With the community’s love and support, Camp Encourage has distributed over $576,000 in scholarships since the first camp session in 2008.

My camper tried something new at camp. Camp Encourage seemed well designed and organized. Camp Encourage cares about providing a quality experience. I can tell that Camp Encourage cares about safety. My camper learned to do more on his or her own without parents. The staff at Camp Encourage assisted my child in feeling good about him/herself. Camp Encourage provided my child with an opportunity to increase independence. This experience enhanced my child’s self-esteem. Camp Encourage provided increased social opportunities and growth. This experience positively impacted my camper’s daily living skills. I would send my child to Camp Encourage again. I would recommend Camp Encourage to other parents.

2019 marked our twelfth year of providing quality overnight camps to youth with autism spectrum disorder in Missouri and Kansas. Your in-kind donations, volunteer hours, and financial gifts made a huge impact on our campers. Through the four overnight camps (two summer and two weekend) and because of you, connections were made, new activities were braved, skills were gained, comfort zones were stepped out of, and hearts were filled.

The launch of our Connections program occurred, providing deeper enrichment, growth, and connection opportunities for our campers. As you’ll see within this year’s Annual Report, 2019 was full of goodness, growth, and grounding.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DISTRIBUTED $56,600
TOTAL NUMBER OF CAMPER SLOTS 178
140 ASD CAMPERS | 38 PEER CAMPERS
TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS 300+

Impact
With the community’s love and support, Camp Encourage has distributed over $576,000 in scholarships since the first camp session in 2008.

CAMPER STATS
CAMPERS THAT RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT 54%
CAMPERS FROM THE GREATER KANSAS CITY AREA 81%
CAMPERS FROM MISSOURI AND KANSAS 100%

Parent Feedback
After each camp session, parents were asked to provide feedback to ensure that the experience is meaningful, of high quality, and valuable. Parent feedback in 2019 was overwhelmingly positive.

PARENT SURVEY QUESTIONS
AGREEMENT RESPONSE
My camper tried something new at camp. 94%
Camp Encourage seemed well designed and organized. 100%
Camp Encourage cares about providing a quality experience. 100%
I can tell that Camp Encourage cares about safety. 100%
My camper learned to do more on his or her own without parents. 100%
The staff at Camp Encourage assisted my child in feeling good about him/herself. 100%
Camp Encourage provided my child with an opportunity to increase independence. 100%
This experience enhanced my child’s self-esteem. 100%
Camp Encourage provided increased social opportunities and growth. 100%
This experience positively impacted my camper’s daily living skills. 100%
I would send my child to Camp Encourage again. 100%
I would recommend Camp Encourage to other parents. 100%

“Giving her an opportunity to be independent, just like every other kid was amazing!” — Parent
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

TOTAL EXPENSES: $390,000

FINANCE & ADMIN

DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMMING

THE CAMP. THE MAGIC.

- The superstars that make it happen
- The place where the magic is planned, year-round
- Tons o’ fun (karaoke, horseback riding, swimming, ziplining, and a plethora of other goodness)
- Comfy lodging, a home away from home
- Food for volunteers and campers
- Safety first! (background checks)
- This and that (insurance, storage/moving costs, and more necessities)

MORE MAGIC TO COME

There is a clear need for the quality services Camp Encourage provides. More youth with ASD deserve this source of encouragement. More parents deserve the respite and the assurance that their child can be safe and successful away from home. A parent in 2019 expressed, “It gave my son a chance to grow in experiences and independence. He got to be himself without worrying about anyone being mean to him. It is a place where he can go and feel loved and accepted.”

Thank you for joining us and for being an integral part of the magic of Camp Encourage. Be watching for the next stage of growth as we continue to remain grounded in goodness.

There are many ways to support our mission.

Find out how YOU can contribute at campencourage.org or contact info@campencourage.org

Photography Credit: Tyler Wirken

"Camp Encourage was a great experience for my son. He came home feeling energized, more confident and eager to participate in camp next year. He would also like to volunteer once he ages out of attending." — Parent

"I was surrounded by caring and compassionate people. Everyone was accepted as they were. It helps me to better the world around me the same way." — Volunteer

"Camp Encourage always fills me with an amazing amount of joy and love. Camp is a safe place for the campers, staff, and everyone involved." — Volunteer

"It helped me to let go some and not be so overprotective." — Parent