



NANCY NELSON

CCCA THRIVING BOARDS

Presenting since 2016



NANCY NELSON has been in Christian camping since 1975. The majority of these years have been at Warm Beach Christian Camps and Conference Center. For 21 years she served as the Development Director, leading the department through two major \$6.5 million campaigns, the raising of \$700-800,000 each year for operations, in addition to acquiring/coordinating over 50,000 hours of volunteer service annually. In January 2017, her title became the Director of Donor Relations as she handed off the leadership of the department to a capable younger leader.

Since 2010 Nancy has served on the faculty of the Essentials of Development training program for small nonprofits, sponsored by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. In that role, she has also coached nonprofit teams in order to help put a successful plan/process in place to increase their operational contributions.

On occasion, Nancy has consulted with other boards who desired a more thorough understanding of the board's role in fundraising.

Nancy comes with a wide variety of experiences in Christian camping. She spent the first 10 years of her career directing the food services departments at two camps; first at Hartland Christian Camp in California for two years, and then for eight years at Warm Beach Camp. After getting the food service department organized, and before becoming the Development Director, Nancy moved into other positions at Warm Beach Camp including: Food Service Internship Director, Grantsmanship Director, Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director, Director of Administrative Services, and Human Resources Director.

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In addition to giving numerous workshops at CCCA conferences throughout the U.S. and Canada during the last 40 years, Nancy has enjoyed teaching seminars at women's retreats at Warm Beach Camp and being the keynote speaker for smaller church groups. Her all-time most rewarding speaking event was at a retreat in Burundi, Africa, for 200 traumatized widows who had lost their husbands in the horrific genocide. Nancy also serves on the board of Sister Connection, a nonprofit that ministers to widows and orphans in Burundi.

For many years at Warm Beach Camp, Nancy held the title of "Queen of Hoopla," as she orchestrated many laughter-producing events. Of all the seminars and articles she has given or written, her favorite has been "Hoopla! Laughter is the Best Medicine."

Nancy is a natural story teller and her first book, *Stories of Sheer Pure Grace*, was released on Amazon in 2017. The book features a collection of 50 stories—each story an answer to a person's prayer and one of God's amazing characteristics is highlighted in each story. She is already working on her second book, *Embracing the Donor: Stories from the Trenches*.

After graduating from the University of California Davis with a B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics, Nancy completed her master's degree in Public Health at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). Her master's project involved working with local mothers in Tijuana, Mexico, who lived in a cardboard shack community. She has also been an adjunct professor for Food Service Management at Seattle Pacific University.

Nancy and her husband, Stan, have two married children, amazing "CKs" (Camp Kids) who were raised on the campgrounds. "TGIF" has special meaning for the Nelsons as every Friday is set aside for their five grandkids who live close by and are the center of their lives. Stan and Nancy enjoy entertaining volunteers and donors at their home overlooking Lake Howard, just six minutes from Warm Beach Camp.

For more information on Thriving Boards:

http://www.ccca.org/ccca/thriving_boards.asp

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<http://murdocktrust.org/>

Christian Camp and Conference Association

<http://www.ccca.org>