



2023 IMPACT REPORT



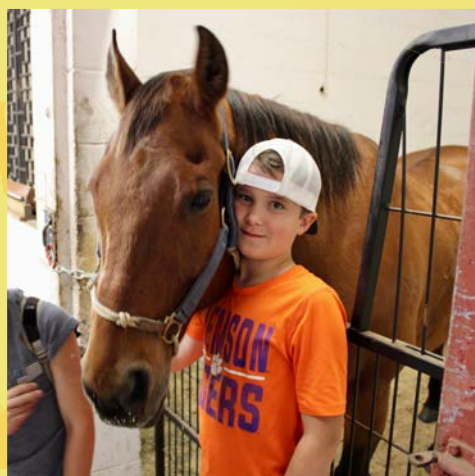
CAMP COLE

A place TO SHINE

1571 CROSSING CREEK ROAD, EASTOVER, SC 29044 • 803-849-8697



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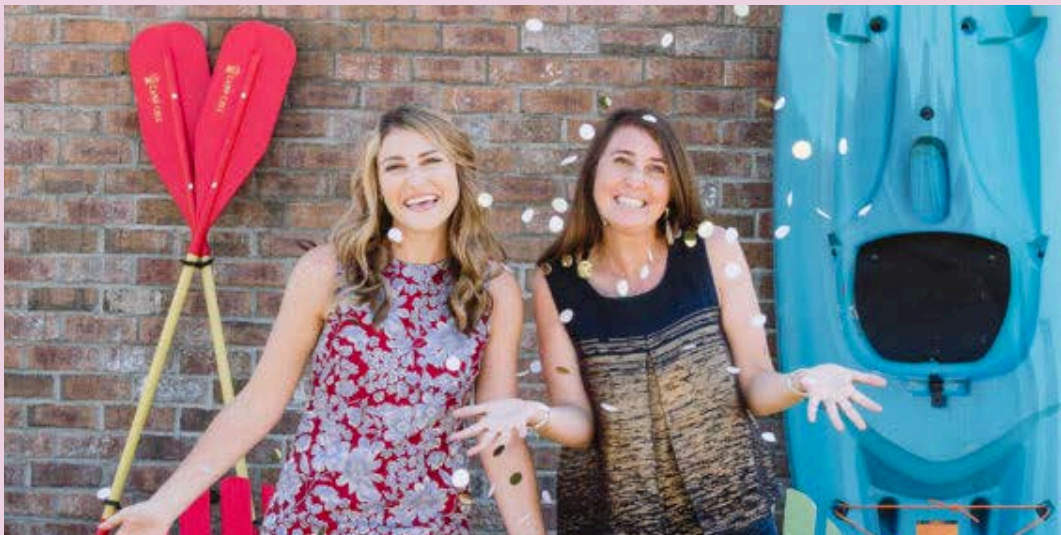


A LETTER FROM OUR CO-FOUNDERS

2023 has been an incredible year for Camp Cole. We have seen extensive expansion in not only our campus, but also our programs, staff, and community support. When we opened Camp Cole's doors in 2021, we never in our wildest dreams thought we would be building a 20,000 square foot Activity Center and serving over 1,500 individuals annually within our third operational year. It is because of the support of our community, volunteers, partners, and donors that we are able to continue our mission of being a camp and retreat center for children, teens, and adults with disabilities, illnesses, and other life challenges. This year, we served a wide scope of campers, ranging from children who have cancer to adults who have experienced sexual abuse. We are honored to have provided a safe, accessible place where our 2023 campers could take part in enriching and memorable programming and bond with others facing similar challenges. Thank you for being a part of the magic.

You are the reason Camp Cole shines!

-KELSEY SAWYER CARTER & MARGARET DEANS FAWCETT GRANTZ



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Sawyer
Peter Fawcett
Eric Cleaves
Dennis Rabon
Rustin Cassels Britt

Mark Chappell
Cary Coker
Deans Fawcett
Chad Gunnlaugsson, MD
John Hinks, Jr.

Chad Holbrook
Mark Hood
Ron Neuberg, MD
Robert Simmons
Shelton Twine

OUR *Why*

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide a **safe, accessible, and inspirational** gathering place where groups can **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.

OUR STORY

Camp Cole is named in memory of Cole Sawyer, an 11-year-old boy who passed away from cancer in 2004. During his battle, Cole and his family were inspired by a local camp that catered exclusively to children with cancer. Cole's experience at the camp made him forget about being sick and remember how to have fun—to laugh, play, and make new friends.

When Cole passed away, his mother Stacy vowed to build a unique camp in his memory so that more children living with critical illnesses, disabilities, and life challenges could experience the joy of an overnight camp the way Cole had. A few years into planning, Stacy unexpectedly passed away.

Together, with support from a generous community of friends and supporters, we forged ahead with Stacy's dream.

Today, the spirits of Cole and Stacy shine brightly across our beautiful Camp Cole campus.



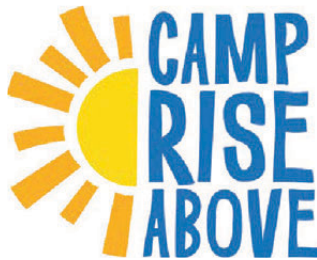
OUR Campers

OUR SUMMER CAMPERS

- ✦ **Camp KEMO Programs:** 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, illnesses, or life challenges
- ✦ **Muscular Dystrophy Association Camp:** Serving children who have neuromuscular diseases
- ✦ **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 STARS:** Serving military children who have illnesses, disabilities, and life challenges, as well as their siblings
- ✦ **Cole's Kids Service Camp:** Serving children of all abilities who want to learn more about serving their community

OUR YEAR-ROUND CAMPERS

- ✦ **Midlands Fatherhood Coalition:** Serving fathers and their children by providing a time of connection at Daddy & Me Camp
- ✦ **Big Homie Lil' Homie:** Serving young boys who are in need of a positive male role model
- ✦ **Liberty STEAM Charter School:** Serving the second grade class with a daytime field trip experience
- ✦ **Hammond School:** Serving the fourth grade class with an overnight field trip experience
- ✦ **Horrell Hill Elementary School:** Serving the kindergarten class with a daytime field trip experience
- ✦ **Sickle Cell Disease Program:** Serving families who have children with sickle cell anemia with a family picnic
- ✦ **YoungLife Capernaum:** Serving young adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities
- ✦ **The Therapy Place:** Serving the siblings of children who have special needs and/or developmental delays
- ✦ **New Horizons:** Serving children whose siblings have passed away from cancer or a blood disorder
- ✦ **Healing Hearts:** Serving families as they process the loss of a loved one
- ✦ **Team Therapy:** Serving children who have developmental delays and disabilities



HAMMOND



HEATHWOOD HALL
Episcopal School



Horrell Hill Elementary
Home of the Eagles



OUR Community

When we aren't hosting camps, we turn our attention to serving as a rental facility for local organizations, businesses, churches, and individuals that need a space to gather and connect. The funds raised from these rentals go towards providing camp opportunities to our deserving summer and year-round campers.

2023 COMMUNITY RENTALS

Arch Mortgage Retreat

Colliers Retreat

Ezekiel Ministries Board Retreat

University of South Carolina's Fraternity & Sorority Life Retreat

The Hive Community Circle's SC Survivors Summit

Leadership Columbia Retreat

Leadership Sumter Retreat

SC Firefighters' Association's Executive Committee Meeting

Sweet Science Nursing Conference

University of South Carolina's Alpha Delta Pi Retreat

University of South Carolina's Kappa Delta New Member Retreat

USO South Carolina's Holidays for Heroes

The 169th Airguard Fighter Wing's Family Christmas Party



Colliers Retreat



SC Firefighters' Association's
Executive Committee Meeting



Kappa Delta New
Member Retreat



The Hive Community Circle's SC Survivors Summit



Leadership Sumter Retreat

OUR Programs

COLE'S ROOTS

The Cole's Roots Nature Immersion Program allows our campers to explore the Nature Trail and Deans' Barn and interact with horses, goats, and chickens. Campers leave Cole's Roots with a deeper respect for other living creatures and an increased sense of connection with nature.

OUTDOOR GAMES

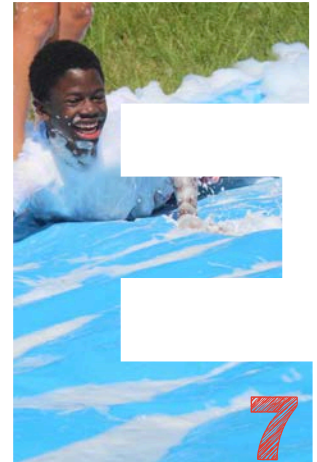
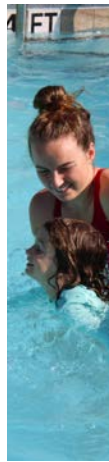
We believe that outdoor games are a fantastic way to build and strengthen relationships. Our Outdoor Games program allows campers to improve communication, learn resolution and conflict skills, and participate in problem-solving, all while having fun and making memories.

WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

With trained and certified lifeguards and outdoor adventure experts to lead them, campers can splash, paddle, and play while using our kayaks, canoes, and paddleboards. Jake's Dock offers a fully-accessible place to relax and fish from our well-stocked Peter's Pond. Campers who prefer to cool off in the water can do so in our roped-off swimming area.

SWIMMING IN THE POOL

On warm summer days, there is nothing better than taking a refreshing dip in the Bubba Roof & Family Pool. Its zero-entry design and accessible ramp ensure that all campers can get in and out of the water with no trouble. Our qualified and caring Program Staff are always on-guard to ensure everyone is safe and having fun.





OUR 2023 Impact

1,228 CAMPERS

464 VOLUNTEERS

14 COMMUNITY RENTALS



96 % OF OUR CAMPERS FELT LIKE THEY COULD BE THEMSELVES AT CAMP



95 % OF OUR CAMPERS MADE NEW FRIENDS AT CAMP



87 % OF OUR CAMPERS TRIED SOMETHING NEW OR STEPPED OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONES

“CAMP COLE MAKES ME HAPPY AND OVERJOYED!”
-Camper, Age 7

“CAMP COLE MAKES ME FEEL BRAVE. I FACED MY FEARS HERE.”
-Camper, Age 8

“MY FAVORITE PART OF CAMP COLE IS JUST BEING HERE!”
-Camper, Age 13

“THIS PROGRAM HAS HELPED MY CHILD GROW SIGNIFICANTLY. IT GIVES HER SO MUCH POSITIVITY AND HAPPINESS. I ABSOLUTELY LOVE TO SEE HER HAVE THIS AMAZING EXPERIENCE IN HER CHILDHOOD.”
-Camper's Parent

OUR *Volunteers*

Whether they are assisting with programs, serving as camp counselors, helping plan fundraisers, or making our campus clean and beautiful, our volunteers truly make a difference at Camp Cole.

11,842 HOURS VOLUNTEERED IN 2023
\$332,878.62 SAVED* IN 2023

WORDS FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS:

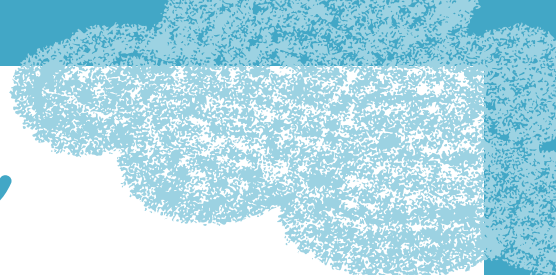
“ I just love being here and being a part of Camp Cole! ”

“ I just love driving up here to volunteer. It's a great way to start my day. ”

“ This place is truly magical. The smiles on the kids' faces are incredible. ”

*As calculated by the Independent Sector Value of Volunteer Report





OUR Events

CAMP COLE EVENTS

The Happy Campers Oyster Roast Songwriters for Camp Cole
Spooky Spirits Bash Pumpkin Palooza Yacht Rock Revue

AMOUNT RAISED: \$438,027.30

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Jake's Dock Party • 107.5 THE GAME Golf Tournament • Midlands Gives Day
• Cole's Kids Lemonade Stands • Five Points Association's St. Patrick's Day
• Sawyer Cup Soccer Tournament • James Lalumondier's Art Show
• Flying Biscuit Cafe Percent Day • Boca Grande Burritos Percent Day
• United Soccer Night • Iron Hill Brewery Opening • Edwin Martin Ironman
• Lizard's Thicket Fundraiser • Columbia Family Chiropractic Fundraiser •
Turner & Moss Percent Day • Garners Ferry Chick-fil-a Chari-tea Fundraiser
• The ART of Real Estate's Karma Keg Social • Cole's Birthday Fundraiser •
The Upside Down Collection Percent Month • ERA Wilder Playhouse Raffle
• Giving After Thanksgiving 5k & Children's Run • Fab'rik Percent Day
• Steel Hands Brewing Training Day • Be Kind Cookie Co. Fundraiser
• She Sings Concert Fundraiser • Billy G's Carolina BBQ Pre-Game Party •
University of South Carolina's Interfraternity Council Basketball Tournament
• Duck Duck Goose Fundraiser • Morganelli's Fundraiser •
Columbia Swim League Fundraiser

AMOUNT RAISED: \$156,917.43

COMING IN 2024

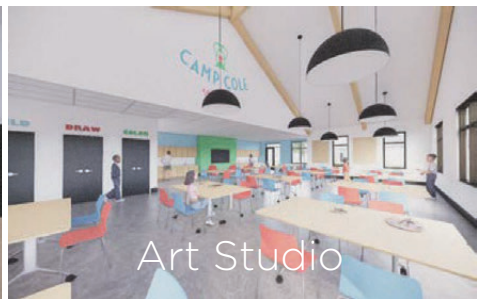
Over the past three years, Camp Cole has proudly served as a haven to over 1,800 campers with illnesses, disabilities, and life challenges. With zero debt from our inaugural building campaign and a proven track record of delivering valuable, impact-based programming, it is time to enhance our 40-acre outdoor campus with adequate indoor space for *inside magic*. In Spring of 2024, we will finish construction on our Southeastern Freight Lines Activity Center, a space that will allow us to double the number of people we serve and provide year-round programming regardless of inclement weather.



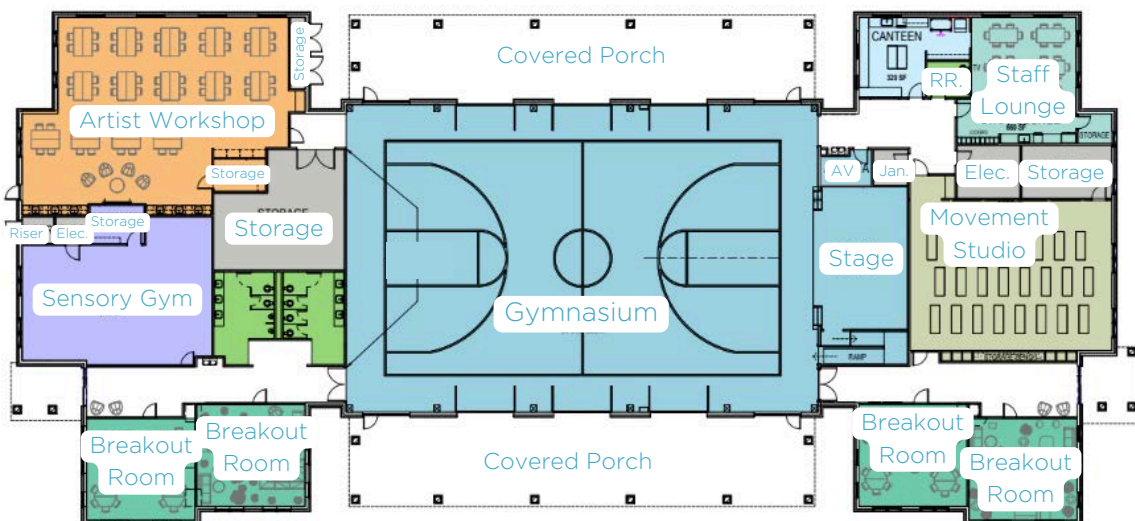
Gymnasium



Movement Studio



Art Studio



HOW TO SUPPORT CAMP COLE

SPONSORSHIPS

Camp Cole organizes several signature events throughout the year to raise funds for camp. If you are interested in sponsoring an event, please email margaretdeans@campcole.org.

AMAZON WISHLIST



We stock our Amazon Wishlist with items that will benefit our campus and campers. If you would like to browse or purchase any of these items, please scan the code above.

CAMPFIRE CONFERENCES

Camp Cole is available for facility rentals in the winter, spring, and fall. Our state-of-the-art campus is the perfect spot for your next meeting, conference, or retreat! To learn more about Campfire Conferences, please email lauren@campcole.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Interacting with us on social media is a great way to spread our mission and stay in the know. You can find us on Instagram and Facebook as [@CampColeSouthCarolina](https://www.instagram.com/CampColeSouthCarolina).

DONATIONS



Donations from generous donors make it possible for us to continue providing camp experiences to individuals who might not otherwise get to attend camp. Checks (made payable to Camp Cole) can be mailed to PO Box 6377, Columbia SC 2926. Scan the QR code above to donate online. For more information about giving, please email margaretdeans@campcole.org.

VOLUNTEERING

Our work would not be possible without the support and dedication of our volunteers. If you would like to volunteer as an individual or a group, please email info@campcole.org.

