

MAKING *magic*
HAPPEN.



CAMP COLE

2025 IMPACT REPORT





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KELSEY SAWYER CARTER

Co-Founder &
Executive Director



MARGARET DEANS GRANTZ

Co-Founder & Director of
Development & Marketing

A Letter from our Founders

Camp Cole was created to make magic happen for children navigating serious illnesses, disabilities, or other critical challenges. It's a place where people can find joy, belonging, and possibility. In 2025, thanks to the unwavering support of our community, that Camp Cole magic reached more than 2,500 individuals through summer camps, day camps, field trips, and year-round experiences. We expanded access by welcoming inclusive staff like Kaylyn, who uses a wheelchair. We launched Camp Summer Smiles, a pilot day camp giving many first-time campers with disabilities the opportunity to experience the joy of camp. With more than 15 camp partners, including our first year-round, recurring partnership with Original Design, and thoughtfully developed programs, our reach and impact continued to grow. Our Events and Marketing efforts grew to a national level, highlighted by the Red Clay Strays concert, our partnership with clothing brand Alivia, and recognition at the Honda National Supplier Conference. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for helping Camp Cole be a magical, safe, accessible, inclusive, and inspiring place for all in 2025.

-Kelsey Sawyer Carter & Margaret Deans Fawcett Grantz

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Sawyer, President

Peter Fawcett, Vice President

Eric Cleaves, Secretary

Dennis Rabon, Treasurer

Rustin Britt

Mark Chappell

Cary Coker

Deans Fawcett

Chad Gunnlaugsson, MD

Chad Holbrook

Mark Hood

Ron Neuberg, MD

Robert Simmons

INCLUSIVITY *is our* THING.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide a **safe, accessible, and inspirational** gathering place where people can **come together to connect, share, encourage and shine.**

OUR VISION

We aspire to be South Carolina's **leading camp and retreat facility** for children, teens, and adults with disabilities, illnesses, and life challenges.

A PLACE TO SHINE

In 2025, Camp Cole came alive with moments that reminded us what belonging truly looks like. One of those moments belongs to Kaylyn, who joined our 2025 staff and navigated camp life using a wheelchair. Despite the challenges, Kaylyn showed up with determination and compassion. She built meaningful connections, embraced new experiences, and proved that Camp Cole is a place where everyone can shine. The memories she made, and the impact she left will last far beyond one summer!

"As someone who has always been the minority and the person who stood out, it is so refreshing to be in an environment where I am not looked at as different. Instead, my disability gives me an advantage in the way I can offer suggestions and bond with campers. Saying that my chair actually gave me an advantage has never come out of my mouth before - except at Camp Cole. 2025 was one of the best summers ever, because making Camp Cole accessible for campers also means making it accessible for staff."

- KAYLYN, SUMMER PROGRAM STAFF



Magic in Numbers

2025 IMPACT

2,805
CAMPERS SERVED



118
DIFFERENT DIAGNOSES, CHALLENGES, OR
DISABILITIES CELEBRATED AT CAMP

26
MISSION DRIVEN
CAMP PARTNERS



3
CAMP COLE
DIRECTED CAMPS



27
COMMUNITY EVENTS &
COLLABORATIONS IN SUPPORT
OF CAMP COLE



SUMMER Camps



Camp Impact

Serving children who have experienced or are currently experiencing homelessness, are from low income families, or are in the foster care system.

Camp KEMO

Serving children who have cancer or blood disorders and their siblings.

Camp Wonder Hands

Serving children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Camp Rise Above

Serving children and young adults who have autism, Down syndrome, epilepsy, craniofacial differences, cerebral palsy, and other disabilities or illnesses.

Camp Summer Smiles

Serving children with different illnesses and disabilities through a day camp experience.

Camp 'Can' Do

Serving children who have experienced a burn injury.

Camp Corral

Serving children of wounded, ill, or fallen military service members and veterans.

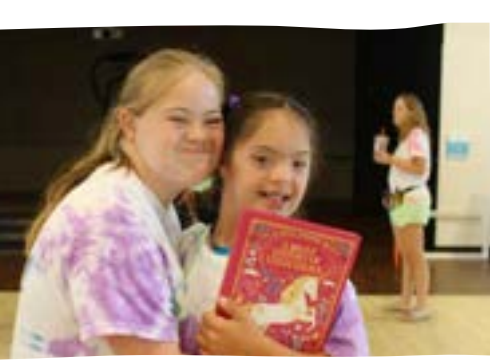
Camp MDA | Muscular Dystrophy Association

Serving children with neuromuscular diseases.

Camp Cole's Kids

Serving children of all abilities who who want to learn about service.





MISSION DRIVEN

Year Round Partners

From September through May, we extend the joy of camp beyond our summer season, offering day-long, weekend, and multi-day experiences with our mission-driven camp partners. Nonprofits, schools, and other organizations are able to serve and create meaningful experiences at Camp Cole. Below is a list of our incredible 2025 mission-driven year round partners and how we collaborate.

The Lovis Foundation

A nonprofit organization supporting under-recognized and under-supported communities, with a focus on the disability community, collaborating with Camp Cole for the Lovis Frost Winter Dance.

Original Design

A nonprofit organization in Columbia, SC, serving children ages 8-12 through mentorships, collaborating with Camp Cole for quarterly camps.

Brennen Elementary School

An elementary school in Columbia, SC, serving students from Kindergarten to 5th grade, collaborating with Camp Cole for a field trip for their deaf and hard of hearing students.

Limitless Purpose

A nonprofit organization in Columbia, SC, focused on helping children reach their full potential regardless of disabilities or disadvantages, collaborating with Camp Cole for a family celebration.

Camp Rise Above

A nonprofit organization in Charleston, SC, serving children and young adults with disabilities or illnesses, collaborating with Camp Cole for a Young Adult Weekend and a Camp Preview Weekend.

Hammond School

A private school in Columbia, SC, serving students from Pre-K to 12th grade, collaborating with Camp Cole for a 4th grade overnight field trip.

Eastminster Presbyterian Church ACCESS Program

A church in Columbia, SC, serving families and children with unique needs through the ACCESS ministry and young adult events, collaborating with Camp Cole for a Young Adult Day Camp.

A.C. Moore Elementary School

An elementary school in Columbia, SC, serving students from Pre-K to 5th grade, collaborating with Camp Cole for a 5th grade field trip.

Sistercare

A nonprofit organization in Columbia, SC, helping people identify and leave abusive relationships, collaborating with Camp Cole for a one-day teen camp.

Liberty Steam Charter School

A charter school in Sumter, SC, serving students in Kindergarten through 12th grade, collaborating with Camp Cole for a 2nd grade field trip.

Big Homie Lil Homie

A nonprofit organization in Columbia, SC, uplifting boys through mentoring to become responsible young men, collaborating with Camp Cole for a fall overnight mentorship retreat.

MISSION DRIVEN

Year Round Partners

Camp KEMO Programs

A nonprofit organization in Columbia, SC, serving children with cancer and blood disorders, collaborating with Camp Cole for a fall overnight family weekend.

Sickle Cell Disease Program

A health organization in Columbia, SC, supporting families and children living with sickle cell disease, collaborating with Camp Cole for a family picnic.

SC National Guard Family Programs

A military family support organization in Columbia, SC, providing crisis and grief support, short-term counseling, and resources, collaborating with Camp Cole for a women's overnight fall retreat, "Behind the Boots."

New Horizons

Operated by Prisma Health Children's Hospital, supporting children who have lost a sibling to cancer or a blood disorder, collaborating with Camp Cole for a weekend bereavement camp.

Healing Hearts

Operated by Prisma Health Children's Hospital, supporting children ages 5-18 in processing the loss of a loved one through the Healing Hearts Grief Program, collaborating with Camp Cole for a weekend grief camp.



Community Partners

While we collaborate with camps and mission-driven partners throughout the year, we also offer our facility for community partner rentals. The funds from these rentals directly support camp opportunities for the campers we serve!

In 2025 our community partners included

HERColumbia Women's Lifestyle Conference

National Teachers Conference

Sandhills Community Church

Kappa Delta at University of South Carolina

DACH

Leadership Columbia

BrightStart

USC Leadership & Service

Watershed Fellowship

Apostles Columbia





Specialized Activities

WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

With certified lifeguards and Camp Cole program staff leading every activity, campers safely enjoy kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, swimming, and fishing at Peter's Pond. Fully accessible features like Jake's Dock ensures all campers can participate in the fun, while the beach and Fortson Family Gazebo offer welcoming spaces to relax and recharge. Together, these experiences foster confidence and inclusion.



FISHING

Campers practice casting and catch-and-release skills from our fully accessible dock at our well-stocked pond. Fishing on Jake's Dock builds confidence, patience, and fosters love for the outdoors through a rewarding, hands-on experience.



COLE'S ROOTS

Campers connect with nature by grooming, observing, and feeding goats and chickens, collecting fresh eggs, and exploring along our Nature Trail. Through these learning experiences, campers develop a deeper respect for living creatures and a stronger connection to nature.



ZERO-ENTRY POOL

Campers cool off with swimming, splashing, and playing in the Bubba Roof & Family Pool. The zero-entry design and accessible ramp make entering and exiting the water easy for all campers, while qualified lifeguards and program staff provide supervision and support to ensure a safe, refreshing, and fun experience on hot summer days.



Specialized Activities

INDOOR & OUTDOOR GAMES

Campers build problem-solving, conflict-resolution, and communication skills through a variety of indoor and outdoor games on the turf field and in the Southeastern Freight Lines Activity Center. From relay races and freeze tag to scavenger hunts and dance-offs, these activities encourage teamwork, laughter, and meaningful skill-building while creating lasting memories.



ARTS & CRAFTS

Campers use their imaginations and creativity led by our Art Lead through painting, drawing, and more. These hands-on activities in our Art Studio support social development, self-expression, and a strong sense of accomplishment through creative exploration.



ARCHERY

Campers learn how to shoot an adaptable bow and arrow, guided by seasoned instructors who teach safety, proper form, and skill development. This activity enhances hand-eye coordination, balance, and confidence while providing a fun, focused way to relieve stress.



TEAM BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Campers work together toward shared goals through team-building activities that strengthen relationship-building, creative thinking, communication, and leadership skills. These experiences emphasize listening, trust, and the value of being part of something larger than themselves.



OUR *Volunteers*

From assisting with programs to serving as camp counselors and nurses, helping plan fundraisers, and caring for our beautiful campus, our volunteers make a meaningful difference at Camp Cole.

2025 VOLUNTEER IMPACT

682 VOLUNTEERS

9,729 HOURS SERVED

VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Colonial Life: **Camp Impact Sponsor**

Silver Foxes

Dial, Grimm & Rupert Law Firm

Spring Valley High School

Ben Lippen School

Heathwood Hall Episcopal School

BlueCross BlueShield of SC

Founders Federal Credit Union

City Year Columbia

Blythewood High School

Elliot Davis

Indigo Orthodontics

Word Alive Church GHG Youth Group

South Carolina Department of
Veterans' Affairs

St. James Baptist Youth Group

Chinese Youth Association of
Columbia

Asana Partners

Tito's Handmade Vodka

Cardinal Newman High School



FUNDRAISING *Events*

CAMP COLE SIGNATURE EVENTS


Happy Campers
Oyster Roast

SONGWRITERS FOR
Camp Cole

PUMPKIN
palooza

Peace, Love &

CAMP COLE
Benefit Concert

AMOUNT RAISED: \$618,384

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- | Red Clay Strays Benefit Concert with Win Anyway Foundation |
- | Crave Artisan Market Percent Day | Fab'rik Shop for a Cause |
- | Alivia Fashion Collaborations | Partager Runway for Hope |
- | Boca Grande Percent Day | The Flying Biscuit Cafe Percent Day |
- | USC Association of Letterman Golf Tournament |
- | Steel Hands Vista Pint Fundraiser | Steel Hands Nashville Nights |
- | Chick-fil-A Garners Ferry Gallons for Good Fundraiser |
- | Chick-fil-A Garners Ferry Community Care Percent Day |
- | Stephanie Seay Simply Me Photography Fundraiser |
- | Clemson Kappa Alpha Parents Weekend Fundraiser |
- | Wofford Greek Week Fundraiser | The Upside Down Collection Percent Week |
- | University of South Carolina Interfraternity Council (IFC) Greek Bowl |
- | ERA Wilder Northeast Playhouse Fundraiser | Giving After Thanksgiving 5K |
- | Guild Mortgage Fundraiser | Duck Duck Goose Santa Fundraiser |

NEW IN 2025



āLIVIA

In 2025, Camp Cole started a partnership with Alivia, a fashion brand that transforms original artwork from people with disabilities into beautiful wearable designs. These fashion collaborations celebrate creativity, inclusion, and provide a meaningful opportunity for Camp Cole campers and designers with disabilities. Ten percent of proceeds from each Camp Cole x Alivia collection are donated back to Camp Cole, directly supporting our mission! Collections by campers Kate Liggitt and Lila Mozingo launched in 2025, with their artwork translated into colorful prints and embroidery featured on clothing sold nationwide. Collections by camper Ann Mealing and former staff member Liz Twitty will debut in 2026. The partnership will continue on through 2026 with the Design & Shine Spring Fashion Show and Fundraising Soirée and more collaborations!

www.shopalivia.com



Our Financials

Camp Cole, a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, subsidizes 35% or more of the direct camp cost for every camper through our donor-supported Camper Scholarships. The remaining cost of camp is funded through partner organizations and groups. In 2025, Camp Cole's revenue came from grants & contributions, special events, In-Kind donations, and other sources, while expenses supported program services, and management operations.

REVENUE

Grants & Contributions: \$1,146,512.00

Special Events: \$388,460.00

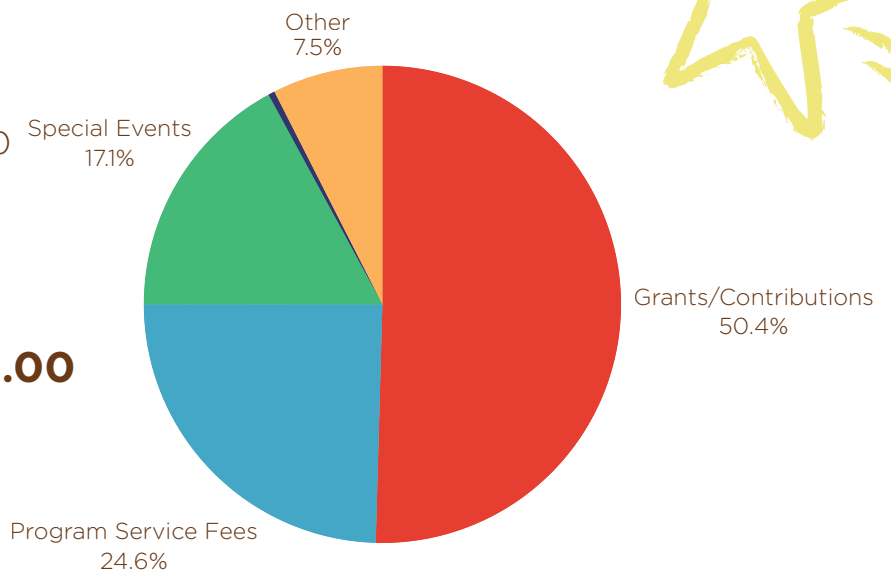
In-Kind: \$9,863.00

Program Service Fees: \$557,993.00

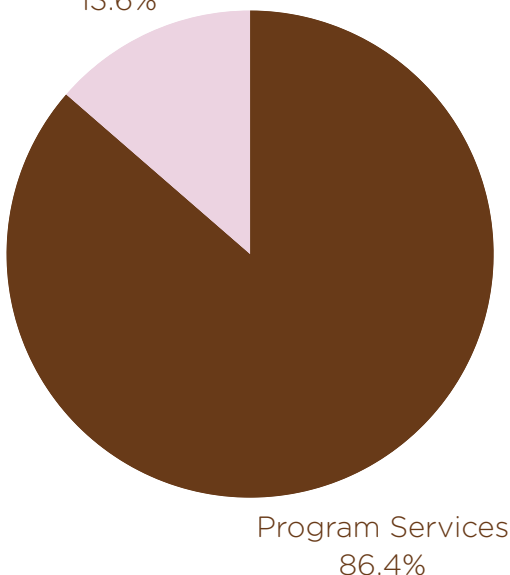
Other Income: \$170,000.00

Total Revenue: \$2,272,828.00

net of Special Events expenses and Scholarships



Management & Fundraising
13.6%



EXPENSES

Program Services: \$1,675,692.00

Management and Fundraising: \$264,275.00

Total Expenses: \$1,939,627.00

All additional funds raised went into the Capital Improvement Fund for future capital endeavors. In 2025, these funds supported a newly renovated pool opening in 2026

You can find ways to support Camp Cole financially at www.campcole.org/support.

