



# 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT





# MISSION

The Mission of Dream Camp Summer Program and After School Academy is to transform the lives of underserved youth through innovative year-long programs that nurture the individual, educate the mind, and inspire the spirit.

# VISION

We strive to break the cycle of generational poverty in underserved communities by teaching children to create successful pathways for themselves. Dream Camp empowers them to become future leaders and contributors to the city.



# DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Dear Friends,

It's unanimous - students, team members and families agree the Summer of 2022 felt like it was "back to normal" and what a feeling it was!

**We have remained committed to providing our students unwavering guidance and support in the midst of uncertainty. It is remarkable to have a front row seat in the lives of our students who continue to persevere year after year.**

Dream Camp was ready to have a year of normalcy and we provided the resources and tools necessary for our students to succeed, both academically and socially.

Our core mission and vision remain the same and we continuously work toward transforming our students' lives while cultivating an environment that offers support, encouragement, and kindness.

As we close the year, we want to celebrate every highlight and accomplishment of our students and staff. We thank every staff member, partner, and donor for believing in our mission and supporting us in making it a reality. On behalf of our students in our program in 2021-22, THANK YOU!

With gratitude and appreciation,

Michael J. Rouse  
Executive Director

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# DREAM CAMP BY THE NUMBERS

**150** STUDENTS SERVED IN THE FIRST FULL YEAR OF IN-PERSON PROGRAMS SINCE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**89%**  
PROGRAM  
ATTENDANCE

**79%**  
STUDENT  
RETENTION

**1:6**  
STUDENT TO  
STAFF RATIO



80% BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN



11% MULTIRACIAL



5% AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE



3% WHITE



1% NATIVE HAWAIIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER



**“I see social and emotional GROWTH in my child”**  
*-Shanice, Parent*

# WHAT FAMILIES APPRECIATE MOST ABOUT DREAM CAMP



**“I appreciate the POSITIVE relationship with staff”**  
*-George, Parent*



**“Dream camp serves the LIFE-CYCLE of students’ education”**  
*-Charlene, Parent*



**“Dream camp provides a WIDE VARIETY of programming”**  
*-Monica, Parent*



# SEASONS OF DREAM CAMP

## FALL 2021

Dream Camp was elated to bring its After School Academy back to life in person at Mastery Charter Smedley Elementary School. This was extremely important as students spent the last year and a half outside of a traditional classroom environment without the social interactions that naturally occur in peer relationships.

Middle and high school students participated in a variety of workshops and special programs throughout the year, focusing on reading and writing skills, STEM, and a variety of critical life skills.



## WINTER 2021-22

The extended Dream Camp family rang in the holiday season with donations and volunteer services! Five families received a FULL Thanksgiving meal and every ASA student took home a bag filled with pantry items and a fresh pie from Carlino's Market!

Long-time generous donors, Susan Smith and Martin Murphy, among many others, enabled Dream Camp to provide a holiday surprise for three families who have been with us for many years. Each household received a pile of personalized gifts for every family member. The smiles often turned into tears of relief and joy as boxes and boxes of gifts were unloaded.



## SPRING 2022

After 18 virtual workshops, our middle and high school students embarked on a weekend trip to the Pines in Medford, NJ. They made their own flashlights for the occasion and learned team building and problem-solving skills. The students enjoyed various outdoor adventures, including high and low ropes courses, hiking, archery, and wilderness survival training.



## SUMMER 2022 AT CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE

There are barely enough hours in the day to fit in all the top-notch programming in these 5 weeks of camp! Dream Camp sought out 49 mission-driven leaders to mentor our students in grades 1-12 on the beautiful campus of Chestnut Hill College.

Our favorite summer activities include:

- Reading
- Project Discovery
- STEM
- Art
- Sports
- Music
- Karate
- Quest
- Chess
- Character Development
- Morning Assembly
- Martial Arts
- True Life Adventures
- Music Production
- Dance
- Day Camp Show
- Senior Camp Show
- Special Guests
- Career Symposium
- Resume Workshop
- Friday Phunky Phest





# STUDENT PROFILES

Kiya and Imani are cousins who both joined Dream Camp in 2012, when they were in 3rd grade. They have remained in the program ever since. Imani's twin brothers, Jamir & Amir, also started the program at the same time, and a few years later, Kiya's brother Cole and sister Aryn Joy joined the program as well. Kiya and Imani attended Gesu School together up until 8th grade. Before entering their senior year of high school, Kiya & Imani were both a part of our Young Leaders Program, and Imani participated in a 2-week pre-medicine course by Bold Summers.

**Kiya in 2014 at After School Academy**



**Kiya making slime in 2014**



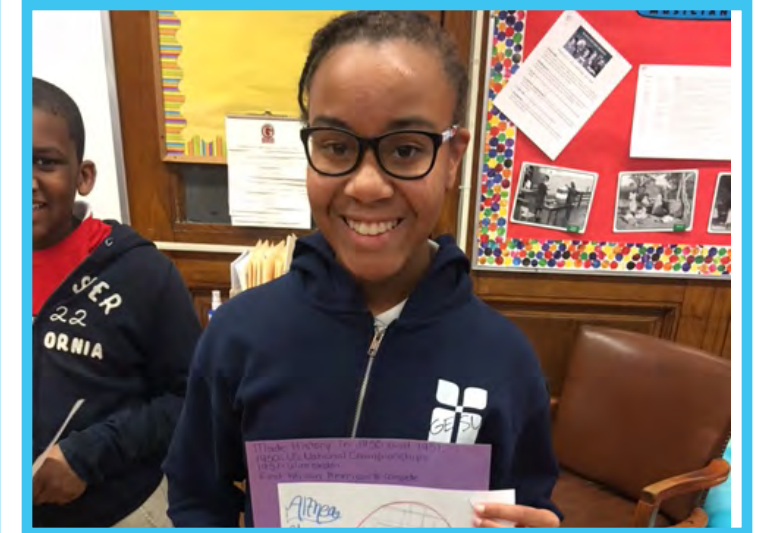
# KIYA & IMANI MCINTOSH

After graduating high school, both Imani and Kiya were hired as camp counselors during the summer of 2022. Kiya worked with incoming 1st graders, and Imani worked with incoming 5th & 6th graders. The younger campers they mentored looked up to them to see how Dream Camp can be a steady and strong support in their lives. Dream Camp is proud and grateful that these two young women have been such a staple in this program for the past 10 years, and we look forward to their continued involvement. Kiya & Imani are the epitome of Dream Camp Family!

**Imani ice skating with fellow Dream Campers in 2014**



**Imani presenting a project at After School Academy in 2014**



**Kiya and Imani at the Spring 2021 Camping Trip**



**Kiya and Imani celebrating their 2022 High School Graduation**



**Kiya practicing her archery skills at the Spring 2021 Camping Trip**



**Kiya and Imani with fellow former Dream Campers turned staff (Summer 2022)**



# DONORS

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 - AUGUST 31, 2022

## THE DREAM MAKERS \$250,000+

Pine Street Group, LP

## DIAMOND LEVEL \$150,000-\$249,999

The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation

## PLATINUM LEVEL \$50,000-\$149,999

David R. Clare and Margaret C. Clare Foundation

## GOLD LEVEL \$20,000-\$49,999

ESF Camps and Experiences

The Hamilton Family Charitable Trust

The Huron Foundation

The Patricia Kind Family Foundation

Anonymous Donor through the Philadelphia

Foundation

## SILVER LEVEL \$10,000-\$19,999

Berstein Family Foundation

Connelly Foundation

The DiBona Family Foundation

Susan Smith and Martin Murphy

The Grace S. and W. Linton Nelson Foundation

## \$1,000-\$4,999

The 1830 Foundation

Jon and Gwenn Barger

Donors to Ross Berstein's Bar Mitzvah Project

Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation

The Gambescia Family

Patrick and Susan Keefe Family Foundation

Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation

The Christopher Ludwick Foundation

Stewart Family Foundation

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Richard Wilson



# PARTNERS

## SITE PARTNERS



CHESTNUT  
HILL  
COLLEGE



Mastery Charter School  
Smedley Elementary

## PROGRAM PARTNERS



TRAVIS MANION  
FOUNDATION



MAKERS & PURVEYORS OF ARTISAN FOOD





# EXECUTIVE STAFF

Michael J. Rouse  
*Executive Director & Co-Founder*

Kath Cloran  
*Managing Director*

Natalie Padula  
*Program Director*

Lafay Johnson  
*Program Director*

Danielle Nicoletti  
*Summer Site Director*

Taschet Murphy  
*Associate Director of Alumni Development*

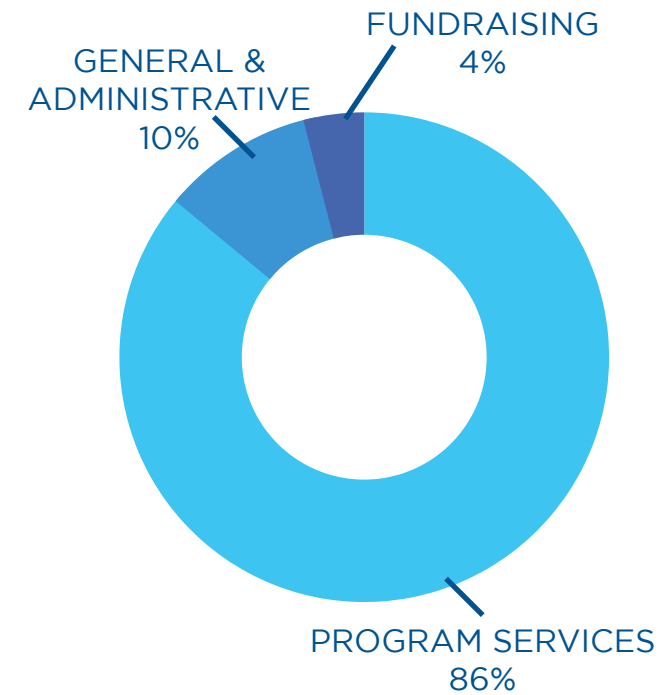
Dream Camp welcomed a total of **52 staff** members this year at Summer Camp and After School Academy. This elite and spirited group of mentors and educators included 44 college graduates (22 of whom are certified teachers) and 8 who are working toward their college degree.

This summer we celebrated the amazing and talented **Mr. Paul Eaton on his 25 years** with ESF and Dream Camp! Paul built the Fine Arts program for Dream Camp and currently teaches our music production class. He has won the prestigious Ichiban Award and Master Teacher Award (twice). We are so grateful to have Mr. Paul in the Dream Camp family!

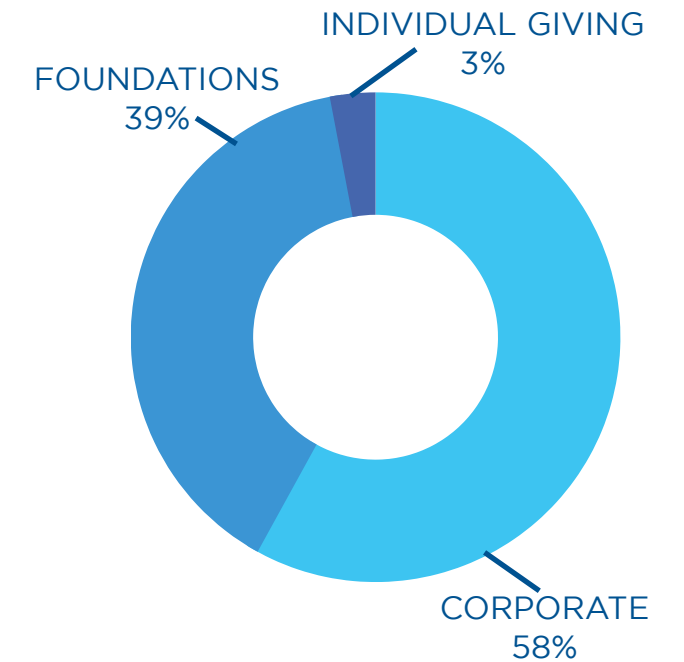


# FINANCIALS SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 - AUGUST 31, 2022

## EXPENSES



## INCOME



# BOARD MEMBERS

Hon. Lori Dumas  
*Board Chair*

Mark Solomon  
*Vice President*

William Stewart III  
*Treasurer*

Rhonda Cohen  
*Secretary*

Roger Braunfeld  
Dr. James Cornish  
Sylvia DiBona  
Adam Landau  
Steve Piltch  
Michael J. Rouse





# OUTLOOK

With the 2022-23 program year upon us, we are hopeful and extremely optimistic that Dream Camp students will be given more opportunities to expand their horizons and continue to connect with mission-driven team members.

We thoughtfully and intentionally target how to broaden and greater our impact in the Philadelphia area. While assessing the ever-evolving needs of today's children, we continually look at our programming to ensure we are meeting the students where they are and giving them high standards to reach toward.

Our most significant programming addition for the Summer of 2023 is to offer a swimming program for the first time ever. Not only a fun way to bond with fellow campers and cool off on a hot summer day, swimming is a critical life skill that the majority of our students do not have access to. We are delighted to provide this opportunity for them!

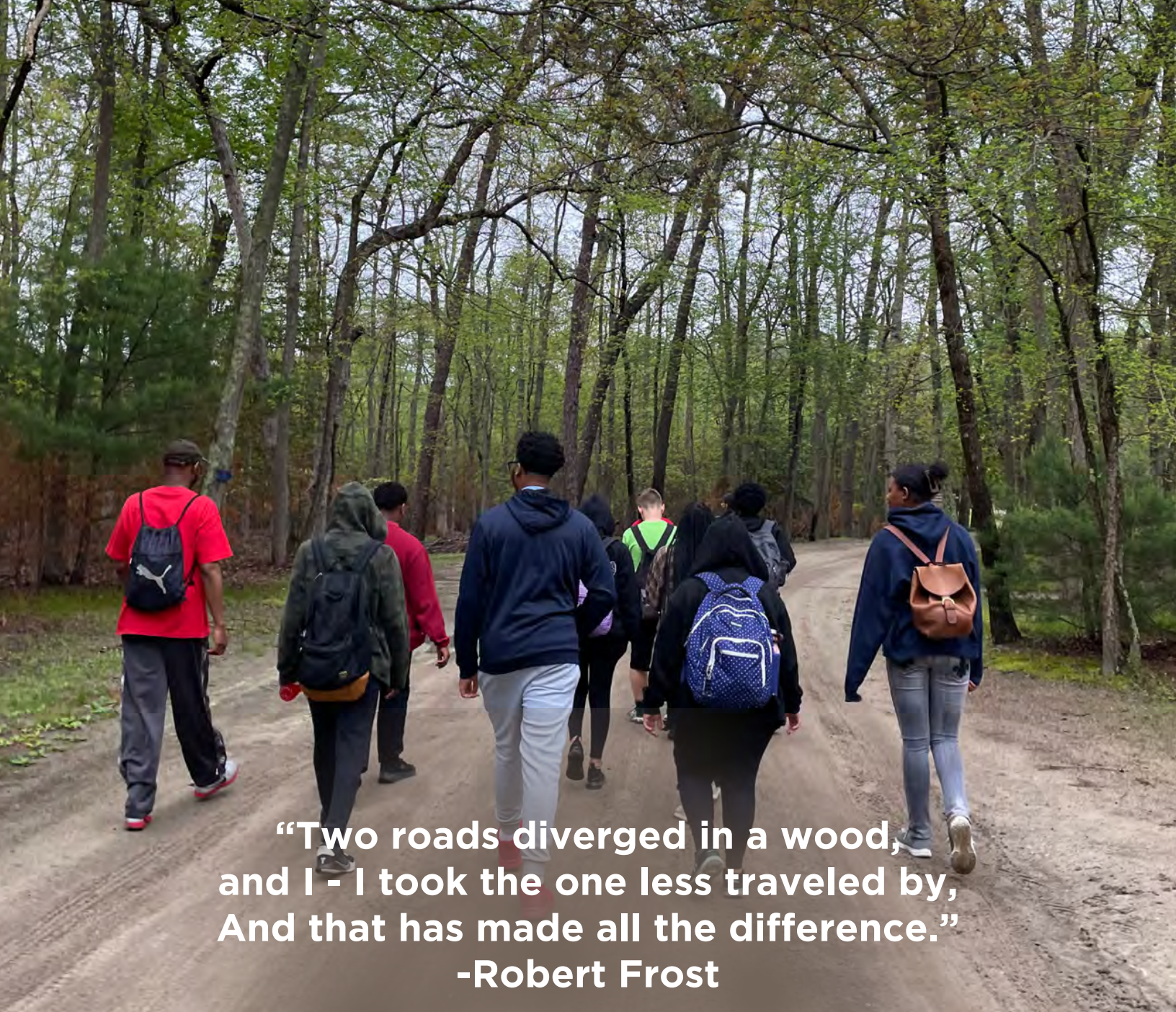
Dream Camp is also committed to serving the youth of Kensington, who have endured a rapid decline in the quality of living standards in their neighborhood. Through our After School Academy and Summer Camp, the students will be given the opportunity to expand their horizons in a safe and enjoyable setting.

We look at the coming year as an opportunity to strengthen the experience and impact of everyone in the Dream Camp family - from students to parents, guardians, volunteers and staff.

**ONWARD  
AND  
UPWARD!**







“Two roads diverged in a wood,  
and I - I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.”  
-Robert Frost

**YEAR ROUND HEADQUARTERS**

750 E Haverford Road  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

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DREAMCAMPPHILLY



ESF DREAM CAMP  
FOUNDATION

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