

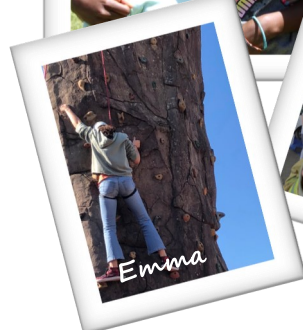


"I have two children who attend Camp Fire programs. Camp Fire offered my children an opportunity to gain academic skills which prepared them for the upcoming school year. On my daughter's first report card, she received straight A's! I feel it was all due to the tutoring and support she received at Camp Fire."

Marquinia Butts-Fisher, Caira's mom

CAMP FIRE'S PROMISE

Young people want to
shape the world.
 Camp Fire provides the
 opportunity to find their **SPARK**,
LIFT their voice,
 and **DISCOVER** who they are.
 In Camp Fire it begins now.
Light the fire within.



Camp Fire

Light the fire within

Sunshine Central Florida
 2600 Buckingham Avenue
 Lakeland, FL 33803
 863-688-5491
www.campfire-sunshine.org



ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018

COUNCIL STAFF

Holly Lane
 Executive Director

Austin Brown
 Registrar/Program

Lynn Anne Castleberry
 Bookkeeper/Office Manager

Rick Gebauer
 Social Media/Program

Rhonda Moyer
 Childhood Programs

Sean Myers
 Facilities/Program

Lauren Rambo
 Teen Programs



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year it is all about finding your spark. What is your spark? What makes you happy? What drives you to move forward? What gets you out of bed in the morning? For me it is many things, from my son to my work, but my love of Camp Fire ignites something else inside of me! I never expected to be part of this organization, let alone the President of the Board. I never thought of myself as a leader. Through Camp Fire, I have discovered new things about myself and found my spark!

As my presidency comes to an end, I have very mixed emotions. I am overwhelmed with sadness because I feel like I have just started on this journey, only to find that it has quickly come to an end. However, my heart is extremely happy because we have an amazing Executive Committee and dedicated board that will continue to strengthen our bond to the community and help us forge ahead into the future. We have come so far and I see us going so much further!

To the Staff, who makes Camp Fire success a reality every year, I thank you! Without you, Camp Fire would not be what it is today! It is your selfless dedication to the organization and your willingness to go the extra mile that keeps the fire burning. Thank you for your commitment. I would also like to thank all the volunteers who gave their time. From parking cars at Pig Fest to the Derby, it is the volunteers that also keep Camp Fire burning strong. Without you we would not be where we are today.

I would also like to thank my fellow board members for their time and hard work and for allowing me to lead you. We have an incredible board that works tirelessly to make Camp Fire successful. Without your dedication and passion, this organization would not have the direction and drive to meet the goals we have before us. It is your input and actions that keep Camp Fire on the path to success. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart!

Thank you to our Sponsors. The success of our fundraising cannot be accomplished without the financial and in-kind support we receive. Without your resources, none of what Camp Fire has accomplished this year would have been possible.

Lastly, I want to thank Holly Lane, our Executive Director, Heather Moran, past board member, and Tracy Kimbrough, past board President, for believing in me and giving me this amazing gift!

As I turn over the gavel to Cindy Green, I know that Camp Fire is in good hands. Cindy's love of Camp Fire burns bright and she will be an incredible President and will continue our legacy. I hope that I have helped the board, staff, and youth of Camp Fire grow and improve as much as they have helped me. It has been an honor and privilege to lead such a dedicated organization. We cannot help our youth find their spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are without the help of everyone here. Thank you.

Lauriane Ciccarelli, President 2017-2018

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lauriane Ciccarelli
Troiano & Roberts, PA
President

Cindy Green
Furr and Wegman Architects, P.A.
President-Elect

Amanda Blount
Florida Southern College
Past President

Sandra Roth
Purcell Elementary School
Vice President

Ginny Sigle
Boring Business Systems
Vice President

Eric Powell
RightPlan Financial
Treasurer

Jillian Eason*
Student
Recording Secretary

Meg Bellamy
John Freer
Sarah Keener
Robert Lay
Jim LePere
Kristin Phillips
Tania Ruiz
Adam Smith

Jennifer Dankowski
Craig Hosking
Kevin Kingery
Rachel Layman
John Monte
Cindy Roberts
Alyss Ruster

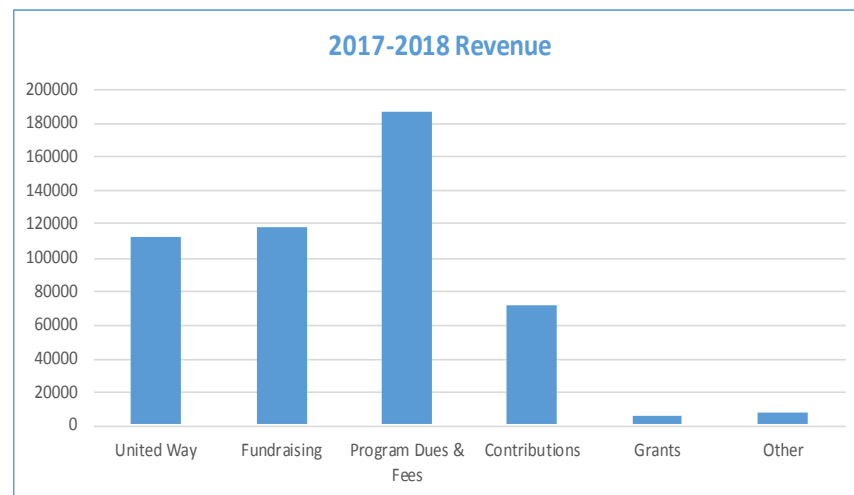
Andy Douglas
Molly Johnson
Calvin Knight
Amanda LePere
Tineshia Morris
Zachary Roth*
Cindy Sharp

* Youth Member

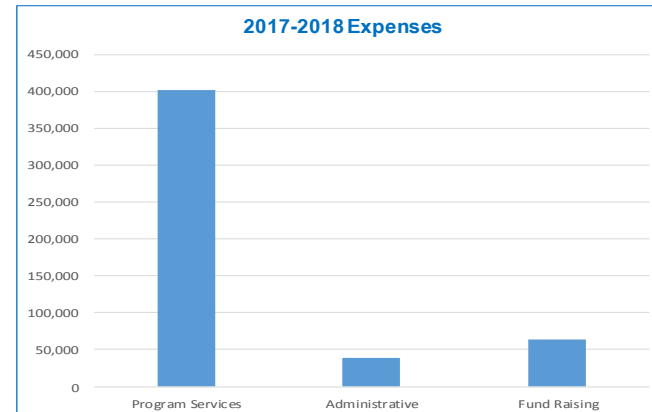
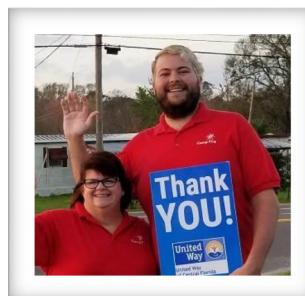
2017-2018 Financial Highlights

program fees increased
22.8% from the previous year

80¢ of every
DOLLAR
is spent on youth programs



United Way of
Central Florida
Partner Agency



"At times, our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."

Albert Schweitzer

Every day Camp Fire's dedicated staff, board members, volunteers, and community partners work together to help ensure young people have the opportunities, resources, and support needed to successfully navigate their journey into adulthood. They help extend our reach into the community, graciously share their time and talent, help raise the necessary funding, and step-up whenever and where ever an extra hand is needed.

WORKING TOGETHER



Clockwise from top right. Board member, Kevin Kingery removing a tree; Volunteers installing a gaga ball pit funded by Emerge into Service; Publix Serves volunteers mulching play equipment; Volunteers from GFWC Junior Woman's Club and Camp Fire staff in front of UWCF's Build United Contest

Publix Serves
Drifters Car Club
Emerge Into Service
Lakeland Pig Festival
Citrus Center Kiwanis
Lakeland Flying Tigers
AmeriCorps Polk Reads
Lakeland Business Leaders
GFWC Junior Woman's Club
United Way of Central Florida
Publix Super Markets Charities

CAMP FIRE PROGRAMS HAVE PROVEN RESULTS

Through the council's partnership with the United Way of Central Florida, we are able to monitor the

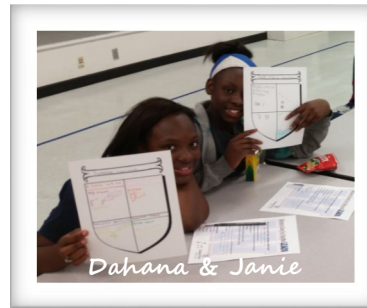
ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

of Camp Fire youth against a like comparison group of non-involved children and teens.

In 2017-2018, Camp Fire children and teens once again **attended school more frequently** than the comparison group, the first important step in academic achievement.

For six out of the last eight years, more students in Camp Fire (98.4% in the last year) were **promoted to the next grade level** than those not involved in Camp Fire programming.

Students also **increased or maintained a C or higher** in reading (elementary school) and in math (elementary and middle school)



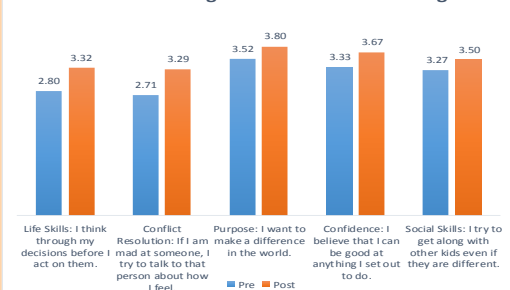
Camp Fire's LEADS program, an afterschool leadership activity at Westwood Middle School empowers teens with the knowledge and skills they need to make a difference academically & at their school.

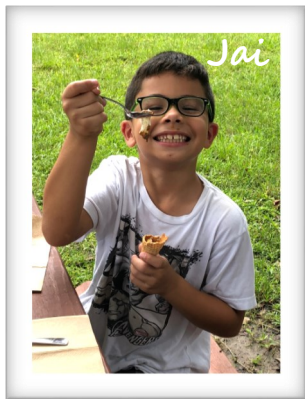
Social and Emotional Learning

measures the acquisition of skills needed to recognize and manage emotions, develop care and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish and maintain positive relationships, and handle interpersonal situations effectively.

Teens in Camp Fire demonstrated growth not only in pre and post testing, but also exhibited higher percentages of growth when compared to National Camp Fire average results. This was especially true in areas of **life skills** and **conflict resolution**.

Pre - Post Change in Indicators of Thriving





1114 youth served
3 years old - 12th grade
65% from financially at-risk homes
55% boys - 45% girls

Thrive{ology}

Camp Fire Sunshine Central Florida offers an extensive array of programs designed to meet the needs and interests of the youth, families, and communities we serve. While the programs may vary by participant and purpose, there are elements that clearly define them as Camp Fire programs. They are inclusive and welcoming, provide a physically and emotionally safe environment, challenge children and teens to learn and grow with the support of trained adult staff, enhance performance, and encourage civic engagement.

Camp Fire's Outcome Management tools illustrate the impact of Sunshine Central Florida programming with middle and high school age youth. The process documents changes in behavior and thought by the teens by using six developmentally appropriate indicators of **thriving behavior**. Camp Fire teens in 6th-12th grade outperformed the National Camp Fire results in the following six areas: Social Skills: Empathy, Life Skills, Conflict Resolution, Sense of Purpose, Confidence, and Social Skills.



Strong youth adult partnerships promote environments that foster positive communication and mindset growth.

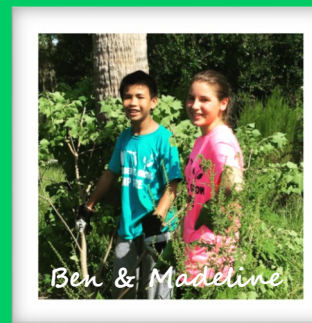
"I use GPS to help longer processes run more smoothly and to help make difficult tasks be less daunting." Conor



TIME OUT-OF-DOORS

We believe in the power of nature to awaken the senses and the desire to learn. Camp and outdoor programs allow kids and teens to unplug from technology, explore, grow, challenge themselves, make new friends, get out of their comfort zone, gain confidence, and make powerful memories that will have an impact on their lives.

Opportunities vary - environmental service projects, knot tying and outdoor camping skills, or even free play - but all give kids and teens a chance to celebrate nature in a way that suits them best.



Environmental service projects provide Camp Fire teens a chance to connect with nature in a unique & meaningful way.

IN DEFENSE OF FOOD

In Florida, more than one-third of 10-17 year olds are overweight according to stateofobesity.org. As a national curriculum partner for "In Defense of Food", Camp Fire has the tools and delivery systems needed to help Polk County middle school students take control of their own diets, learn about healthier eating, and make positive changes in their own lives.

In 2017-2018, Camp Fire staff shared IDOF's message with 300 middle school students from three different schools. The program, funded in part by a grant from Lakeland Electric, brought a combination of facts, videos, and food tastings into the classroom. Students demonstrated a significant increase in knowledge and awareness relating to healthy eating at all schools based on pre and post tests. Students shared feedback, including: "the stuff I thought was healthy really isn't" and "don't be deceived by colorful packages, look at the ingredients."



In June, the council received a grant for \$10,000 from the George W. Jenkins Fund within the GiveWell Community Foundation to help continue the IDOF program in the 2018-2019 school year.

"My spark is environmental work, like invasive exotic removal" Hannah