



[www.campsforkids.org](http://www.campsforkids.org)



# 2013

## ANNUAL REPORT

## 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.

In 2013, Camps For Kids assisted its network of 27 camps to raise \$216,000 in designated gifts, and raised an additional \$174,000 in matching gifts from the Camps For Kids Campaign. These funds were directly responsible for close to 1,000 camp scholarships. 1,416 volunteers and the skills, love and entrepreneurial spirit of the camp directors and their Boards made it possible for an additional 6,000 children with disabilities or in need to attend summer camp in 2013.

*"Derek came home from Wonderland Camp so excited over the tremendous week he had. He made new friends, and he had such a good time. I am so grateful to the way you treated him with dignity, love, kindness, and always made him feel welcome and appreciated." With all my heart, thank you all so much.*

**Camp Parent**



*"Camp is the most life changing experience for our kids. Kids tell me they live for the day they go to camp. We had a few very anxious moms this year and it was amazing to see their faces when they picked up their kids. They were so overwhelmed that camp had such a positive impact on their child. For our kids it is often the only place they are accepted and have a friend. When we can change a child's life and his parents we know we are doing something right. As a parent, I get that."*

**Becky Ottinger, Director, Camp Joshua**

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## 734 donors contributed more than **\$216,000** in Camp-Designated gifts in 2013.

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*"High functioning Autistic youth like Helena have a very difficult time in our society. Often times they are ridiculed bullied and denied. I am so incredibly thankful for Camp Encourage. For four days, Helena and her peers were free to be who they are - in all their greatness! They will simply be embraced and supported by a staff that is caring, compassionate and empathic to the stresses of everyday life outside of the camp. It is because of the generosity of the scholarships they offer that Helena is able to go. It is because so many kind people are willing to open their hearts and give that Helena is able to be blessed. And, just as importantly, it is because of Camp Encourage that our youth are empowered, embraced and "encouraged" to be exactly who God intended."*

**— A CAMP ENCOURAGE PARENT**

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

To me... **Camp is like Magic.** Even now, with my camps days long ago, the cabins and the lake and the childhood friends can appear to me unbidden.

When those moments come, in my mind's eye, I replay summer days of happiness, discovery, independence. And so I am thankful for that rare show, whenever it appears.

Just like millions of adults who were also favored with a charmed youth, my summer camp memories will forever beckon a smile not only *When I'm 64* but *When the Last Teardrop Falls*.

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Camp-Designated and Matching Funds totaling almost **\$387,000** enabled close to **1,000** children with disabilities or in economic need to attend camp in 2013.

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Yes, we sang a lot of fun and corny songs at Camp Foxboro! For five weeks, every summer.

At **Camps For Kids**, our contributions to disadvantaged youth provide what is usually a single week of summer memories... which are filled not only with personal adventures, but with unanticipated life lessons.

At **C4K**, we know that once-in-a-lifetime experiences at summer camp may indeed last for a lifetime. For the thousands of campers supported, year in and year out, our hope is that your contributions provide a gift of many hands-on lessons... the muscle memory of which will last forever.

Research shows that kids who experience summer camp, return to their daily lives more adaptable to their circumstances, and with greater hope of what's in store for them as they grow up.

*Do you know a successful adult who had a challenging youth, or who overcame childhood adversity?*

More often than not, those adults had at least one key experience – outside their accustomed environment – that tested their limits as a youth. One that provided a safe place for them to fail, to get up, and to try again.

With your help, **Camps For Kids** provides unique and valuable experiences for youth who are economically or developmentally challenged. Our camps are selected on their track records of success; some have large staffs and some are staffed by trained volunteers. All are among the best at what they do for kids.

As a teacher in the urban core, I saw first-hand the difference that can be made for students by NEW, CONSTRUCTIVE EXPERIENCES, in learn-by-doing environments, and with trained adults who care about their success.

**So, would you please help a youngster go to Camp? There's no more effective way to help a needy youngster 'skip a grade ahead' in life.**

When you give to **Camps For Kids**, it will be among the most effective usages of your contributable dollars. *And your gift to C4K will directly help youth right here in our local Kansas City area.*

Thank you on behalf of **Camps For Kids** for taking a moment here to 'hear our song.' I am sure that you also can still envision key moments from your childhood, that made a positive difference in your own life.

If you could, I bet you'd wrap up those moments and give them to kids today with the same impactful result in mind. The good news is... at **Camps For Kids**, we have found a way for you to do so!

If you want to sing a favorite song (or have some S'mores!) as you help us help the needy youth of Greater Kansas City, please be my guest! Just go to our website, or give us a call.

– Don Stebbins

*Camp Director: Camp Enterprise (2009-2010)  
(in the Camps For Kids network)*



*"It increased his confidence in his ability to be away from his family. We were glad for the opportunity for him to spend time with his peers as he doesn't have a lot of play dates at home."*

#### — A CAMP ENCOURAGE PARENT

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**28** camps will operate **39**  
different sites or programs  
in 2014.

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## 2014 Network of Camps

### \* New in 2014

- \* **CHD Families Camp Systole** is a medically supervised, free, day and overnight camp for children ages 6-15 years living with congenital heart disease, and includes additional programs for their families.
- \* **Camp Hope**, celebrating 32 years in 2014, is for children ages 5-17 who have, or have had cancer. A 24-hour on-site team of a pediatric oncologist, pediatricians, nurses, pharmacist, and psychologist join 90 to 100 volunteers..
- \* **Kingdom Kids Camp** is for neglected and abused children who are now in foster care. Based on the Royal Family Kids Camp approach, the kids are "treated like Royalty," arriving and leaving by limo, given their own birthday party, carnival, "Aunts, Uncles, Grandmas and Grandpas."
- **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** summer camp is a ten-week STEM and literacy focused experience led by certified school teachers and Club staff taking math and science education beyond the classroom.
- **Camp ChiMer** provides an opportunity for children with chronic kidney disease to participate in a week-long summer camping experience and to develop peer relationships regardless of their medical needs.

- **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

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**Welcome three new camps  
in 2014: Camp Hope,  
for children with cancer;  
Kingdom Kids Camp, for  
foster children; and Camp  
Systole, for children with  
congenital heart disease.**

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- **Camp Oasis** is a safe and supportive camp community for children with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis. Typical camp site and activities are staffed by doctors, nurses, mental health specialists and trained counselors.
- **Camp Planet D** is a residential one-week camp for children with Type 1 Diabetes. Typical camp activities are augmented by education in diabetes self-management skills taught by endocrinology health professionals.

- **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.
- **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.
- **Community360** is an intense, personal and life-changing week-long experience that challenges high school juniors and seniors to assess community views and development skills and tools. It is all about diversity - ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation.
- **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.
- **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 2014 marks the 34th summer that Wildwood has 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.




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More than **1,400** volunteers served the **Camps For Kids Network** in 2013.

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## BOARD MEMBERS

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*CLM Co.*

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## FINANCIALS

Financials as of December 31, 2013

### ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$104,869
Accounts Receivable	-
Investments, at fair value	856
Prepaid Expenses	3,637
Total Current Assets	109,362
Property and Equipment, net	245
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>109,607</b>

### LIABILITIES

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	8,531
Accrued expenses	618
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>9,148</b>

### NET ASSETS

Net Assets	100,459
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>109,607</b>

### REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT

Campaign efforts	456,376
Less: amounts designated to specific camps by donors*	(169,917)
Public support	286,459
In-kind support	20,280
Net investment income	(29)
<b>Total revenues and other support</b>	<b>306,768</b>

### EXPENSES

Camp expenses -	
payments to network camps	389,633
Less: amounts designated to specific camps by donors*	(169,917)
	219,716
Salaries and related expenses	61,811
Occupancy expenses	20,280
Other operating expenses	21,318
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>323,126</b>
Change in net assets	(16,358)
Net assets, beginning of year	116,817
Net assets, end of year	\$100,459

*\*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, 2013. A copy of the complete 2012 review report is available from Camps for Kids by emailing raydelia@uwgkc.org.

## 2013 DONORS

### \$10,000 plus

AMC Cares Charitable Fund  
Capitol Federal Foundation  
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation  
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### \$1,000 to \$9,999

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### \$1 to \$499

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 Camps For Kids former  
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#### **In-Kind Donors**

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 Museum




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**There were 21 resident and  
 9 day camps in the Camps  
 For Kids Network in 2013.**

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