



# HEADS UP! HARTFORD



*A weeklong summer camp uniting urban and suburban youth to improve our communities and develop as leaders.*

## 2019 Annual Report

[www.headsuphartford.org](http://www.headsuphartford.org)

# Our Mission

## ***Promoting Diversity & Inclusion***

At Heads Up! Hartford, teens from a variety of geographic, economic, and racial backgrounds collaborate to serve the community during the day and engage with each other during a variety of educational and leisure activities at night. We believe promoting diversity and inclusion helps us all to grow, learn, and become better contributors to our society.

## ***Celebrating 16 years***

We celebrated the 16<sup>th</sup> summer of Heads Up! Hartford (HUH!), held on June 21-28, 2019. This faith-based, week-long service camp is licensed by the state of Connecticut and serves urban and suburban youth from in and around Hartford. As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization our purpose is to build bridges across our many differences and develop leadership capability in young people through community service, recreation, worship and education.

This year, we shared our camp experience with **43 campers, 22 full-time volunteers, and many more part-time volunteers.** Together we donated over **3000 hours** of service to local organizations.

Our Youth Advisory Board, comprised of experienced campers, took on a much bigger role in both planning for and running camp. They created the Sunday ecumenical worship service, ran an evening program, took on strong leadership roles within their teams, and showed everyone the value of a youth led camp.

## ***Who we are...***

Passionate individuals who believe we're stronger together and are dedicated to the continued success of the organization. In 2003, the founders of the camp knew they wanted a name that reflected the intent and spirit of our camp. They decided on "Heads Up! Hartford" due to its multiple meanings. It's a phrase of encouragement: "*Keep your head up Hartford, you're doing great.*" It's meant to raise awareness: "*Look out, Hartford, something fantastic is happening here!*"



# 2019 Financials

## Our Team:

Julie McGarry, Camp Director  
 Theresa Buckley-Murawski, Assistant Director  
 Briannon Chester, Assistant Director  
 Briannon Chester, Camp Nurse  
 Carrie Combs, Spiritual Director  
 Shelby Demke, Office Manager

## Operations Committee:

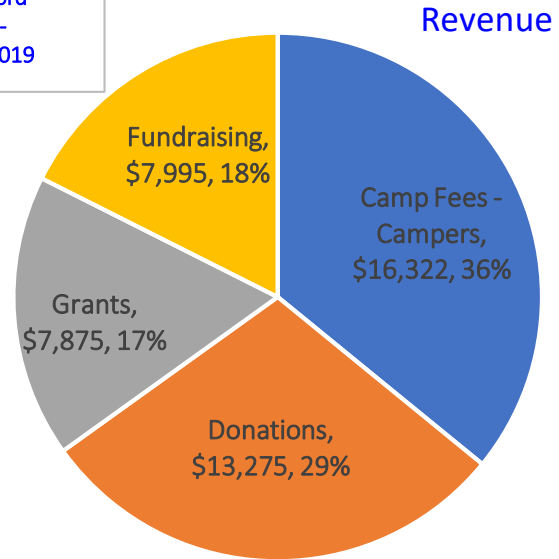
Patti Cole, Linda Spiers, Fred Dudley, Jim Pestana, Gayle Wilcox, Briannon Chester, Rowena Kemp, Shelby Demke, Theresa Buckley-Murawski, Patrick King, Courtney King, Linda Sill

## Board of Directors:

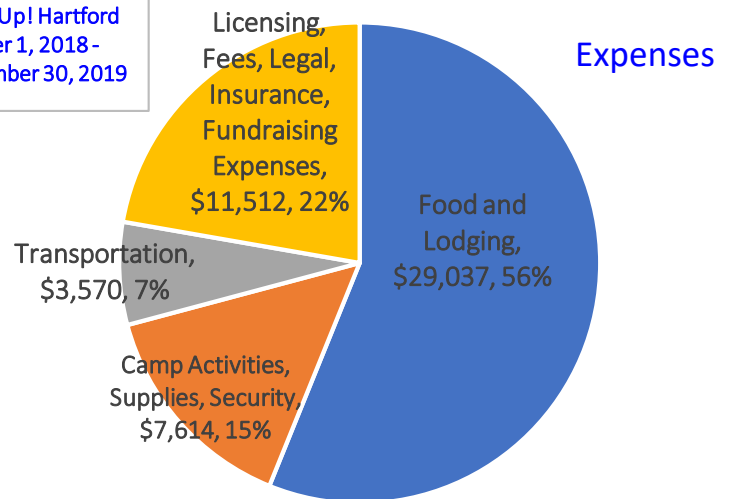
Adah Dionne  
 Ayesha Gains-Roundtree  
 Tyron Harris  
 Aaliyah Miller  
 Basil Mahoney  
 Dennis Scarpa  
 Rev. Linda Spiers  
 Gayle Wilcox  
 Julie McGarry\*

\*Not a board member but participates in board meetings.

Heads Up! Hartford  
 October 1, 2018 -  
 September 30, 2019



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Revenue		
Camp Fees - Campers	\$16,322	36%
Donations	\$13,275	29%
Grants	\$7,875	17%
Fundraising	\$7,995	18%
	\$45,467	100%
Expenditures		
Food and Lodging	\$29,037	56%
Camp Activities, Supplies, Security	\$7,614	15%
Transportation	\$3,570	7%
Licensing, Fees, Legal, Insurance, Fundraising Expenses	\$11,512	22%
	\$51,733	100%

## Our Worksites:

Our Community Work Partners are in and around the Hartford, CT area. At these sites, we give back to the community through direct service during camp week.

- FoodShare
- Family Life Education
- Healing Meals Community Project
- Higley Village/Metacomet East Granby
- Asylum Hill Center
- CRT Children's Learning Center (Laurel)
- CRT-ECE Grace Street Center
- Douglas Street Early Care Center
- My Sister's Place
- Asylum Hill Center
- The Village Early Childcare Center
- Charities of Hope
- West Hartford Fellowship
- MeadowBrook
- Chrysalis Center
- Connectikids
- South Granby Congregational Church
- Summer of Solutions
- Church of the Good Shepherd
- Grace Episcopal Church
- Gifts of Love



## Our Activities:

Mixed in with a lot of hard work, we participate in a variety of activities that foster team building, educate about diversity, and enhance the skills of future leaders. These take place at our residential site of **Ethel Walker School**, Simsbury, CT as well as throughout the Hartford area. Food collection for local food pantries at grocery stores

- Sunday worship, planned and led by our Youth Advisory Board
- Picnic table build for local organizations
- Field day
- Basketball tournament
- Talent show
- Silent service
- Two refugee women spoke to campers about their experiences
- Aaliyah Miller worked with campers about the importance of personal narrative
- Craig Norton guided campers in an interactive drumming experience
- Valerie Tutson provided a storytelling evening



# Youth Partner Organizations

Heads Up! Hartford is a partnership of church and youth organizations who agree to support our efforts by sending their youth to camp.

- First Church Glastonbury
- St. Dunstan's
- Trinity Collinsville
- East Granby Congregational Church
- St Luke's Episcopal
- Trinity Newtown
- South Congregational Church
- St James Episcopal
- Breakthrough Magnet School alumni
- St Paul's Woodbury
- North United Methodist Church
- Anointed Tabernacle of Jesus Christ
- Westminster Presbyterian
- Holy Innocents



## The Macy Reid Award

Again this year, we distributed awards in memory of Macy Reid, one of the founders of HUH. Macy passed during the summer of 2007. In her honor, we recognized 8 students who displayed:

**Deep faith in God.** Macy trusted the Spirit to show up even when it looked like things wouldn't work out.

**Passion for compassion.** Macy lived her life to help others.

**Sense of humor, even in tough times.** When HUH! was hanging on by a string, Macy could crack a joke and see the absurdity of it all.

**Strong sense of justice.** Macy could not tolerate oppression and unfairness and had no problem getting angry over them.

**Willingness to work very hard toward a shared goal.** Macy worked long hours helping to create Heads Up! Hartford from thin air.



### 2019 Recipients:

- Chris Brown
- Abbey Infante
- Hannah Pierson
- Dan Buck
- Amalia Escalera
- Noah Kroninger
- Shao Stassen
- Emily Sill



# Thank you to our donors!

Trust for Mountain Classroom  
Kids for Kids CT  
First Church of Christ Congregational Glastonbury  
KBE Building Corporation  
Fiduciary Investment Advisors  
Carmon Community Funeral Home  
East Granby Congregational Church  
Buckingham Congregational Church  
The J. Walton Bissell Foundation, Inc.  
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.



***Save the date:***  
**2020 Camp Week is June 19-26, 2020!**

