

# CYO today

Issue 3, Number 1 Summer 2007



Catholic Charities CYO

1907  2007

YEARS OF SERVICE

best  
summer  
ever

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# CYO summer sports



*By Courtney Clendinen, Director of CYO Athletics*

For the first time in CYO Athletics history, we're offering four different team sports activities over the summer. In San Francisco, co-ed volleyball, boys and girls basketball, and Gaelic football will be open to youth entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through those entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade. A week-long basketball clinic debuts in Marin at Pickleweed Park Community Center in San Rafael's Canal district for youth entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through those entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade. These new summer offerings provide important year-round sports options for kids.

## Summer Co-ed Volleyball Returns and Summer Girls and Boys Basketball Debuts!

We are thrilled to once again offer our recreational co-ed summer volleyball league. As a result of the enthusiastic response from last summer's participants, we are expanding opportunities by offering boys and girls basketball as well. Reflecting on the experience of last summer, one of our parents commented, "I just wanted to let you know it was great, and the coach was wonderful. **Coach Nikki** taught my daughter skills and made her a little more confident, which is what she needed."

These recreational league opportunities offer kids the chance to play on different teams (from the schools they attend) that are made up of a diverse group of players. The summer leagues will focus on team-building play with new friends, and developing skills in a safe, non-competitive environment. Our summer leagues are not an extension of the regular CYO season, but a chance to participate in a kid-centered, "pressure-free zone" where young people experience the healthy benefits of regular physical activity over and above winning and losing.

## Gaelic Football Kicks Off in San Francisco

In collaboration with the **Irish Youth Football League (IYFL)**, CYO Athletics is proud to introduce Gaelic Football, a relatively new sport to the youth of the Bay Area. This eclectic sport combines many skills from different traditional sports, such as dribbling, throwing, kicking, and passing.

Youth interested in signing up for this new sports adventure will be starting off fresh, on the same level playing field as other participants. Like regular football, Gaelic Football is played outdoors and is a fun and refreshing departure from the traditional sports line-up. The IYFL will provide officials and facilities for the CYO summer league.

**Please visit [www.ifylsf.org](http://www.ifylsf.org) for more details.**

## Summer Basketball Clinics in Marin

We'll be offering three weeks of basketball camp in Marin this summer. The first two weeks will be open to youth attending the CYO-sponsored Kids' Club, which meets at Pickleweed Park Community Center in the Canal district of San Rafael.

The first of these two clinics, July 9-13, focuses on introducing youth to basketball basics, and is open to younger Kids' Club participants. The second clinic, July 16-20, is open to the older kids in **Kids' Club** and focuses on expanding their basketball skills. The third week is open to everyone, with 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade boys attending in the morning from 9:00-12:00, and 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade girls attending in the afternoon from 1:00-4:00. The cost for the clinic is \$40 per participant. For more information, contact **Carlos Garcia**, Canal Family Support Program, at 415.454.8596.

## CYO Summer Volunteer Coaches Needed!

We are excited to provide so many recreational options for youth in San Francisco and Marin this summer, but we can't do it without your help! If you would like to volunteer your time and energy as a coach to support the co-ed volleyball league, girls and boys basketball, or Gaelic football, please contact **Joann Dillon** at 415.406.2371 or [cyo.cccyo.org](http://cyo.cccyo.org). We are eager to re-create the success of last summer's co-ed volleyball league, for which we had 38 volunteer coaches, 375 youth, and 32 parishes represented!

The summer leagues provide the perfect place for coaches to work with kids from different schools and backgrounds, and to improve their own skill set as a coach in a fun, stress-free atmosphere. Please note that all participation rules will apply, and games will be played under CYO league rules.



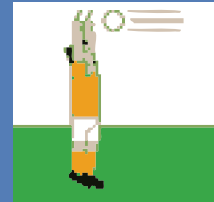
## Parishes Deserve a Round of Applause!

We'd like to express our gratitude to **Father Eugene Tungol** at Church of the Epiphany, **Father Raymond Reyes** at St. Anne of the Sunset Church, and **Father Bill Justice** at Mission Dolores Basilica, who so generously provided gym space for practices and games last summer. A special THANK YOU to Athletic Directors **Frances Johnson** and **Maureen Moriarty** who worked with us directly to donate their gyms to make sure our inaugural season was a huge success.



## how to play GAELIC FOOTBALL

Gaelic football has been described as a cross between rugby and soccer and is similar in appearance to Australian Rules football, with the exception that the ball is the shape of a soccer ball but slightly smaller and harder. It is played on a rectangular field by two teams of fifteen.



You can catch the ball in the air.



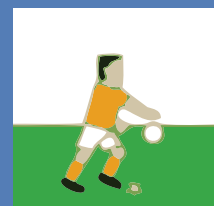
You cannot pick the ball up directly from the ground. You must put your toe under it before you can take it in your hand.



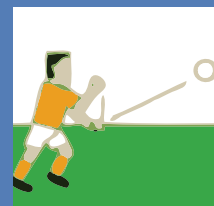
You can run with the ball, but only for five steps. After that you have to do something with it.



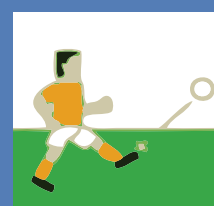
After taking five steps you can kick the ball back into your hands, or 'toe-tap' it. You can do this as many times as you like!



It's easier to bounce the ball, but you can't do it twice in succession. To keep the ball you must toe-tap between bounces.



One way to pass the ball is to punch it with a clenched fist. You can punch the ball over the bar for a point, but not into the net for a goal.



You can kick the ball to pass it, score a point or a goal.



## Crissy Russo

### *The Life and Times of a CYO Referee*

By Deidre Rettenmaier



There you are, sitting in the stands on the edge of your seat, the final moments of the game being played out, when you hear the shrill sound of a referee's whistle. A split second later you hear the call that will either win or lose the game for the team you're rooting for. In those fragments of time that seem to stand still, have you ever wondered: who are these referees, and why do they get to call all the shots?

Meet **Crissy Russo**: formerly Crissy Di Luzio of 1998 State Championship fame, now referee, coach, wife, and soon-to-be-mother.

How did Crissy become a referee? It all began at age 5, when she started shooting hoops with the boys at **St. James Elementary School**. A grade school aptitude soon turned into a high school passion at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory (SHCP) where, in 1998, Russo and the varsity team became the first in San Francisco to win a basketball state championship in 70 years. "It was exciting," Russo describes. "I got to meet the Mayor (Willie Brown). We were a Cinderella team; no one thought we'd make it past Nor-Cal sectionals." Russo was the star player in that game, tying the record for most points scored in a state game (29).

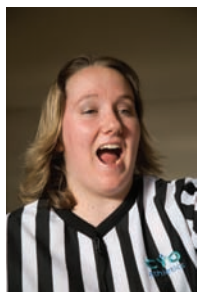
While at SHCP, Russo connected with **Rick Robles**, the referee assignor for all CYO games and a friend of hers since childhood. He took Russo under his wing, and taught her everything he knew about being an official. From Robles she learned that refereeing is similar to coaching, just minute-by-minute, play-by-play. "Every game is a tremendous

learning opportunity, both for the players and for the officials." She continues, "When I referee a game being played by 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders, I let them know why I make each call so they can learn from their mistakes. The coach on the sidelines can only say so much during a game, and may not be able to offer insight as immediately as a referee can."

After refereeing through high school, Russo began playing basketball in college at **San Jose State University**. A little older and wiser, her role as a referee in college became a way to give back to the community that had raised her, and return to her basketball roots. "Playing CYO sports as a kid built my foundation as an athlete and contributed to my success. I wanted to inspire and motivate kids the way so many of my CYO coaches had inspired me," Russo states.

Russo completed her B.S. in Business Administration at San Jose State in 2003 and this year marks her tenth year as an official for CYO and her fourth year as a CYO coach. Married in August 2006 and expecting her first child this October, she keeps busy with a full-time job as a senior marketing coordinator, and officiates nine to eleven games per week that fill many evenings and most weekends. In her free time, she enjoys playing in a recreational basketball league with friends she's known since she was twelve.

Russo smiles when summing up her philosophy, "What I hope to teach young players today through coaching and officiating is that they have what it takes to be winners, each and every one of them."



## CYO Summer Sports Dates

**Marin** (entering 6th through entering 8th grade youth)

**Basketball Clinic at Pickleweed Park in San Rafael July 23-27**

**San Francisco** (entering 3rd through entering 9th grade youth)

**Summer Co-ed Volleyball May 29-July 3**

**Summer Boys and Girls Basketball July 5-August 16**

**Gaelic Football June 11-July 13**

# 48<sup>th</sup> Annual CYO Golf Day



Gary Orozco, Eric Wright, Marty Kornfeld, Rob Forsland, Ron Ferrari and Richard Schliesmann

Even temperatures in the mid-90s couldn't keep over 220 golfers away from the 48th Annual CYO Golf Day—the oldest charitable golf tournament in the Bay Area—on May 7 at **Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club** and **Stanford University Golf Course**. Dedicated CYO supporters, business leaders and celebrities—including current and former San Francisco 49ers players and coaches—raised over \$265,000 for CYO Camp operations and scholarships for underserved youth.



49er Donald Strickland, 49er defensive coaches Vance Joseph and Johnnie Lynn and 49er BJ Tucker

In groups of five, the golfers played a scramble format and competed in Closest to the Hole, Longest Drive and Most Accurate Drive competitions during their rounds.

The hot temperatures resulted in a power outage affecting the entire neighborhood but golfers, guests and volunteers continued enjoying their dinner, live auction and raffle drawing which featured a grand prize trip for two to the Masters Tournament or \$10,000. Auctioneer **Frank Bizzarro** and his team called out the winning bidders as candlelight kept the tables aglow.

The most poignant moment of the evening occurred when current CYO camper **Stephanie** shared her amazing yet difficult life story. She explained how CYO campers and counselors have become a second family and an emotional support for her during challenging times.



John Wiegmann, Mike McCaffery (winner of a private dinner with Coach Nolan), Coach Nolan and George Lawson

Every year since 1958, the members of the CYO Golf Day Committee, currently led by Committee Chair **Bill Ring**, renew their commitment to CYO Camp through this tournament because of their belief that every child is entitled to the simple pleasures of childhood. Honorary Chair and San Francisco 49ers Head Coach **Mike Nolan**, Master of Ceremonies and San Francisco 49er play-by-play announcer **Joe Starkey**, and San Francisco 49er legends **R.C. Owens**, **Eric Wright** and **Tom Holmoe** were on hand to show support for CYO.

Thanks to our top sponsors **AAA, Discovery Land Company, O'Brien Homes, ABD Insurance & Financial Services, Cal-Steam, Celtic Golf Management, Franklin Templeton Investments** and **Top Oil Products**.

## Jim Willford, our new Executive Director of CYO Camp and Retreat Center

Jim comes to us with a rich background in teaching, and camp programming and management. Before relocating to northern California with his family to lead CYO Camp, Jim ran a large YMCA summer camp and year round environmental education and retreat center on 1,200 acres in south central Michigan, serving 28,000 children and youth annually. Prior to his camp experience, Jim was an elementary school teacher for 15 years in Ohio and Los Angeles at a bilingual, inner city school.

In addition to his professional experience, Jim attended 4-H camp every summer since the 2nd grade and became a counselor and staff member. His favorite part of working with children in an outdoor educational setting is seeing how their lives are so positively transformed by their camp experience. "When kids arrive, they are sometimes so timid and unsure of themselves, but by the time the leave, they've had an amazing adventure and their confidence is through the roof," he elaborates.

Jim's expertise and enthusiasm make him the perfect leader for CYO Camp. On CYO and his new position, he says, "I'm so impressed with the CYO Camp tradition and the many lives the CYO Camp experience has touched over the past 50 years. Our experienced staff looks forward to continuing those traditions and helping kids gain new skills and create new memories they'll treasure for the rest of their lives."

Welcome, Jim!



# Meeting the Needs of Bayview Hunters Point Youth



Much like the mission of CYO Athletics, **St. Paul of the Shipwreck Sports and Arts Academy** supports the healthy growth and development of youth through the use of sports (and arts) programming. Through structured activities in non-school hours, the program offers youth in the Bayview Hunters Point community a safe haven, positive adult supervision and role models, and a value-rich environment that teaches essential life skills. **Fr. Paul Gawlowski**, Pastor of St. Paul of the Shipwreck Church, has managed the parish's sports program for four years and the food pantry for seven years.

Along with a few other under-enrolled parochial schools, the Archdiocese of San Francisco closed St. Paul of the Shipwreck School at the end of the 2003 academic year. With funding and support from Catholic Charities CYO, organized sports continued at the site and were populated by former Shipwreck students despite their move to new schools, as well as new public school youth from the immediate neighborhood.

CCCYO was committed to continuing the athletics program at St. Paul of the Shipwreck after the school's closure because parents recognized it as an integral part of parish life and thought it supported the growth and stability of the youth in their community. In the words of Father Paul, "The CYO Athletics programs offers an invaluable support because of the many pressures our families face, including being single-parent households, economic burdens that require parents to work longer hours, and increased violence in our streets."

Noting that local youth needed a safe place to congregate with peers and a community-centered environment to which they could belong, Father Paul expanded the after-school program last fall to include a daily meal, academic support and tutoring, cooking, and music lessons. The new program, called St. Paul of the Shipwreck Sports and Arts Academy, now serves

130 children, has four paid staff members, and more than 13 volunteer staff, tutors, and coaches.

**Deon Otis**, the Athletic Director at St. Paul of the Shipwreck Sports and Arts Academy, has been a resident of the BVHP community since birth. He began as a volunteer coach at Shipwreck ten years ago and has watched his own children participate in CYO sports teams there over the years. He also coaches boys freshman basketball at Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory High School in San Francisco.

**Jeff Stancil**, also a long-term resident of the BVHP community, has been working part-time for the last two years as the Assistant Athletic Director of the sports and arts program. He played basketball at Archbishop Riordan High School and Skyline College, where he earned his A.A. degree. Together, Deon and Jeff staff the gym at St. Paul's, where one of them is always on-site and available to participants. Volunteer coaches live in the local community—most of them are parents of kids attending the program.

There are eight CYO boys basketball and three CYO girls basketball teams. For participants, a typical day at St. Paul's begins when students arrive after school, between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. They refuel for after-school activities with a snack, and then rotate through the different programs. Twice a week, the last two hours of the day (6:00-8:00 p.m.) are spent in sports practice. If kids are not practicing, they stay on-site, engaged in other activities. If a kid's grade point average falls below 2.3, they have mandatory daily tutoring until their GPA has been raised. On Fridays and weekends, the gym hosts St. Paul's CYO basketball and volleyball games.

If you would like to contribute to the success of Catholic Charities CYO's partnership with St. Paul of the Shipwreck Sports and Arts Academy, please contact **Courtney Clendinen**, Director of CYO Athletics, at 415.406.2370, or [cclendinen@cccyo.org](mailto:cclendinen@cccyo.org).



## THIS SUMMER AT ST. PAUL OF THE SHIPWRECK

In addition to an expanded summer program which will include sports skill camps during the day, Catholic Charities CYO will provide support to St. Paul of the Shipwreck by securing scholarships so local youth can attend CYO Summer Camp in Sonoma County. CCCYO's fundraising staff continues to work closely with Father Paul to develop foundation support for both summer camperships and the year-round sports and arts program.

# CYO athletics



**s**an **f**rancisco

# champs

## VOLLEYBALL

|                    |                   |                        |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 3-1 ST. CECILIA    | 5-4 ST. STEPHEN   | 7-3 NDV                |
| 3-2 HOLY NAME      | 5-5 ST. PHILIP    | 7-4 ST. THOMAS APOSTLE |
| 3-3 ST. CECILIA    | 6-1 HOLY NAME     | 7-5 ST. ANNE           |
| 4-1 ST. CECILIA    | 6-2 ST. ANNE      | 7-6 ST. BRENDAN        |
| 4-2 CORPUS CHRISTI | 6-3 ST. STEPHEN   | 8-1 ST. ANNE           |
| 4-3 HOLY NAME      | 6-4 GOOD SHEPHERD | 8-2 WEST PORTAL        |
| 4-4 HOLY NAME      | 6-5 ST. ANNE      | 8-3 EPIPHANY           |
| 4-5 CORNERSTONE    | 6-6 OLPH          | 8-4 HOLY NAME          |
| 5-1 OLV            | 6-7 ST. FINN BARR | 8-5 ST. BRIGID         |
| 5-2 EPIPHANY       | 7-1 ST. BRIGID    | 8-6 ST. CHARLES        |
| 5-3 ST. CECILIA    | 7-2 ST. ANNE      | 8-7 CORPUS CHRISTI     |

## SOCCER

|          |                         |          |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| 3 UPPER  | ST. BRENDAN             | 6 UPPER  | TOWN                    |
| 3 LOWER  | ST. GABRIEL/SVDP        | 6 MIDDLE | STUART HALL             |
| 4 UPPER  | NDV/ST. STEPHEN         | 6 LOWER  | ST. PETER SF            |
| 4 MIDDLE | ST. CECILIA             | 7 UPPER  | ST. CECILIA             |
| 4 LOWER  | ST. GABRIEL/ST. BRENDAN | 7 LOWER  | STUART HALL             |
| 5 UPPER  | ST. CECILIA             | 8 UPPER  | ST. STEPHEN/ST. CECILIA |
| 5 LOWER  | STUART HALL             | 8 LOWER  | OLPH                    |

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

|                     |                 |                     |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 3-1 ST. CECILIA     | 5-4 WEST PORTAL | 7-3 CONVENT         |
| 3-2 ST. JOHN        | 5-5 HOLY ANGELS | 7-4 ST. PAUL        |
| 3-3 OLM             | 5-6 ST. CHARLES | 7-5 STAR OF THE SEA |
| 3-4 ST. CECILIA     | 5-7 EPIPHANY    | 7-6 OL PILLAR       |
| 4-1 OLM             | 6-1 NDV         | 7-7 SVDP            |
| 4-2 ST. CECILIA     | 6-2 CONVENT     | 8-1 ST. THOMAS MORE |
| 4-3 ST. PAUL        | 6-3 CORNERSTONE | 8-2 ST. PETER SF    |
| 4-4 ST. THOMAS MORE | 6-4 OL PILLAR   | 8-3 ST. JOHN        |
| 4-5 MISSION DOLORES | 6-5 ST. CHARLES | 8-4 MISSION DOLORES |
| 4-6 OLM             | 6-6 OLPH        | 8-5 OLPH            |
| 5-1 ST. GABRIEL     | 6-7 WEST PORTAL | 8-6 OLM             |
| 5-2 ST. PETER PAC   | 7-1 ST. GABRIEL | 8-7 HOLY NAME       |
| 5-3 HOLY NAME       | 7-2 ST. JOHN    |                     |

## BOYS BASKETBALL

|                        |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3-1 NDV                | 5-4 ST. PHILIP         | 7-4 HOLY NAME          |
| 3-2 GOOD SHEPHERD      | 5-5 SF SCHOOL          | 7-5 ST. MONICA         |
| 3-3 ST. GABRIEL        | 5-6 WEST PORTAL        | 7-6 OLPH               |
| 3-4 SAIC               | 5-7 ST. THOMAS APOSTLE | 7-7 OLM                |
| 3-5 ST. PETER PAC      | 6-1 STUART HALL        | 7-8 SALESIAN           |
| 4-1 ST. PETER PAC      | 6-2 ST. JOHN           | 8-1 EPIPHANY           |
| 4-2 ST. FINN BARR      | 6-3 SHIPWRECK          | 8-2 OL PILLAR          |
| 4-3 ST. BRENDAN        | 6-4 ST. THOMAS APOSTLE | 8-3 HOLY NAME          |
| 4-4 ST. GABRIEL        | 6-5 TOWN               | 8-4 OLM                |
| 4-5 EPIPHANY           | 6-6 ST. JAMES          | 8-5 CORNERSTONE        |
| 4-6 OLM                | 6-7 ST. MONICA         | 8-6 ST. MARY'S         |
| 4-7 ST. PHILIP         | 6-8 CATHEDRAL          | 8-7 ST. THOMAS APOSTLE |
| 5-1 ST. CECILIA        | 7-1 ST. THOMAS MORE    | 8-8 WEST PORTAL        |
| 5-2 ST. BRENDAN        | 7-2 ST. GABRIEL        | 8-9 STUART HALL        |
| 5-3 ST. THOMAS APOSTLE | 7-3 CORPUS CHRISTI     |                        |

# CALENDAR

## august

28.....

### CYO Family Day at AT&T Park

Join CYO families and friends to cheer on the San Francisco Giants as they take on the Colorado Rockies. Game time is 7:15 pm.

**Info & tickets: 415.972.1233**

## october

7.....

### 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Vincenzo Wine & Food Festival

Festival and auction at St. Vincent's School for Boys campus in San Rafael raises vital funds for at-risk youth in Northern California.

**Info: 415.972.1239**

## november

1.....

### Centennial Civic Luncheon

This gala luncheon at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco will be the cornerstone of Catholic Charities CYO's Centennial celebration, rejoicing in the work of faith-based social service agencies in the Bay Area.

**Info & tickets: 415.972.1205**

**m**arin

**Basketball champs and runners up**

## GIRLS

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 4A ST. ANTHONY  | MT. CARMEL   |
| 5A ST. ANSELM   | MT. CARMEL   |
| 6A ST. ISABELLA | ST. ANTHONY  |
| 7A ST. ANTHONY  | ST. ISABELLA |
| 8A ST. RITA     | ST. ISABELLA |
| 4B ST. RITA     | ST. ISABELLA |
| 5B MT. TAM      | SAN DOMENICO |
| 6B ST. ANTHONY  | ST. CECILIA  |
| 7B ST. RITA     | ST. ANTHONY  |
| 8B ST. ISABELLA | SACRED HEART |

## BOYS

|                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 4A MT. CARMEL   | ST. ISABELLA |
| 5A ST. ANTHONY  | ST. ANTHONY  |
| 6A ST. ANTHONY  | ST. ISABELLA |
| 7A ST. ISABELLA | ST. CECILIA  |
| 8A MT. CARMEL   | ST. PATRICK  |
| 4B ST. ISABELLA | ST. ISABELLA |
| 5B ST. ANTHONY  | SAN DOMENICO |
| 6B SAN DOMENICO | MT. CARMEL   |
| 7B ST. ISABELLA | ST. CECILIA  |
| 8B ST. PATRICK  | ST. RAPHAEL  |



# CYO Family Day

Tuesday **August 28**  
**7:15 PM**

Join us at AT&T Park to cheer on the San Francisco Giants as they take on the Colorado Rockies.

Register before August 1<sup>st</sup> to be entered into a drawing to win tickets to join the Giants batting practice up close and personal during a pre-game field visit.

Information and tickets contact Patricia Glasser  
415.972.1233 or [pglasser@cccyo.org](mailto:pglasser@cccyo.org)

## Catholic Charities CYO Programs

**San Francisco County** *Family & Children's Services* Adoption Information and Referral • Children's Village Child Development Center • CYO Athletics – San Francisco • Guerrero House • Homelessness Prevention Programs • Immigration and Refugee Services • Mission Day Care • Richmond Hills Family Center • Rita da Cascia • San Francisco Counseling Services • San Francisco Boys and Girls Homes • St. Joseph's Family Center • Treasure Island Supportive Housing *Senior Services* Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center • Geriatric Care Management • OMI Senior Center • San Francisco Adult Day Services *HIV/AIDS Service* Assisted Housing and Health Programs • Derek Silva Community • Leland House • Peter Claver Community **Marin County** *Family & Children's Services* Canal Family Support Program • CYO Athletics – Marin • Marin County Counseling Services • St. Vincent's Foster Family Agency • St. Vincent's School For Boys *Senior Services* Marin Aging Services • Meals on Wheels **San Mateo County** *Family & Children's Services* San Mateo County Counseling *Senior Services* San Carlos Adult Day Services • Meals on Wheels **Archdiocese-wide** Caritas Creek Environmental Education • CYO Retreat Center • CYO Summer Camp • CYO Transportation • Information and Referral • Parish and Community Response



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or [kswallow@cccyo.org](mailto:kswallow@cccyo.org)

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