









SHERWOOD FOREST

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

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

Mission, Vision & Our Promise

Sherwood Forest is a year-round youth development organization with its programs anchored in a residential summer camp experience. Our vision where all youth discover and achieve their fullest potential guides our mission: providing dynamic programs and immersive outdoor experiences that inspire and empower youth from under-resourced communities to discover their resilience, prepare for their future, and embrace their civic responsibility. By balancing traditional camp adventures with evidence-based programs that reinforce and support school-year learning, Sherwood Forest connects with, educates, and inspires the youth of St. Louis. And in doing so, we help kids discover the best in themselves so they can grow up to do good in the world.

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* Deceased

A Letter from Addie Bond, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on all we accomplished together in 2025, I am filled with gratitude. Every page of this Annual Report tells the story of lives changed because of your generosity and belief in the mission of Sherwood Forest.

In 2025, Sherwood Forest served 302 youth through our year round programs. From the adventure and friendships created at Quest summer camp to the mentorship and social emotional growth fostered through Supports for Success, children found opportunities to discover their strengths, build confidence, and develop skills that will last a lifetime. Through our Outdoor Education program, hundreds of additional students experienced the power of nature, teamwork, and hands-on learning in an environment that inspires curiosity and growth.

This Annual Report celebrates what we accomplished together. Inside, you will find stories from our campers, program highlights, organizational statistics, and our audited financial. We hope these pages illustrate the lasting impact of your support and the many lives you continue to touch.

As we look ahead, we are excited to welcome even more youth to Sherwood Forest and continue strengthening our programs to meet the growing needs of our community. None of this would be possible without your partnership.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, and the children and families we serve, thank you for believing in Sherwood Forest. Your generosity opens doors, creates opportunities, and helps ensure every child has the chance to learn, grow, and thrive.

We are honored to have you as part of the Sherwood Forest family.

With gratitude,

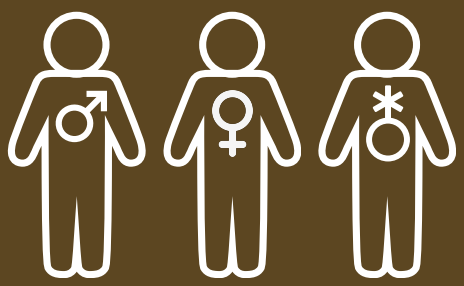
Addie Bond

Addie Bond
Executive Director
Sherwood Forest

SHERWOOD FOREST

BY THE NUMBERS

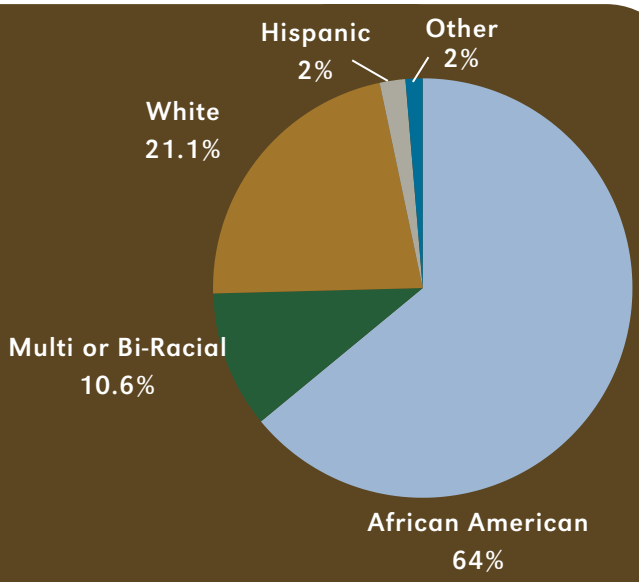
302
YOUTH SERVED



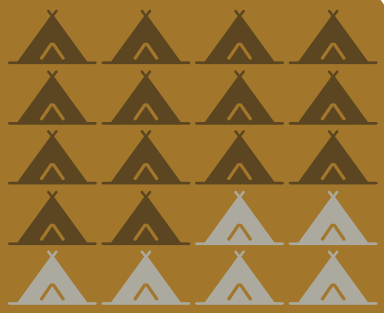
45% 136 Male

54% 164 Female

1% 2 Non-Binary



DEMOGRAPHICS



71%
RETURNING CAMPERS



1,916
MILES HIKED

4,209
MILES CANOED

13,870
MEALS PROVIDED





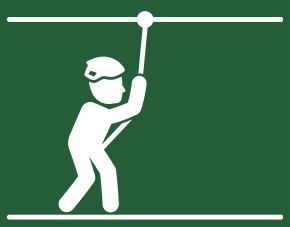
2,512
VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED MAKE OUR MISSION POSSIBLE

OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES CREATED

QUEST PROGRAM

4,464



OUTDOOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

2,598

OUTCOMES & RESULTS

Sherwood Forest uses the Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework to help youth build the social-emotional skills, confidence, and resilience needed to thrive academically, socially, and personally. Through immersive outdoor experiences and trusted relationships with caring adults, campers develop self-awareness, emotional regulation, leadership, teamwork, and positive peer relationships in a physically and emotionally safe environment.

Campers participate in traditional outdoor activities including hiking, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and backpacking alongside literacy, STEM, creative and performing arts, and environmental education activities designed to strengthen academic engagement while reducing summer learning loss. These intentionally-designed experiences foster confidence, problem-solving, belonging, and lifelong skills. Sherwood Forest's Quest program provides a continuous pathway for youth from first through ninth grade, allowing participants to strengthen key competencies including self-management, mastery orientation, positive identity, academic self-efficacy, contribution to society, and social skills. Outcomes are measured using validated assessment tools to ensure continuous program improvement and demonstrate meaningful growth.

The organization's impact extends beyond the summer through monthly school-year programming that reinforces relationships with youth and families through ongoing mentorship, enrichment, and support. By engaging youth over multiple years, Sherwood Forest creates trusted, long-term relationships that provide stability for children experiencing poverty and adversity. Many campers describe Sherwood Forest as a second home.

87% LEARNED A SKILL

LEARNED TO CARE FOR SELF **89%**

96% MADE FRIENDS

EXPLORER CAMPERS 3 - 5 GRADE

LEADERSHIP CAMPERS 6 - 9 GRADE

79% OF EXPLORER CAMPERS GREW IN ONE OR MORE KEY COMPENTENCIES

92% OF LEADERSHIP CAMPERS GREW IN ONE OR MORE KEY COMPENTENCIES

67% GREW THEIR AFFINITY FOR NATURE

GREW IN CAMP CONNECTEDNESS **90%**

94% BUILT A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH AN ADULT

Journey Through Quest

INTRODUCTION TO CAMP

1ST & 2ND Grade

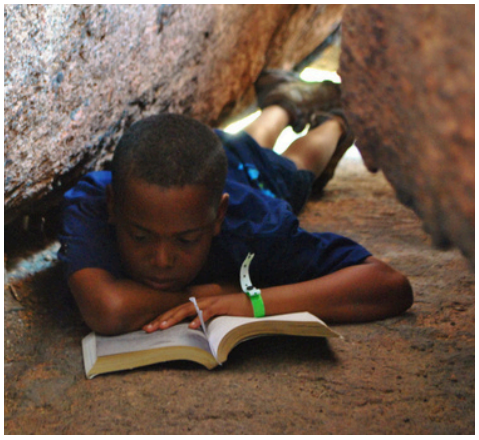
During their 7 day stay at camp, Shire campers learn the ropes of camp life as they develop independent living skills.






DEVELOPING A LOVE OF READING

3rd Grade



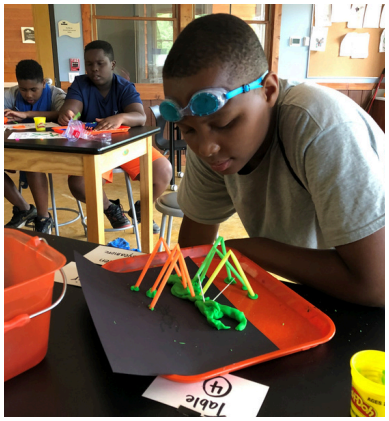



3rd graders develop a love of learning by participating in our award-winning Third Grade Book Club. Campers read a book while also participating in hands-on activities (like fire building, fishing and more!) to engage them with the story.

HANDS-ON SCIENCE

4th & 5th Grade

For both 4th and 5th grade campers, summer is centered around exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) with a special focus on nature and the outdoors. Campers develop a thirst for knowledge and a greater understanding of the world around them.




DISCOVERING THE LEADER INSIDE

6th & 7th Grades







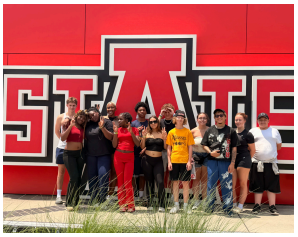
6th grade marks the start of Leadership Training, a 4-year program that helps campers become self-sufficient, well-rounded, life-long learners. In 6th grade, campers undergo a process of self-exploration to help them learn and grow as individuals. This work continues in 7th grade when campers use their individual talents to achieve a large goal as a team – either planning and producing an all-camp play or completing a 100+ mile backpacking and canoeing trip.

LEADERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY

8th & 9th Grade

After 2 years of developing independence and teamwork skills, campers put them into action as they plan extensive trips. As 8th graders, campers focus on impacting their local community as they travel across Missouri to visit colleges and participate in service projects. 9th graders expand their focus to impacting the national community as they plan and execute trips to states surrounding Missouri, visiting college campuses, historical sites, and participating in community service along the way.









SUPPORTS FOR SUCCESS

10th, 11th, & 12th Grade and Beyond

Throughout this three-year program sequence, Sherwood Forest equips youth with the life skills, resources, and support needed to become self-sufficient, solve problems, and resolve conflicts effectively. The program emphasizes the development of healthy social and emotional competencies that prepare participants to become well-rounded adults and engaged members of their communities. Youth receive guidance in planning and successfully completing post-secondary education, trades school, or enlisting in the military while building the academic, personal, and professional skills needed to thrive.











MEET NATALIE
LEADERSHIP CAMPER



"Sherwood Forest is a big part of my life, and I love it there a lot."

Nine years ago, Natalie arrived at Sherwood Forest for Mini Camp shortly after finishing first grade. Since then, she has returned every summer, growing up alongside the friends, mentors, and traditions that have made Sherwood Forest feel like a second home. Like so many campers, she found a place where she belonged, built confidence, discovered new strengths, and created memories that will last a lifetime.

Last year, as part of her 8th grade graduation requirements, Natalie was asked to complete a service project by volunteering with a nonprofit and organizing a fundraiser. For Natalie, choosing where to serve wasn't difficult. Sherwood Forest was the place she wanted to give back to.

She spent a day volunteering at our annual Trash Bash, helping prepare camp for another summer of adventure. Then, over the course of several months, she poured her creativity and dedication into raising support for camp. Natalie handcrafted sugar scrubs and bath salts, baked brownies to sell at a local craft fair, and organized a donation drive featuring many of the items most needed by campers and staff.

By the end of her project, Natalie had raised more than $400, using every dollar to purchase supplies from Sherwood Forest's Wishlist. Those items are now helping create a welcoming, well-equipped environment for hundreds of campers and staff throughout the summer.

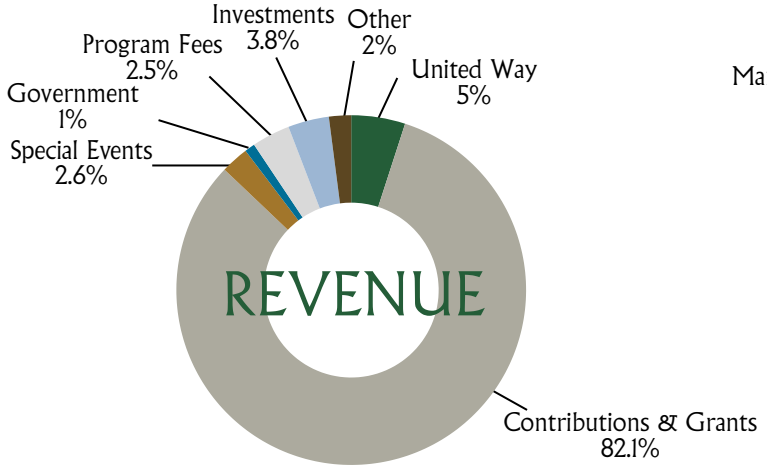
When asked why she chose Sherwood Forest, Natalie's answer captured the heart of her project: "Sherwood Forest is a big part of my life, and I love it there a lot."

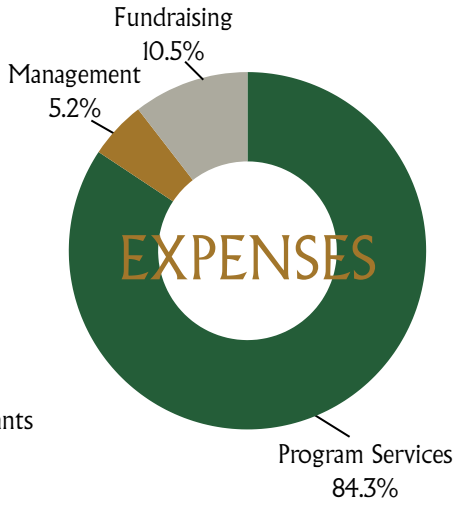
Natalie's story is a powerful reminder that the impact of Sherwood Forest extends far beyond a single summer. The experiences, relationships, and opportunities young people find here inspire confidence, compassion, and a desire to serve others. Seeing a camper grow into a young leader who chooses to invest her own time and talents back into the community that helped shape her is one of the greatest measures of our success.

Because of the generosity of our supporters, young people like Natalie don't just experience camp, they become lifelong members of the Sherwood Forest community, carrying its values with them and inspiring the next generation to do the same.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Sherwood Forest remained financially strong throughout 2025 thanks to the generosity of our donors, foundation partners, corporate supporters, volunteers, and community. Your investment helped sustain life-changing programs that empower youth through residential summer camp, year-round Supports for Success, and Outdoor Education experiences. The organization ended the year with a clean, unmodified audit opinion and continued to strengthen its long-term financial position, ensuring Sherwood Forest is well-equipped to serve generations of young people for years to come. We are deeply grateful for your partnership and the confidence you place in our mission.





2025 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

TOTAL ASSETS	$9,823,295
TOTAL LIABILITIES	$52,975
TOTAL NET ASSETS	$9,770,320
REVENUE, SUPPORT & GAINS	$4,618,704
EXPENSES & LOSSES	$2,999,994
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	$1,618,710
NET ASSETS, AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	$8,151,610
NET ASSETS, AT END OF YEAR	$9,770,320

To review our audited financial statements, please use the QR code or visit sherwoodforeststl.org/about/financials/

Looking Ahead





As we look toward the future, we remain inspired by the incredible momentum of our mission. In 2025, Sherwood Forest proudly served 302 youth through our transformative camp and year-round programs. In 2026, we anticipate welcoming 325 campers, providing even more young people with opportunities to build confidence, discover new strengths, and create lifelong memories.

This year, we also embarked on an exciting journey by partnering with Let's Build Hope, a St. Louis-based consulting firm, to develop Sherwood Forest's 10-Year Impact Statement and 10-Year Impact Activation Plan. This strategic initiative will define our long-term vision, establish measurable goals, and guide our work as we expand our impact for generations to come.

We look forward to sharing more about this exciting work in the coming year. Even more meaningful, the culmination of our 10-year vision will coincide with a remarkable milestone, Sherwood Forest's 100th summer season. Together, with the continued partnership of our donors, volunteers, staff, and community, we are building a future where even more young people have the opportunity to grow, thrive, and experience the life-changing power of Sherwood Forest.

SAVE THE DATE

Sherwood Forest's
DAY of GIVING
September 16, 2026

Blue Jean Ball
April 24, 2027

Tour Camp Today!
Development@sherwoodforeststl.org

Sherwood Forest's
VOLUNTEER TRADES WEEKEND
April 9 - 11, 2027



SHERWOOD FOREST

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