

**Teens**

Teens staff have wrapped up our first summer program with much success! Overall we served approximately 64 Middle and High School youth this summer over four weeks between July 11th and August 5th.

Camp Fire participants got to engage with other youth from different schools through joint field trips, an outdoor field day organized by Camp Fire staff, and a trip out to Camp Namanu's Ropes Course challenge. Youth got to experience being outdoors in nature while challenging themselves to step out of their comfort zones. Field trips entailed both recreational and educational experiences. Students went rock climbing, bowling, and participated in volleyball clinics as well.

Summer programming allowed Teens staff to engage with their current mentees and as well as recruit new mentees, who may become participants in the upcoming school year. Through Social Emotional Learning methods and using the Developmental Relationships model, Teens staff had much success creating space for impactful conversations with their mentees.

The Racial Equity Social Justice department at PPS and the Oregon Association of ESD grants allowed us to offer these summer activities to Camp Fire youth.

Over the past few weeks we have had meaningful conversations with the Teens department about their position titles and have made the following changes; Site Supervisors will now be known as Youth Development Site Managers and Program Specialists will now be known as Youth Development Coordinators.

**Camp Namanu**

In the month of August we hosted 347 campers over the last two weeks of summer camp 2022. We had zero covid cases all summer—that is something to celebrate!! Also we've had zero covid cases in August. Five new Nigerian dwarf goats joined our crew to do some invasive species control and landscaping.

Rezolution Pictures came to Namanu for two days to film camp activities. They are making the third documentary in a series of three focusing on the Native American influence in youth and sports programming. They also did two interviews; one with Janette as an Indigenous person working in summer camps where Cultural Appropriation has been prevalent and another interview with "Hobbes" Mason Kennedy to hear from a person's perspective how camp has changed over the last 15 or so years. The film will come out on Netflix in October of 2023.

**Families Can Save Money by Helping with BAS Hiring!**

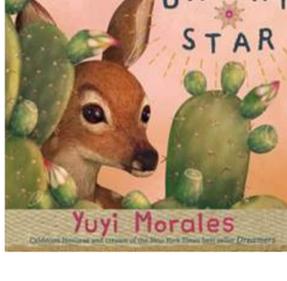
Camp Fire's lottery closed on July 26th with record numbers of families applying (over 900!). Families are being placed in program now and added to waitlists as programs fill up. We will be adding staff throughout the rest of September so we can move families off waitlists. If you know someone who might want to work with youth at Camp Fire Columbia refer them today. If they are hired you receive a \$150.00 credit on your account and the staff member receives \$150!

**BAS HIRING**



**Book of the Month!**

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month Yuyi Morales's children's book Bright Star, combine art and voice to tell a moving story about the borderlands: their flora, fauna, and people." Respond to [info@campfirecolumbia.org](mailto:info@campfirecolumbia.org) with your favorite part of Hispanic Heritage and 1 response will receive this book as a prize.



**Friends of Namanu Corner**

The Gathering of Friends of Namanu was quite the experience, starting on Thursday September 8th and losing power due to the Public Safety Power Shutdown on Friday in the early morning! Camp Fire alumni are tough though and they enjoyed a slightly more rustic weekend together!

Want to get involved? Applications for Committee Chairs and the FON Coordinator are open now. Submit your application by September 20th.

**FON Interest Form**



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