



CAMPS
FOR KIDS

SHARING THE WONDERS OF CAMP.

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2012

ANNUAL REPORT

www.campsforkids.org

The mission of Camps For Kids is to work to assure that no Kansas City area child or youth is denied the wonders of summer camp due to disability or low income.

"As someone who works in development as well as the mother of a young son with autism, I cannot thank you enough for recognizing all kids desire these memorable experiences and for your dedication to making it happen."

— JENNIFER GRAY,

Director of Development Camp Midnight Farm



Camps For Kids was founded in 1981 by Marjorie Powell Allen and other community leaders, who appreciated the positive values of summer camp and wished to extend those values to children in need.

Camps For Kids did not always support a network of 23 camps as it did in 2012. In 2005 there were only 5 camps in the Camps For Kids network. In 2006, when Hallmark, Inc. formed a partnership with the Kansas City Star to bring the best-practices Detroit Summer Dreams Program to Kansas City and chose Camps For Kids as its lead agency – the network expanded – there will be 26 camps in 2013! The new camps are: Camp Oasis, for kids with Crohns or colitis; Camp Planet D for children with Type 1 Diabetes; and Community 360, an intense leadership experience for high school juniors and seniors.

4,438 kids in need or with disabilities were served by our camps in 2012.

"As a parent, it was a relief to send my son somewhere that had counselors who understand autism and get my son's 'quirks.' I didn't have to worry about him being labeled the problem child or getting in trouble or made fun of for things he can't control. His increase in social awareness, confidence, and independence were palpable."

— A CAMP ENCOURAGE PARENT

"The best part of my job is watching children grow up. I get to see them open up and gain self-confidence. They learn to be more self-reliant, adventurous, and communicate with others. The friendships and bonds they make develop their personalities. Summer camp is not just new experiences, but memories that last a life time."

— CAMP WHATSOEVER COUNSELOR

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My daughter once asked me, "Daddy, why do you spend so much time working with Camps For Kids?"

Periodically, I think about our family's summer evenings. We talk about the events of the day and my kids brim with enthusiasm about their experiences at summer camp. My eldest helped her counselor build a rocket and spent a week building bird houses to provide to charity. My youngest learned to dive from a diving board and spent time identifying local birds. Both tell tales of the new friends they met at summer camp and past relationships rekindled.

In 2012, Camps For Kids helped provide the **23** camps in our network with over **\$355,000**, which benefited **4,438** medically or financially disadvantaged children in the Kansas City area.

Several weeks ago, my eldest daughter and I discussed her desire to attend an overnight (and out of state) camp focused on her sport of choice, soccer. She is excited about the prospects of "getting away from parents" even if only for a short time. I am excited that she will explore her independence, develop new friendships and learn new skills.

The experiences that my children have gained and will expect to gain through their participation in summer camp

form the reasons why I spend so much time working with Camps For Kids. I believe that all children benefit greatly from the wonders of summer camp. Research by the American Camping Association confirms what even the first camp directors knew. Camps are potent fun. Parents and staff reported significant growth in campers' self-esteem, independence, leadership, friendship skills, adventure-seeking, environmental awareness, and healthy decision-making. The positive feedback that the camps in our network hear from the parents of campers confirms my belief and the research and is heartwarming.

"My 11 year old girl struggles and she had an amazing week. Thanks for helping her find her shine!"

"His increase in social awareness, confidence, and independence were palpable."

"It's a special place where he feels like he's enough just the way he is. It's awesome for a parent to see."

Camps For Kids works to assure that no Kansas City area youngster is denied the benefits of summer camp due to medical disability or financial disadvantage. During 2012, Camps For Kids helped to provide the 24 camps in our network with over \$355,000, which benefited over 4,400 medically or financially disadvantaged children in the Kansas City area. While 2012 has been a financially challenging year, we are proud of this accomplishment and are excited about the prospects of helping more camps and more children in 2013 and beyond.

In closing, I am grateful. Camps For Kids could not have helped the children that we did without the financial support of our contributors, without the dedication of Ray Delia, our Executive Director and without the dedication of my fellow board members. I am grateful to each of you and I thank you for your support of Camps For Kids.

—Kent Seston

2012 NETWORK

In 2012, the Camps For Kids Network of 23 camps (in 57 separate programs or sites) received \$190,000 in designated gifts through Camps For Kids. Another \$162,000 was contributed in matching gifts through the Camps For Kids Campaign.

The Camps For Kids Network was supported by 1,357 volunteers, which enabled the camps to provide free camperships for 4,461 children with disabilities or in financial need.

Ailey Camp is a summer-long performing arts program sponsored by the KC Friends of Alvin Ailey, providing a platform for urban core Middle School youth, ages 11-14.

Boys and Girls Clubs: ATOMIC BLAST provides instruction in science and other developmental activities. It is a proactive, multi-year approach to summer learning.

Camp Carousel and **Camp Erin** are weekend camps for children between the ages of 5 and 18 suffering from the loss of a parent or guardian. A service of KC Hospice.

Camp Encourage offers a quality overnight camp involving relationship development, recreation, and relaxation for autistic children. Camp Encourage is staffed by top quality counselors and medical and behavioral specialists.

Camp Enterprise will celebrate its 36th year in 2013, teaching students what it's like to operate a business. This entrepreneurial camp, staffed by business leaders, is sponsored by Rotary Club 13, and is ACA accredited.

Camp Fire Heartland and **Camp Shawnee** give children a traditional camp experience as they are taught outdoor skills that foster knowledge of the natural world. Camp Fire Heartland, a day camp, was added in 2012.

Camp MITIOG is a resident camp devoted to organizing and creating quality life experiences and lasting memories for children born with Spina Bifida, who learn to see their abilities...not their limitations. MITIOG is ACA accredited.

Camp Quality is a 6 day resident camp for kids with cancer. Each camper has an assigned companion 24 hours a day. Days are filled with games, crafts, swimming, boating, fishing, dances, and campfires.

Camp Shakespeare is a unique and fun summer arts adventure for young people ages 8 to 18. It is also an educational introduction to the works of William Shakespeare -- it's As You Like It in 2013.

Camp WIN is a sport day-camp where girls ages 6-12 are introduced to 14 different sports led by local high school and collegiate coaches. Camp WIN is supported by the Girl Scouts and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Camp Wood YMCA, offers traditional camp experiences within several specialty camps, such as garage band, horse, teen-leadership, and skateboarding camps.

Girl Scouts Camps counterbalance negative societal trends by providing a means and environment for girls and young women to explore and discover their full potential. Three camps provide a variety of programs.

Heartland Center is a summer-long residential camp owned and operated by the Presbyterian Church USA; is ACA accredited; and offers horseback riding, swimming, archery, music, creative arts, campfires, and Bible study.

Joshua Center Camp is for kids diagnosed within the autism spectrum, with Tourette's Syndrome or OCD/ADHD. The first time some kids meet others with like disorders.

Kansas City Urban Youth Center offers participants healthy meals, physical activity opportunities, swimming and field trips, as well as math, reading, and language arts.

Mattie Rhodes Center offers creative, educational opportunities for children with special emphasis on providing services to low-income and minority children.

Midnight Farm Summer Camps are magical experiences for children with special needs. Camp for autistic children provides crafts, sing-alongs, horseback riding and animal petting in the indoor paddocks.

Missouri Children's Burn Camp is a supportive environment where children spend a week with others who have also experienced burn injuries. Fun is the focus and friendships form quickly.

Royal Family Kids Camp serves kids in foster care who typically do not have a stable place to call home and who, sadly, are frequently moved around. "Our mission is to treat these children like Royalty."

Whatsoever Community Center partners with youth to provide opportunities for academic enrichment and social development, forming connections with the community.

Wildwood Outdoor Education Center in 2012 marks the 32nd summer that Wildwood provided hundreds (typically 300-600) of youth from Kansas City's Urban Core in an experiential outdoor education program.

Wonderland Camp, sponsored by the Missouri Jaycees, provides summer camp fun and educational experiences for mentally and physically challenged children, teenagers and adults.

Youth Volunteer Corps Summer of Service is an 8-week intensive program for youth 11 to 18, providing a broad array of volunteering experiences in community service within the Greater Kansas City area.



In 2012, there were **505** seasonal employees – and **1,357** volunteers.



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FINANCIALS

Financials as of December 31, 2012

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 117,871
Accounts Receivable	835
Investments, at fair value	485
Prepaid Expenses	6,192
Total Current Assets	125,383
Property and Equipment, net	953
Total Assets	\$ 126,336

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 6,294
Accrued expenses	-
Total Current Liabilities	6,294

NET ASSETS

Net Assets	120,042
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 126,336

REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT

Campaign efforts	\$ 439,437
Less: amounts designated to specific camps by donors*	(194,421)
Public support	245,016
In-kind support	20,280
Net investment income	(190)
Total revenues and other support	265,106

EXPENSES

Camp expenses - payments to network camps	356,147
Less: amounts designated to specific camps by donors*	(194,421)
	161,726
Salaries and related expenses	61,613
Occupancy expenses	20,280
Other operating expenses	52,255
Total expenses	295,874
Change in net assets	(30,768)
Net assets, beginning of year	150,810
Net assets, end of year	\$ 120,042

**as agents for our donors, Camps for Kids does not recognize these amounts as revenues or expenses.*

This financial information represents the unaudited figures as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012. A copy of the complete 2011 audit is available from Camps for Kids by emailing raydelia@uwgkc.org.



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\$10,000 plus

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