



Sherwood Forest
2014
Annual Report
to the
Community

Thank you

to our donors, volunteers, board members, alumni, and supporters for another amazing year at Sherwood Forest!

Dear Friends,

I'd like you to take a moment and look at the smiles featured here and on the front of this Annual Report. These faces represent just a handful of the hundreds of children whose lives are touched by Sherwood Forest each year. They are the faces of camp, the faces of our community, the faces of tomorrow.

We know that what we're doing is making a difference. We can see the joy in our campers' eyes, hear their laughter, see them learning and growing at Sherwood Forest. Even still, it's always wonderful to hear this first-hand from their parents. Let me share with you a snippet of an email we received from a mother whose children first came to camp last summer:

"I had never been able to afford such an opportunity and I express such gratitude for being given the opportunity to begin this journey with Sherwood Forest. I am a firm believer that participating in camp provides children with a community of caring adults away from home. All of the outcomes - self-identity, self-worth, self-esteem,

leadership, and self-respect - build personal competencies. I never underestimate the simplest lesson or the briefest wink of time that participating in a summer camp could provide towards the growth and upbringing of a young child. It may be a star in someone's horizon for all eternity."

You, our friends and supporters, help us connect with, educate, and inspire kids just like hers. Thank you for believing in the importance of our work and for supporting our mission, whether it's through a gift of time, talent, treasure...or all three. You help make Sherwood Forest even better and stronger, so that we can continue to provide award-winning programs, boundless opportunities, and a "home away from home" for the St. Louis kids who need it most.

With gratitude,



Mary M. Rogers
Executive Director





At Sherwood Forest, our belief that education and opportunity are rights fundamental to all children guides our mission: *transforming the lives of children in need through powerful programs that allow them to discover their self-worth, realize their potential, and become productive citizens.*



Helping kids discover the best in themselves so they can grow up to do good in the world.



During the summer of 2014, two groups of Leadership Training Program campers traveled to Washington, D.C. where they toured our nation's capital. On their trips, they **participated in community service projects and visited colleges and universities**, including Georgetown University, George Washington University, and the Corcoran College of Art and Design.



Quest and Summer Camp

Sherwood Forest is a **year-round youth development agency** with programs anchored in a residential summer camp experience. **Quest** is our year-round program which begins with **summer camp** and is followed by our school-year Continued Contact program. The camp setting provides countless opportunities for active learning, while school-year activities give children the chance to develop **strong relationships with peers and staff** in their own communities.



Our team of **dedicated, caring camp counselors** help to provide a supportive, stable environment for our kids that is unlike any other. In 2014, 26 of our summer staff members **came from other countries** through U.S. Department of State J-1 Visa programs, introducing our campers to a world far beyond their own backyards!



The Book Club program at Sherwood Forest has a **sustained impact** on campers. Year after year, both recreational and academic reading attitudes increase for the third graders who participate in this **evidence-based and award-winning** program. Across camp, reading becomes more part of the Sherwood Forest experience each summer, and it's not uncommon to see kids who take their books with them everywhere they go!

Our camp site is also available to schools and other youth organizations who use camp for **Outdoor Education** each spring and fall. In 2014, 641 kids participated in our Outdoor Education programs. This is a **focused, mission-driven opportunity** for us to provide a resource to the community, while helping to financially support our own programming.



Outdoor Education



By providing an innovative **"classroom without walls"** and valuable learning resources, Sherwood Forest helps our school partners reach their academic goals, as well as achieve social, emotional, and developmental **milestones for their students**. Outdoor Education also gives urban children an essential connection to nature.



Summer 2014

At-a-Glance



In 2014, 293 kids participated in our innovative programs. We have developed **long-term relationships with social service agencies and schools** in the St. Louis community, and these partners help us identify children in-need who would **benefit from our programs**. Additionally, second- and third-generation campers comprise a small percentage of our camp population as many of our alumni, though no longer living in poverty themselves, still want to provide for their children a **Sherwood Forest experience** like they enjoyed years before.

Gender

Boys: 51 %
Girls: 49 %

Areas of Residence

Missouri

St. Louis County: 48 %
St. Louis City: 28 %
Other Missouri Counties: 13 %

Illinois

St. Clair County: 7 %
Madison County: 3 %
Other Illinois Counties: 1 %

Age

7 to 9 years old: 28 %
10 to 12 years old: 44 %
13 to 16 years old: 28 %

Family Income

\$0 to \$9,999: 16 %
\$10,000 to \$19,999: 20 %
\$20,000 to \$29,999: 21 %
\$30,000 to \$39,999: 17 %
\$40,000 to \$49,999: 11 %
\$50,000 to \$74,999: 3 %
\$75,000 to \$99,999: 7 %
\$100,000 or more: 5 %

Racial Background

African American: 60 %
Caucasian: 27 %
Bi/Multi-Racial: 8 %
Hispanic/Latino: 2 %
Native American: 1 %
Asian: 1 %
Other: 1 %

2014 Board of Directors

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** indicates Past President*

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Patricia Hopmeier

W.F. Samuel Hopmeier

Donald Olson

Nardie Stein

W.J. Taylor*

James Woods

Revenue:

	2013	2014
Contributions	\$ 633,519	\$ 559,750
United Way	\$ 405,099	\$ 404,844
Grants	\$ 155,595	\$ 262,100
Program Fees	\$ 119,871	\$ 118,505
TOTAL	\$1,314,084	\$1,345,199

Expenses:

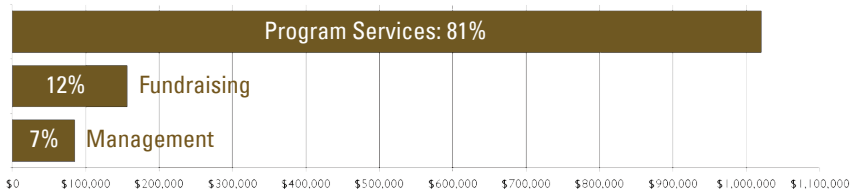
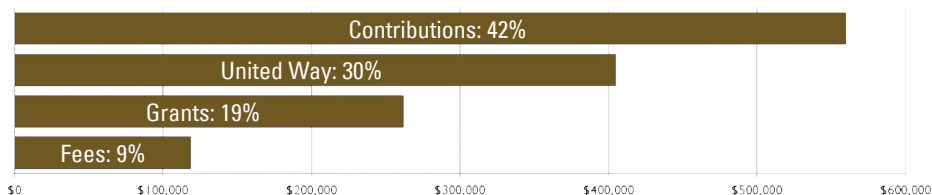
	2013	2014
Program Services	\$ 1,036,599	\$ 1,020,598
Fundraising	\$ 176,509	\$ 156,432
Management	\$ 69,282	\$ 84,939
TOTAL	\$ 1,282,390	\$ 1,261,969

Financial Overview



End-of-Year Net Assets:

2013	2014
\$ 1,850,015	\$ 1,933,245





SHERWOOD FOREST

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