

## **THIS IS ONEIDA KBC INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

As one school year ends, we seem to already be in preparation for the next one. This past May, we began discussions with Sunrise about helping train some of our folks for the new school year. One of our staff couples had recently completed the process with Sunrise to become foster parents. This couple is now providing a loving home for three foster children. They used to work as houseparents for us, and pitched me the idea of having Sunrise help train our folks.

I believe Sunrise and Oneida work with virtually the same type of child. There may be many differences between us. They are a children's home and we are a school, but the bottom line is that we both love the Lord and kids and are working toward the same goal of impacting lives with the love of Christ. I met with one of Sunrise's folks and arranged for them to come and be a part of our pre-school meetings and trainings.

Our staff meets for three days before our students arrive. The first of those three days is always a worship and fellowship day. We worship together at Oneida Baptist Church and then spend some time at a local park fellowshiping, and since we are Baptist, of course a good meal is involved. The following two days involve meetings and training. When I first met with the representative from Sunrise, I soon discovered he was also a pastor. As a matter of fact, his former church had even donated some seating that we had been given and installed in our Sparks Gymnasium. After this discovery, I asked my new friend if he would come a day early before leading our training and be our guest speaker for our opening worship service. He agreed and brought an excellent message to our staff.

After charging our batteries with worship and fellowship, we then got down to the business of meetings and training. Sunrise brought in four of their folks to lead us in training. They covered three critical issues with us and also encouraged us. Their president even attended part of our meetings. It was good to share lunch and more about us with him.

I have really enjoyed our partnership with other KBC agencies and institutions and their people. We were blessed in our training and I know you would be so encouraged to see the cooperation of your KBC ministries.

Kids and adults in our world are hurting and you help all of the KBC's agencies and institutions to reach these people with the love of Jesus Christ. Together we can do so much more than we can independently. Thank you for your support of Sunrise, Oneida, and all of your KBC ministries.



**Larry A. Gritton, Jr.**  
**OBI President**

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