

Cambridge Camping Association 2023 Annual Report



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From Leadership

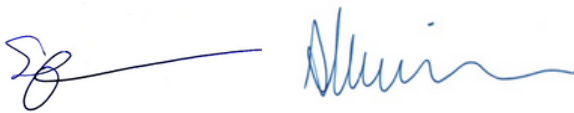
It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of accomplishment that we present Cambridge Camping's 2023 Annual Report. As leaders of this small and mighty organization we are delighted to share the impact we have made over the past year.

2023 has been marked by significant achievements:

- **Program Expansion:** We expanded our reach by launching new school year programs, adding an extra week of summer camp, and ensuring that even more children had access to the life-changing experiences.
- **Increased Scholarships:** We continued to raise funds and offer scholarships to ensure that no child was denied the opportunity to attend our programs due to financial constraints. More families than ever attended summer and school-year programs at no cost.
- **Community Partnerships:** We increased the variety of summer program partners to expand our commitment to holistic youth development.
- **Financial Sustainability:** Despite a tough fundraising environment due to inflation and stock market losses, we managed our finances prudently. 82% of funds were allocated to programs, and we continued to ensure long-term sustainability.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, enthusiastic campers, passionate volunteers, generous donors, and the broader community for their unyielding support. None of our accomplishments would have been possible without their unwavering commitment to our mission.

Sincerely,



Sean Effel

Sharon Zimmerman



Mission, Values & Vision



Mission and Purpose

Since 1893, Cambridge Camping's mission has been to make out-of-school-time and summer programming accessible to youth from under-resourced circumstances.

We believe that camp represents a unique and special sense of community, mentorship, and connection; the magic of camp is the essence of our year-round programming. We never departed from our founding mission, and are driven by the same passion for access, equality and social justice with which we began.

Core Values

Compassion: We treat all people with dignity and respect.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: We work to combat structural forces that have harmed some groups while benefiting others.

Transparency: We are truthful, honest and open.

Teamwork: We support each other so together we succeed.

Innovation: We embrace continuous improvement, creativity, and the free exchange of ideas.

Vision

Cambridge Camping envisions a society where every child who wants to attend out of school time and summer enrichment activities has the ability to access to quality programming. One in which youth and families experience strong connections to communities that support them when they face adversity.



Highlights



School Vacation Camps

What's Cooking: STEAM in the Kitchen and Beyond:

Campers explored the science of cooking and making connections between academic concepts and real-world skills in the kitchen

Get To The Chopper: Campers were introduced to the science and engineering of aeronautics and drone flight

Get Out There: STEAM learning in the natural environment



School-Year Saturday Camp

Campers explored the city and nature; learned new skills, participated in challenging activities, and had fun with friends. Favorite field trips included reaching new heights with Boston Bouldering, exploring habitat sanctuaries with Mass Audubon, and learning how to prepare and cook healthy foods at Haley House.



Summer Camp

Daybreak and Adventure Day Camp moved to Nashoba Brooks School, creating exciting opportunities for new activities and sharing of resources; A full-time social worker, onsite tennis, woodland navigation games, a state of the art performing arts center, farming and gardening, and 3 world-class gymnasiums.

Facts & Stats

Your staff are exceptional with the campers. You can see how much they care and how skilled they are at problem solving and listening to their needs.

-MA Audubon Program Staff

School Vacation Camps CCAccess

- 60 campers 12-15
- Grades 5-9
- 25 girls and 35 boys
- 67% qualify for free/reduced lunch
- 100% have history of trauma or disability
- 100% received financial assistance

- 40 campers ages 6-18 provided referrals and scholarships
- 8 partner camps
- 91 weeks of camp
- 80% received maximum financial assistance

Adventure Day Camp

- Camp held at Nashoba Brooks School
- 1 five-week session/25 days
- 125 campers
- 7 CITs
- 63 girls/62 boys
- 78% qualify for free/reduced lunch
- 75% have history of trauma or disability
- 98% received scholarship assistance

Daybreak Day Camp

- Camp held at Nashoba Brooks School
- 1 six-week session/30 days
- 21 campers
- 5 CITs
- 10 girls and 11 boys
- 89% qualify for free/reduced lunch
- 100% have history of trauma
- 95% received scholarship assistance

Saturday Camp

- 23 participants
- 20 hours of programming per participant

New Programs

- “Get to the Chopper” STEAM centered flight program
- “Village Building Series” – a support group format for parents, led by a social worker

Impact Stories

I wanted to personally thank you for this wonderful experience. Melody and Malik had a great time. They were hesitant at the beginning and then they cried when the camp ended.

-CCA parent

CCAccess Success



Kenzo's mom was seeking a summer experience where Kenzo could shine. After a rough four years for Kenzo's family, including a house fire, COVID, and family changes, his mother told the CCAccess program coordinator "I live paycheck to paycheck. Kenzo holds a lot of feelings in. I chose this camp because they have a social worker on staff. I want Kenzo to have a chance and to make it far. If he has opportunities to show him more in life, I know he will make it big!"

Our CCAccess scholarship program helped support Kenzo for 4 weeks at an overnight camp. He thrived, loving his friends, his cabin, even the food, and he wanted to stay the whole summer!

A Daybreak Breakthrough

Tara is an 11-year-old girl who has suffered severe trauma, causing her to experience depression, anxiety, anger outbursts, and oppositional behavior. She struggles academically and socially and is bullied regularly at school. Because of the low 2:1 camper-to-staff ratio, Tara got a significant amount of one-on-one time with her counselors.

After building relationships and trust with camp staff, Tara began to express an interest in sports and said that she wanted to assist other children during activities. Tara began caring for younger campers at lunch, bonded with counselors and eventually made new camper friends. By the end of the 6 weeks, she was seen as a self-assured teenager who expressed herself freely without fear of being criticized or bullied. Tara expressed she now has "reasons to be herself." **She understands that camp is a place where she can make connections, grow and feel a sense of belonging which is at the core of CCA's work.** Tara shared her plans to return to camp as a Jr. Counselor in Training in 2024.

Outcome Measures

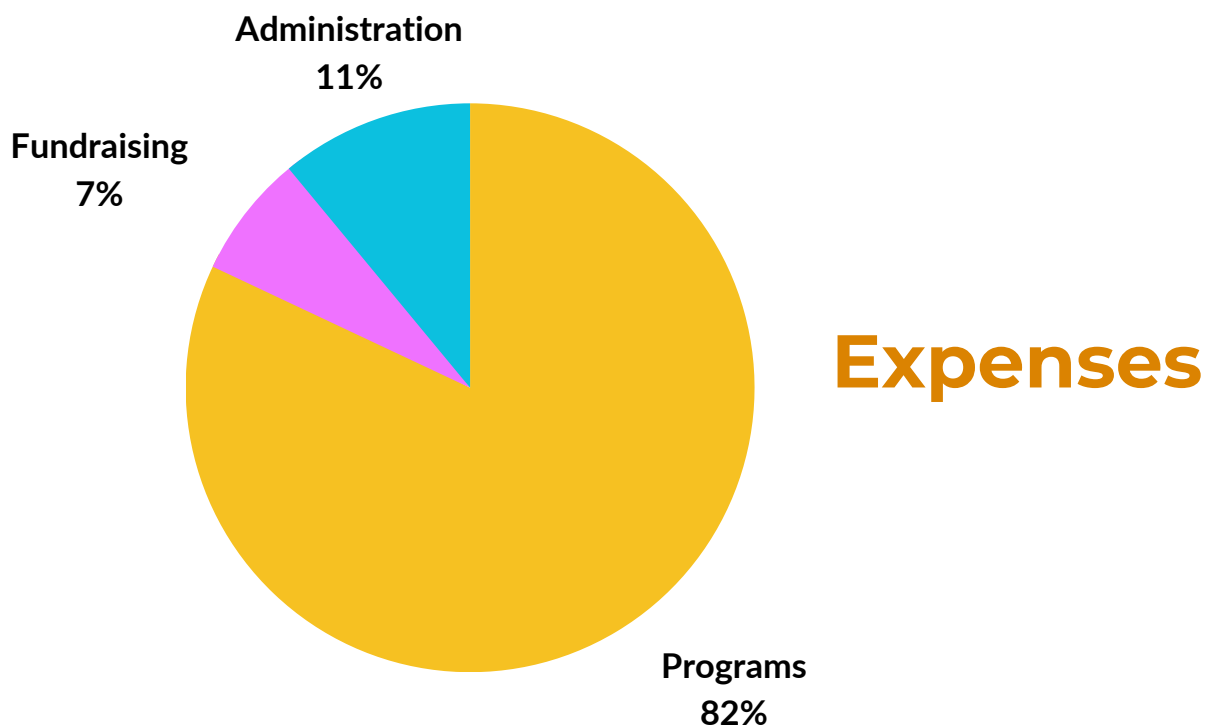
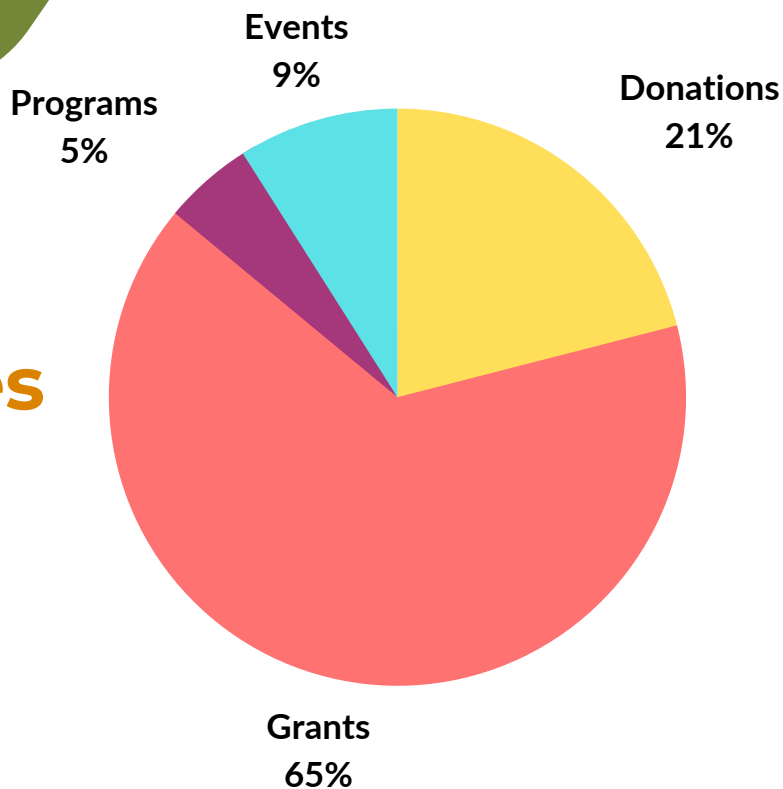
CCA measures camper growth at the start and end of each program. using four scales from the SAYO-S: Survey of Academic and Youth Outcomes-Staff Survey which measures social and emotional growth; and 3 scales from the American Camping Association which measures growth in skills, knowledge, and ability. Measures are collected in 7 domains.

Summer camp outcomes are below

Outcomes/Domains 2023	Adventure Day Camp Results	Daybreak Day Camp Results
Growth in Any Domain	92%	84%
Growth in at least 4 domains	75%	34%
Relationship with Adults	83%	75%
Peer Relationships	83%	51%
Self Regulation	75%	53%
Leadership	75%	63%
Affinity for Exploration	75%	56%
Friendship Skills	83%	67%
Camp Connectedness	75%	49%

Financials

Revenues



Special Mentions

We are proud to partner with CCA to ensure more children have access to opportunities where they can grow and learn from new experiences, build confidence, and create friendships that last a lifetime.

-Rene Russo, CEO Xilio Therapeutics

Partnership Spotlight



Over the past 2 years, Xilio Therapeutics has been a dedicated corporate supporter. They worked with CCA on an employee donation program and held an employee give-back event stuffing 170 camper backpacks. In July, an Xilio team spent a day at camp playing field games and sharing lunch with campers. We are incredibly grateful for Xilio's continued support and dedication to Cambridge Camping's mission!

Featured Foundation

Since 1986, Cummings Foundation has had an enormous impact on under-served communities throughout Greater Boston. In 2015 Cambridge Camping received our first grant for \$25,000 which supported Daybreak Summer camp. Cummings Foundation has remained a loyal partner and supporter as Cambridge Camping has grown and changed over the years.



In 2020 Cambridge Camping was a grateful recipient of their \$25 million grant program, which was a 10-year commitment. This year Cambridge Camping was also awarded an additional gift after the Cummings team visited camp and saw first-hand the impact of their giving. Funders like Cummings Foundation sustain Cambridge Camping's work and create lasting change for children and families. On behalf of the families we work with, we are forever grateful to Joyce and Bill Cummings and the Foundation team!

Thank you to Sponsors

