



**HEADS UP!**  
HARTFORD

**2021**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

## ***Our mission***

*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 society.*

# Celebrating 18 years

We're 18 years strong and growing! 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 that promoting diversity and inclusion helps us all to grow, learn, and become better contributors to our society.

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.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we conducted a hybrid camp. This consisted of two community service days, along with virtual camp via Zoom during the afternoons and evenings. We shared our camp experience with 19 campers, and 17 full-time staff. Together we donated over 500 hours of service to local organizations.

## *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!"



# 2021 HUH Hybrid Summer Camp Week

## 2021 Camp Schedule

Camp was in session from **Monday, June 21-27**, with a two-hour commitment every evening. These two hours, which we are calling, the “Main Events”, took place from 7-9 pm. This segment included several of our amazing and beloved traditional camp activities, such as blue room speakers, team time, music, opportunities to engage in service, God moments, and worship!

For campers who wanted more HUH time, we provided two optional segments every day: “Free Time” and “Late Night.”

- “Free Time” took place from 2-4 pm. This segment served as a time for campers to work on “warm fuzzies” together, participate in group games, work on arts and crafts, and socialize.
- “Late Night” took place from 9-11 pm. This segment included activities like movie nights, dorm time among the ladies and gentlemen, and more socializing with counselors and campers. Campers were welcome to drop into these additional sessions as often as they would like or not at all if they preferred to only attend the “Main Events”. All of this programming took place over video chat software.

## **Our Activities**

Mixed in with a lot of hard work, we participated in a variety of activities that fostered team building, educated about diversity, and enhanced the skills of tomorrow's leaders.

### **At home service projects**

- Art kits
- Keychains and postcards (for Habitat for Humanity closings)
- Garden stones
- Dog & cat toys
- Placemats (for Agape prison ministry)

### **Camp traditions**

- Worship service planned and led by Youth Advisory Board (YABs)
- Nightly worship with camper-submitted God Moments
- Nightly slideshow
- Talent show
- Field day

### **Digital innovations**

- Daily "free time" from 2-4 pm
- Daily "late night" from 9-11 pm
- Daily photo/social media challenge



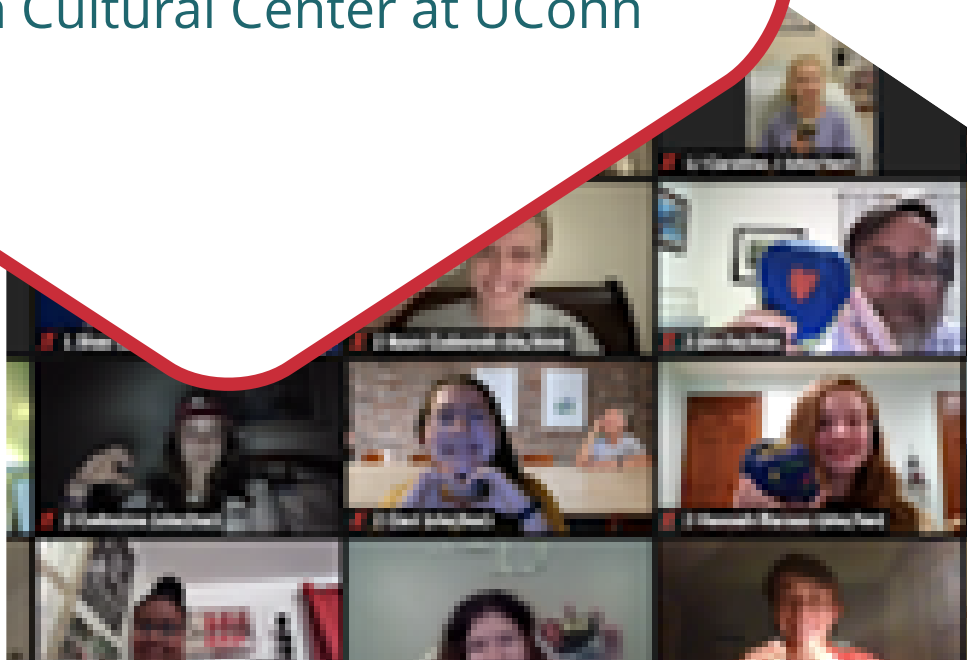
# Evening Speakers

**Tuesday:** Marlene Pratt from the New Haven Botanical Garden of Healing Dedicated to Victims of Gun Violence

**Wednesday:** Juancarlos Soto from the New Haven Pride Center

**Thursday:** Jazmynn Jakubczyk from Prudence Crandall House presented "Safe Dates" program

**Friday:** Kulnoor Saini from the Asian American Cultural Center at UConn



# Leadership Diversity Community

## Board of Directors

Aaliyah Miller

Adah Dionne

Ayesha Gains-Roundtree

Basil Mahoney

Brian Thompson

Dr. Sharale Mathis

Dennis Scarpa

Gayle Wilcox

Julie McGarry\*

Rev. Linda Spiers

\*Non-voting board member

## Our Team

Julie McGarry, Camp Director

Briannon Chester, Assistant  
Director & Nurse

Rev. Linda Spiers, Spiritual  
Director

Rev. Rowena Kemp, Spiritual  
Director

Shelby Demke, Office Manager  
Operations Committee:

Patti Cole, Linda Spiers, Fred  
Dudley, Jim Pestana, Gayle  
Wilcox, Briannon Chester, Rev.  
Rowena Kemp, Shelby Demke,  
Patrick King, Courtney King,  
Linda Sill, Erin McAdoo, Rose  
Murphy, Jillian Edwards, Andrea  
Sullivan



# Youth Partnering Organizations

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

- St. James Episcopal, Glastonbury
- First Church of Christ, Glastonbury
- Trinity Episcopal Church, Hartford
- South Congregational Church, Granby
- Bolton Congregational
- St. Luke's Episcopal, Glastonbury
- St. Mary's Episcopal Church
- Trinity Episcopal, Newtown
- Buckingham Congregational Church, Glastonbury
- St. Marks, Storrs

# Sponsoring Organizations

- Colonial Painting and Restoration
- October Kitchen
- L.E. Whitford, Co. LLC

# Community Partners

- Republic, an urban gastro pub
- Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence



# The Macy Reid Award

In a typical year, we distribute awards in memory of Macy Reid, one of the founders of HUH. Macy passed away during the summer of 2007. In her honor, we recognize students who display:

- 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 did not tolerate oppression and unfairness .
- Willingness to work very hard toward a shared goal. Macy worked long hours helping to create Heads Up! Hartford from thin air.

The winner of the Macy Reid award was presented to Chisom "Chi-Chi" Onoh and Catherine Chester.

Caring  
Connections  
Unity  
Love



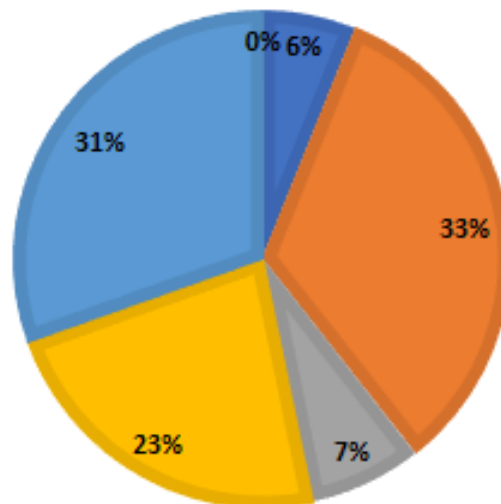
**Chi-Chi Onoh and Catherine Chester**

# 2021 Financials

(10/1/20 - 9/30/21)

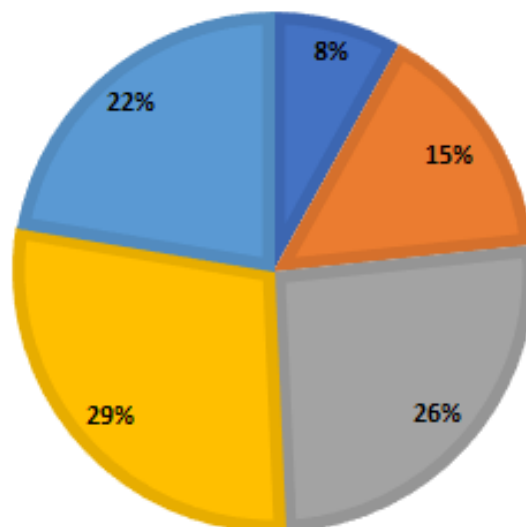
## INCOME

- Camp Fees
- Board Member Donations
- Fundraising
- Donations
- Donations Designated to Pay for Campers
- Interest Income



## EXPENSES

- Marketing Expenses
- Camp Fees
- Fundraising Expenses
- Insurance and Legal
- Storage Fees



# 2021 Financials Continued



| <b>INCOME</b>                   |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Camp Fees                       | \$2,680  |
| Donations                       | \$14,615 |
| Board Member Donations          | \$3,225  |
| Donations Designated to Pay for | \$10,000 |
| Fundraising                     | \$13,376 |
| Interest Income                 | \$3      |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                 |          |
| Marketing Expenses              | \$944    |
| Camp Fees                       | \$1,799  |
| Fundraising Expenses            | \$3,049  |
| Insurance and Legal             | \$3,333  |
| Storage Fees                    | \$2,623  |

