

CAMPS For Kids

SHARING THE WONDERS OF CAMP.



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



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OUR IMPACT

THE FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND CAMPER DEMONSTRATING THE IMPACT OF CAMPS:

"For one week every year, at Camp Quality, I feel completely normal. Everyone around me is my family and I can be anyone I want and feel accepted. I look forward to camp all year, and I wouldn't be who I am today. These people have changed my life, and they support me even when camp isn't in session." -- Former Camper Turned Adult Volunteer

"This past year my son (9y/o) has really started to ask questions about his heart issues. He has noticed other kids don't have the scars he has from open-heart surgery. He has started caring about being different, especially when other kids ask him about his scars. This was his first year at Camp Systole, and I don't think it hit me just how much he really needed this until we picked him up. He went on for hours about the people he met that had more scars than he did, the medical staff that talked to them all about their hearts, and the activities, crafts and games they participated in. He is very eager to go back next year and has grand plans already to be a CIT [counselor-in-training]." -- Parent of Camper

"Without the support of Camps for Kids, CHD Families would be unable to provide a free, medically-supervised camp for kids with congenital heart defects." - Camp Director

"I think it was the first time (my son) felt like being autistic wasn't a bad thing. On the way home, he said, 'I think I'm actually embracing my autism!' It made my heart so, so happy." -- Parent of Camper

"It helped me to be able to talk to other kids my age who have been through similar experiences as me." - 13-year-old Camper

"As a mom of four wonderful children I know the importance of socialization, independence, friends who understand you and feeling 'normal.' For my oldest daughter these experiences were hard to find. Not a single other person in our hometown had spina bifida. No one she knew understood what it was like. She had to watch as her sisters played sports, took swimming lessons and ran off to summer camp; until we found Camp MITIOG." -- Parent of Camper

"Everyone there seemed accepting of my child. He was very nervous but said it was the best week of his life. It was his first ever camp experience and first experience with kids like him." -- Parent of Camper



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CAMPS
FOR KIDS

SHARING THE WONDERS OF CAMP

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MISSION, KS 66202
816.301.4375



2023 NETWORK

CAMPS FOR KIDS SUPPORTS THE FOLLOWING CAMPS:

AileyCamp: dance camp and more for urban youth

Camp Alphapointe: for visually impaired children

Camp Carousel and Camp Erin: serving children suffering a loss of a caregiver

Camp Encourage: for children on the autism spectrum

Camp Fire Heartland: day camp to introduce urban youth to nature

Green Works ECO Career Camp: empowering urban youth to care for the environment

Heartland Therapeutic Riding Camp: horse camp for children with and without disabilities

Camp Hope: overnight camp for children who have or have had cancer

Joshua Center Camp: children with autism spectrum disorders/Tourette's/OCD

Camp MITIOG: serving children with spina bifida

Camp Quality: for children with cancer

Camp Shakespeare: introducing children to theater and Shakespeare

Camp SIBsational: serving siblings of children with cancer

Camp Systole-CHD Families: for children with congenital heart defects or disease

Whatsoever Community Center: a day camp for underprivileged urban youth

Wildwood Outdoor Education Center: camp serving underprivileged children and those from the urban core

Camp Wilderness: for children with blood disorders

Camp WIN: camp introducing girls to range of sports activities

Wonderland Camp: serving children with developmental and physical disabilities



OUR MISSION

Camps For Kids works to ensure that no Kansas City-area child is turned away from summer camp because of low income or physical or developmental disabilities.



62.5% NEEDED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



51% HAD A MEDICAL NEED

**some children are counted in both categories*

CAMP CHANGES LIVES

The significant impact summer camp has on the children who attend cannot be overstated. It's been reported that children, on average, spend 4-7 minutes a day outside, while they spend 4-8 hours a day in front of a screen. Not only are they missing out on the benefits of nature, but they are losing the connection that comes from developing and navigating relationships with people face-to-face. Our camp partners remove kids from their devices and reintroduce them to nature and the arts. In addition, campers build self-confidence and independence and develop increased social skills and problem-solving skills. They learn to lead and to follow, to work as a team and to achieve as individuals. And for many, they discover that they are part of a community, that they can be themselves, and they can belong.

"I was shocked by all the other campers there. They weren't the same like all of the other kids in school. Some of them were bald, while others had scars or deformity. For once I felt like I fit in. I didn't need to think about my illness or what I had gone through. I was able to forget all about my past and find true happiness running around and getting to know everyone. Camp felt like a dream that allowed kids to do and be anything they wanted to be."

– Camper from Camp Quality, a camp partner serving children with cancer or rare blood disorders.

Camp changes lives. Camps For Kids is devoted to that simple, yet profound idea. That's why Camps For Kids has pursued its 40-plus-year mission of ensuring that Kansas City-area children and youth have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of summer camp regardless of income or disability.

FINANCIALS*

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

CAMPAIGN EFFORTS	\$352,124
LESS GROSS AMOUNTS RAISED ON BEHALF OF OTHERS	(\$166,946)
PUBLIC SUPPORT	\$185,178
SPECIAL EVENTS	\$70,514
NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTION	\$35,000
OTHER INCOME	\$1,311
TOTAL REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORTS	\$292,003



EXPENSES

FUNDS FOR PROGRAM SERVICES – CAMPSHIPS	\$350,962
LESS GROSS AMOUNTS CONTRIBUTED ON BEHALF OF OTHERS*	(\$166,946)
PROGRAM SERVICES	\$184,016
MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL	\$80,532
FUNDRAISING	\$43,235
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$307,783
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$341,130
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$290,350

***As agents for our camps, camp-designated donations are not recognized as a Camps For Kids revenue or expense.*

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