

Camp fire Snohomish County

## Annual Report 2021



# Board President's Message



2021 was supposed to be our "Back to Normal", but, as we all quickly learned, that was NOT going to happen. COVID has continued to wreak havoc in our lives, with new variants and new challenges, and Camp Fire is no exception to these challenges.

Continuing COVID restrictions have severely affected our council operations again in 2021. We were limited on Mega club and traditional club programming. Self-Reliance and Outdoor Education have continued to be on hold due to COVID restrictions and school district limitations. The bright spot in our year was that we were able to operate Resident and Day Camp at Camp Killoqua! The number of kids were limited due to COVID capacity requirements, and there were a lot of tweaks to normal camp activities that had to be made to comply with regulations. But we had kids at Camp! That is a huge win!

We are looking forward to having even more kids back at Camp and in Club programming in 2022!

Nationally, Camp Fire has been developing a new strategic plan, helping Camp Fire to further our focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion. This new plan will also help us to address issues of cultural appropriation and how to move forward in a mindful, respectful manner. There is also a renewed focus on environmental stewardship, which is vitally important in our world today. Wonderful to see relevant, reinvigoration within our organization! Camp Fire is such an amazing organization, and we are exactly what so many kids in our society need right now!

This January will end my tenure as your Camp Fire Snohomish County Board President, and it has been such an honor to serve Camp Fire in this manner. While it would have been fun to serve under "normal" circumstances, the COVID experience has been like no other. We have learned that our council is resilient, flexible, and creative. Camp Fire Snohomish County will continue to grow, thrive, and adapt. I look forward to seeing what is in store for Camp Fire in the coming years!

### WoHeLo,

Krissy Davis Camp Fire Snohomish County Board President

Board of Directors

Officers Krissy Davis, President Albert Chang, Vice President Scott James, Treasurer Terri Vail, Secretary

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Chief Executive Officer's Report



Looking back on 2021 for Camp Fire Snohomish County, I can't help but feel a sensation of Deja vu from the year prior. Like one year ago, the effects of the worldwide and locally felt pandemic remain a factor in our abilities to serve youth and their families and to interact with our constituents and donors.

Our key attributes and strengths of our Camp Fire network include adaptivity, creativity, and resiliency in delivering meaningful programs to local youth. This past year demonstrated that yet again.

Here are some of this year's highlights:

• School-Year Programs – 2021 has been a mixture of working with our kids both in person when we are able and virtually via Zoom and other avenues when that is called for. Our staff is encouraged by recent successes in recruitment of new Classic Club members and club leaders.

- After School Program This program is thriving in the Lakewood School District, we are near capacity and are addressing pressing needs for young families and their children after school.
- Camp Killoqua Programs Summer Resident and Day Camps were back and in person at about 60% capacity. We followed recommended health and safety protocol to make this happen for summer 2021. It was great to have kids back at Killoqua after no activity in 2020.
- Annual Fund-Raising Events Our spring Auction and fall Luncheon fundraisers were again virtual and still saw strong community participation. We also held several smaller events such as dine outs, coffee company promotions and wine tastings.

In these challenging times COVID's social restrictions have affected normal program delivery and associated revenues. To remain healthy we have found strong community support to be essential.

- Individual Donor Support Through a mix of loyal existing donors and many new first-time donors, we received over \$110,000 via individual donation gifts.
- Local and Regional Community Grants 14 Grantors, led by consistent supports such as EverTrust, Nysether, Howarth Trust, November Thanksgiving Foundation and the Lane Family helped Camp Fire raise over \$95,000 in grant support this year.
- Government Financial Support Programs We were able to take advantage of an additional round of PPP forgivable loans from the SBA, as well as applying for funds through an Employee Retention Credit (ERC) Grant offered this year.

Individual and community donors for 2021 are highlighted in this Annual Report and on our website. Our community supported us during these times when our need was greatest.

We know 2022 will hold continuing challenges. Despite that, we are prepared to tackle these interruptions head on and continue to be creative and determined in serving youth at Camp Fire.

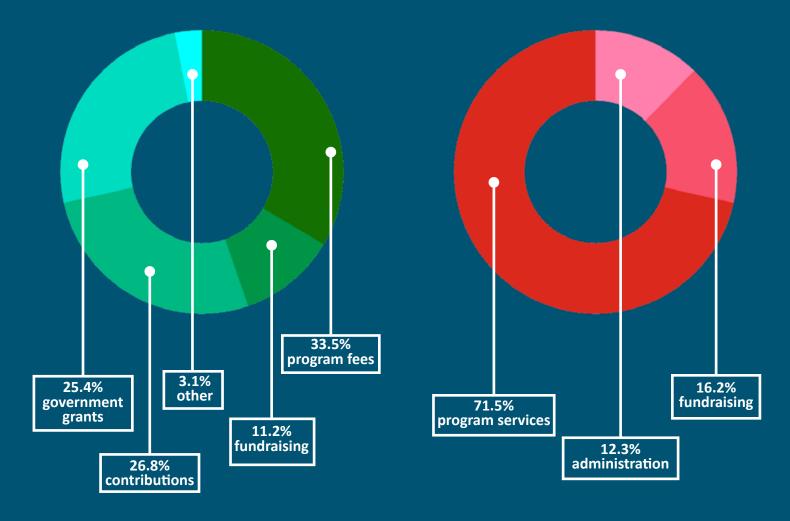
On a personal note, I am retiring from my role as Camp Fire's CEO at the end of January 2022. It has been a great honor and a very rewarding experience to serve Camp Fire. Being involved in delivering the mission of Camp Fire and having opportunities to directly serve youth and families within the Camp Fire network has been an experience I will always cherish.

At the same time, I look forward to the future adventures' life has to offer my family and me.

WoHeLo and sincerely, Jun Stephanson CEO Camp Fire Snohomish County

Income





Program Participation Report **Small Group Programs** 

#### **Camping Programs**

Resident Camp 447	<b>5,141</b> units of service <b>41,124</b> program hours
Counselor in Training 15	518 units of service
Day Camp <b>367</b>	4,140 program hours 2,019 units of service 16,148 program hours
Day Camp Assistants <b>12</b>	72 units of service 576 program hours
After School <b>29</b>	870 units of service 6,960 program hours
Learning Pods 12	<b>1,320</b> units of service <b>10,560</b> program hours
Special Events <b>72</b>	72 units of service 576 program hours
Other Groups <b>2,268</b>	4,536 units of service 32,288 program hours

#### Classic Club 93 service n hours Mega Club 80 service n hours Self Reliance 84 service

Special Events 269

Leader Support 106

744 units of service 5,952 program hours 1,200 units of service 9,600 program hours 84 units of service 672 program hours 538 units of service 4,304 program hours 15 units of service 118 program hours

Camp Fire provided 137,018 hours of service to 3,854 youth in 2021

3 \*1 unit of service is 8 hours of program time

# At Camp Fire....

100% of youth feel they are more motivated to make a difference in the world than they did before.

> 100% of youth feel they have learned more about their strengths.

93% of youth say they are confident in themselves.

> 93% of youth feel accepted just the way they are.

100% of youth feel they get along well with at least one adult.







Camp fire Programs

#### **After School Program**

This program provides after-school care for elementary age youth in the Lakewood School District. The program was able to return in fall of 2021 and resume providing quality care to youth. For the first time, the program was at full enrollment of 30 registered youth, with many returning as well as new kids. We have had a great time making new friends, spending outdoor time, enjoying a daily snack, playing games and basketball, homework help, and going to Camp Killoqua on school days off.

#### Mega Club

The Mega Club experience is for children living in low-income subsidized housing. With COVID-19 restrictions slowly lessening, one of our Mega Clubs was able to start meeting in person once again. Program goals include helping children learn to make positive choices, develop character, leadership skills, and sense of giving back through community service. During this pandemic, youth participants have also been provided with program activity kits and the information/links to participate in the Thursday virtual club.

#### Self-Reliance Program

Camp Fire provides Self Reliance programs that empower self-esteem and decision-making skills in children. Wise Kids classes were offered virtually in the Lakewood School District. In person Babysitting Basics classes were also offered through Marysville Parks and Recreation. As COVID restrictions lesson, we look forward to providing even more classes throughout the community.

#### **Classic Club Program**

The Classic Club Program continues to help youth discover their sparks, gain self-confidence and learn life-changing skills to thrive now. In 2021, some clubs have transitioned back to meeting in person while others have remained in a virtual format. We are excited to welcome many new members in the past year and to see a large influx of Little Stars (preschool) members.

Any kid or teen, from any kind of family, from any walk of life is welcome in Camp Fire. We have an official inclusion policy and are outspoken about our long-time commitment to diversity.

#### **Teens in Action**

Teens in Action (TIA) is a great way for 6th-12th graders to be involved with school year leadership programming. This youth-led group identifies and implements community service-learning projects. Teens in Action kids are great representatives of Camp Fire in the community, and we look forward to serving again in 2022.









Camp fire Camps

#### **Resident and Day Camp**

In 2021 we experienced a summer like no other. We had 380 day campers and 483 resident campers, all supported by roughly 40 staff and volunteers. Cabin groups were able to make stronger bonds this year due to the requirement to cohort in cabin groups. Camp helped reintroduce campers to in person socializing after a year of online school in the most immersive way; we ate all meals as cabin groups, and majority were outside around campfires. We spent more time doing small group activities focusing on frienships and teambuilding in our cabin groups.

We were so grateful to have parents trust us with their children and adjust to our requirements at summer camp during a pandemic. Despite our staffing shortages, our success this summer was due to the hard work and dedication of our staff team. Everyone did their very best to create a safe and magical summer experience for our day and resident campers! All our staff ended up stepping outside of their job description at some point to make sure camp stayed running smoothly. We also had so much help from volunteers, our alumni, main office staff, and board members.

Our campers and their families were so supportive and on board with the safety measures we had in place which made running camp easy. We truly cannot express how grateful we are for everyone's dedication to safety and having fun during this challenging year. We are looking forward to building on our successes from 2021 in 2022 while increasing camper capacity to inch closer to pre-pandemic numbers.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of the magic of camp in 2022 by working at camp, please head to www.campkilloqua.org to apply!

## 45 youth received Camp Scholarships in 2021

#### **Learning Pod**

Our Learning Pod program was developed in response to families in our community needing daily childcare and a place for their kids to participate in online schooling. We served kids in the Lakewood School District throughout the 2020-2021 school year. We had three trained and qualified staff members. The school district provided us with laptops and support for each student, and our staff facilitated their online school work. Once schoolwork was done for the day, the camp staff took them outside to play and experience camp throughout the school year. Parents whose children participated in this program were thrilled with the online learning support and for the outdoor and social experiences our program provided.

#### **Other Groups Using Camp**

We hosted 5 family camping weekends in 2021. These weekends were family driven and an opportunity for families to get to camp together. We offered some activities and food service at some of the weekends. Families loved being able to get away together and spend time in the outdoors.

We had a few small rental groups in fall 2021. We are looking forward to building our outdoor education and rental programs back up in 2022 and beyond









Camp Fire Mission

# Camp Fire connects young people to the outdoors, to others, and to themselves.

Camp Fire Values

We are a values-driven organization today and since 1910.

Our values are what guide us each day. They help meet each moment in time, and meet each young person where they are. When we began in 1910, the values of "Work Health and Love" underpinned our journey to building up youth. It was also just the beginning.

Today, we focus on what it means to be an equity-focused organization and how we can remove barriers to accessing our programs so all young people have the opportunity to experience Camp Fire's powerful programs and thrive.

#### We are inclusive.

Camp Fire works to create safe and inclusive environments, so everyone feels welcome. This means committing to equity, diversity, and access (including breaking down structural barriers to accessing our programs), and addressing the impacts of racism, privilege, white supremacy, bias, and anything else that holds us all back from an equitable and just world.



#### We get outdoors.

Camp Fire learns from and respects our planet. Spending time in nature has proven health and mental health benefits, which is one of the many reasons why we get young people outdoors, no matter where they may be. Nature-based learning is a powerful tool for youth development, and nature can be experienced by anyone, anywhere (even bringing a leaf, or rock, or plant inside). We aren't just consumers of nature – we conserve, protect and steward our natural resources.

#### We prioritize relationships.

Camp Fire develops supportive cross-generational relationships. Supportive, trained adults are key to our work. We offer guidance and support during each young person's dynamic journey to become who they want to be. Developmental relationships are the roots that give young people the chance to grow.

#### We honor the power of young people.

Camp Fire believes one of the best ways to honor the power of young people is to share power with them through meaningful participation and decision-making—in our programs and organizational direction. We respect, honor, seek, amplify, center, and prioritize youth voice; we empower youth; we entrust them with responsibility and authority; we encourage young people to find their spark and lift their voice.

#### We are learners.

Camp Fire helps young people (and adults!) know themselves. Self-discovery is an adventure. We invest heavily in training and professional development for the adults who serve our youth, because all young people deserve to be supported by skilled, capable, knowledgeable, supportive adult mentors, and because like the youth we serve, we are on a learning journey as well. Staff, board, volunteers, youth—we are all a community that is growing towards thriving, together.

#### We take action.

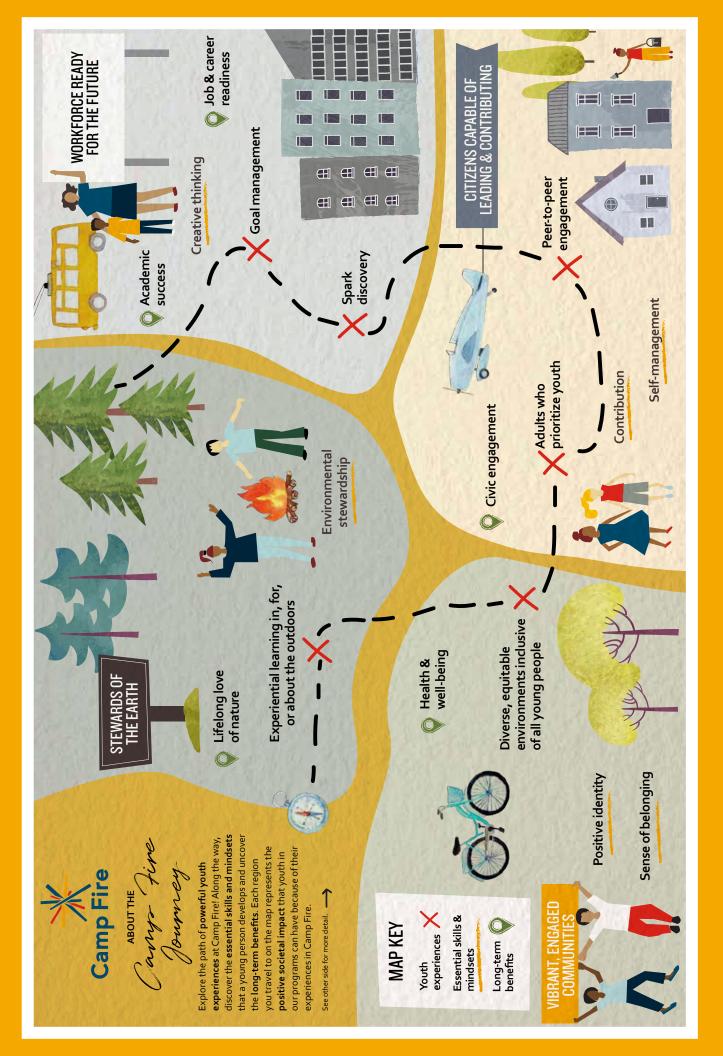
Camp Fire encourages young people to advocate, organize, and work for change in their communities and beyond. This has been a core value since we were founded in 1910; As an organization and as individuals, we can make an impact now.

#### We are responsive.

Camp Fire has continually adapted and evolved since 1910 to respond to what young people need to thrive. Each local council has the autonomy and flexibility to customize its programming to best support youth, families, and the local communities they serve; because they are the ones best positioned to listen, learn, adapt, and respond to those needs.

#### We pursue impact.

We seek out the newest research, practice every-day innovation, and meticulously measure results—all to help young people thrive in a complex world. We know Camp Fire changes individual lives, families, and communities, so we work to show that data and tell those stories.



Special Events

#### **Auction Extravaganza**

Our Annual Auction "Here Comes the Sun" was held on Friday June 18th. For the second consecutive year, our typical "giveaway" Auction was held virtually. We had 108 silent items for participants to bid on and sold 10 live items during a live auction stream. We had 130 guests registered for the event and raised \$42,000 in combined Auction proceeds and Campship (fund-a need) donations. Thank you once again to Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer Troy McVicker!

#### **Camp Fire Luncheon**

Our 30th Annual Camp Fire Luncheon was virtually streamed on October 20th and raised over \$36,000. Thank you to our Title Sponsor, Richard Boyden, as well as Silver Level Sponsors Coastal Community Bank, Pepsi and MoneyTree.

Guests enjoyed a keynote presentation from Mr. James Madison. James is one of Snohomish County's most well-known artists, master carver, and contemporary sculptor. He is a proud member of the Tulalip Tribes. Janet Westerlund received the Lou Denney Award for her 30 years of Community Service at Camp Killoqua. Thank you to KIRO Radio's Chris Sullivan for serving as Master of Ceremonies and to Troy McVicker for producing the event.

#### **Candy Sale**

The 2021 Candy Sale was challenging. Due to Covid restrictions, families were not able to sell at grocery stores and families had to find creative ways to sell candy: online, through social media, and "pop-up" sales. Overall, the sale was successful as over 8,000 boxes of Camp Fire Mints, Almond Caramel Clusters, Almond Roca, & P-Nuttles were sold. The average boxes sold for the sale was still an impressive 119 per seller!

#### **Trail Mixer**

This year we hosted two Trail Mixers at Camp Killoqua. Both events were a progressive happy hour, allowing our guests to safely wander through the trails of Camp Killoqua while enjoying small bite food and drinks stations! Almost 100 guests were able to enjoy the events! Thank you to Dutch Bros. Coffee for supplying volunteers and drinks.

#### **Other Events**

Camp Fire has far-reaching support throughout the community. Dutch Bros., Milk House Coffee, Lombardi's Italian Restaurant, Diedrich Espresso, and Shawn O'Donnell's all chose Camp Fire to donate a portion of their proceeds in 2021. Thank you for this wonderful support!!





2021 Donors

Camp Fire would like to thank all our donors for 2021. The complete list of donors is located on our website at www.campfiresnoco.org

Donations of \$250 or higher made in 2021:

360 Hotel Group 5 Star Junk Removal Alaskan Brewing Co, Anderson Hunter Law Firm Anderson, Bob Angel of the Winds Arena Arnold, Alice Babich, Babette Balmer, Joy Baltrusch, Brenda **Banner Bank** Bargreen Coffee Co. Bargreen, Howard **Blackbaud Giving Fund** Blunts, Parker **BNSF Railway Foundation** Boyden, Rich Boyden-Nelson, Christine Bry's Burkett's Busch, Jerry **Camp Fire Board of** Directors **Camp Fire National Headquarters** Camp Fire's Camp Killoqua Cerar, Joanna Chang, Albert **Chevrolet of Everett** Christenson, Bob & Lori City of Everett **Coastal Community Bank** Cole Charitable Foundation, Donna J. & Charles T **Cole-Swanson**, Shirley Cort, Don & Tracy **Courtyard Investments LLC Creative Concepts** Marketing Davis, Krissy & Jason **DME CPA Group PC Dutch Brothers Coffee Dwayne Lane's** Ekrem, Nancy **Elizabeth Ruth Wallace** Living Trust **Embassy Suites Lynnwood Erickson Furniture** Evans, Brian **Events Northwest** 

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Camp Fire apologizes for any accidental misspellings or omissions.



For more information on Camp Fire programs, please contact:

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