



CAMP FOR ALL KIDS

IMPACT REPORT: SUMMER 2023

Providing access to renewable, transformative overnight camp experiences for Black and Brown youth since 1997



IN 2023, CAMP FOR ALL KIDS SERVED 290 YOUTH THROUGH OUR CAMPSHIP AND FOUR STAR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.

45% INCREASE IN YOUTH SERVED OVER LAST YEAR!

Across our partner camps, Camp for All Kids campers were nominated by peers for several leadership positions this summer. We are grateful when our campers are recognized for their talents as leaders in the camp community!

Several CFAK campers were nominated to be Team Captains for camp-wide events and one camper had the honor of delivering the Camper Farewell speech. Congratulations CFAK Campers!



"...A WONDERFUL LIFE EXPERIENCE FOR THESE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO DISCOVER THEMSELVES IN A SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORTED BY A LOVING COMMUNITY."

-YOUTH GUIDANCE, COMMUNITY PARTNER



CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM MANAGER

Camp for All Kids welcomed Ariana Smith as full-time Campership Program Manager in September 2023. Originally from the South Side of Chicago, Ariana has a degree in Anthropology and Theater, and is completing a Master's in Education in Global Studies and Diversity & Equity from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. While attending Bowdoin College in Maine for undergrad, Ariana served as Inclusivity Coordinator, cultivating relationships with Communities of Color through outdoor activities. After graduating, she worked as an Admissions Counselor for Bowdoin supporting and recruiting BIPOC and first-generation students.

Camp for All Kids is grateful to our dedicated camp partners who provide a supportive environment offering unique opportunities for youth to thrive:



"IT IS ONE OF THE BEST THINGS THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME."

-MASON, SECOND YEAR CFAK CAMPER

MY DAUGHTER BUILT GREAT FRIENDSHIPS WITH MANY NEW PEOPLE, LEARNED HOW TO PROBLEM SOLVE SITUATIONS, BECOME MORE INDEPENDENT, AND GET OUT OF HER COMFORT ZONE WHILE TRYING NEW THINGS."

-JODI, FIRST YEAR CAMPERSHIP PARENT



CAMPERSHIP PROGRAM

The Campership Program hosted **135 campers** this summer through relationships with partner schools, camp partners and campership families in Chicago, St. Louis, Cleveland and Milwaukee. We surpassed our goal of a 20% increase in the number of camperships issued over last year; including our new partnership grant with Milwaukee Public Schools, **our total youth served increased by 44%!**



WE DOUBLED OUR NUMBER OF CITS AND ALMOST QUADRUPLED THE NUMBER OF 8-WEEK CFAK CAMPERS WHEN COMPARED TO LAST YEAR.

When youth spend more time at camp in nature, personal development flourishes while bonds of friendship solidify across weeks, months and years, providing long-term benefits among the entire camp community.



THIS YEAR, CAMP FOR ALL KIDS...

- offered to supply overnight **camping gear kits** to ALL CFAK Campership recipients.
- provided additional **transportation assistance** and supplies as needed to support families and ensure success at camp
- conducted pre-season **DEI training** at partner camps and provided **year-round DEI support** for all camps, campers and their families



"THE BEST PART OF CAMP WAS FINDING MYSELF AND TRYING ALL KINDS OF THINGS OUTSIDE OF MY ELEMENT."

-BRIA'DVINE, FIRST YEAR CFAK CAMPER



FOUR STAR FELLOWSHIP

Four Star Fellowship nearly DOUBLED in size this year with 155 Fellows and Mentors representing 41 Chicago schools!

This summer, Four Star Fellowship hosted a pilot program for young women for the first time. We grew from one to three host camps including: North Star Camp for Boys, Timberlane Camp for Boys, & WeHaKee Camp for Girls.

**THANK YOU TO OUR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:
YOUTH GUIDANCE-BAM/WOW, DO THE MATH, EMBARC, E.Y.E. LEAD,
HOOD HEROES, AND LEGAL PREP CHARTER ACADEMY!**

**"THIS EXPERIENCE WAS
EVERYTHING I NEEDED.
I NEEDED TO GET OUT
OF THE CITY AND
INTO NATURE."**

**-FOUR STAR FELLOW,
NORTH STAR CAMP**



**"AT HOME ALL YOU
HEAR IS GUNSHOTS.
NOT HERE."**

**-FOUR STAR FELLOW,
CAMP TIMBERLANE**

"This week has brought love and joy to my heart...We shared many stories, laughs, and experiences together this week. I am proud to have been their support counselor and guide them all around the camp. It was great watching my boys overcome challenges and accomplish goals like water tubing, the climbing wall, and our hiking trip...I feel like a leader, mentor, and friend to them."

**-JAMEL, FOUR STAR
FELLOWSHIP COUNSELOR**

**"I TRIED SO MANY
DIFFERENT THINGS
I HAVE NEVER
DONE BEFORE,
OR NEVER
HAD THE
OPPORTUNITY TO."**

**-FOUR STAR FELLOW,
CAMP WEHAKEE**



THIS YEAR, CAMP FOR ALL KIDS COMPLETED AN ORGANIZATIONAL DEI ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPED A STRATEGIC PLAN TO LAUNCH IN 2024.



COCKTAILS AROUND THE CAMPFIRE, OUR SPRING EVENT, RAISED \$189,178 TO SUPPORT OUR CORE PROGRAMS: CAMPSHIP AND FOUR STAR FELLOWSHIP.

At the event, we launched a matching Challenge Fund in honor of long-time camp owners and CFAC partners, Robert and Sue Lebby. This Fund created by generous North Star Camp Alumni and Friends will provide \$228,420 in restricted support to help fund the next 3 years of growth as directed by the strategic plan.



At the event, we surprised Leb and Sue with two of their long-time campers. Tamar and Spencer have been friends since 2011 when they were cabinmates at North Star Camp. Not a year has passed when they have not seen each other at least once.



CAMP FOR ALL KIDS INCREASED GRANT FUNDING IN 2023 BY 43% INCLUDING SUPPORT FROM: VIVO FOUNDATION, MORRISON FAMILY FOUNDATION, STEANS FAMILY FOUNDATION AND CAMP OUT FOR KIDS.

THANK YOU!

CAMP FRIENDS ARE LIFELONG FRIENDS



OUR ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET HAS INCREASED BY 80% SINCE 2021 IN LINE WITH OUR GROWTH

