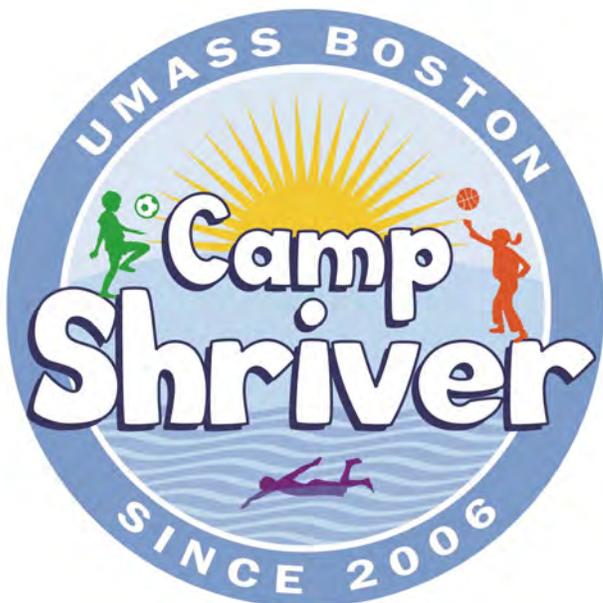


CAMP SHRIVER AT UMASS BOSTON



Camp Shriver 2015



2020
IMPACT
REPORT

CAMP SHRIVER

... BRINGING CAMP HOME TO OUR FAMILIES IN 2020



Saturday Camp

Camp Shriver partners with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester to hold our extended camp programming during the school year.

We will work closely with our Club partners to hold Saturday Camp in 2021. Tentative opening is January 2021, continuing to meet twice each month until May.

Dear friends,

I don't normally open the Impact Report with a letter... but 2020 was unprecedented. Camp Shriver looked different this summer, and our Impact Report will too.

The number one difference is that we were unable to host Camp Shriver on the UMass Boston campus in 2020. More than anything, I missed the campers—but I was proud that our staff was able to bring Camp Shriver into the homes of our families this summer. The Impact Report will share who we served, what we did and what the impact was.

In years past, the Impact Report would feature two stories of our campers. These individual journeys demonstrated how Camp Shriver can change a life. This year, without the stories of our summer but with time to look back, we share instead a retrospective of our stories through the years: an analysis of the similar ways in which our campers face adversity and triumph. Likewise, this year's impact report will feature pictures of our campers through the years.

I hope you enjoy this year's impact report, different though it may be, and join me in looking forward with hope. I look forward to seeing our campers next summer when we can get back to doing what we do best—making sure our campers have the best summer possible: swimming, playing basketball and soccer, cheering for each other, developing their social skills and making friends!

Sincerely,
Mark Spolidoro
Director, Camp Shriver and Saturday Camp



2019

CAMPERS WE SERVED

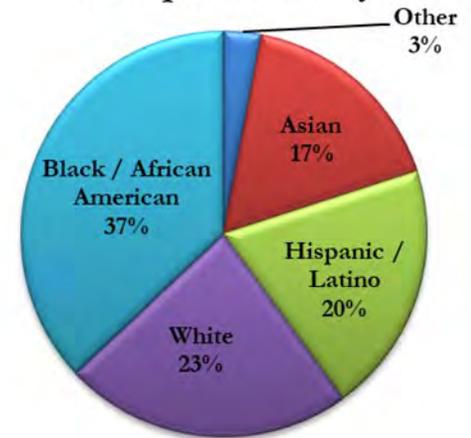
At Camp Shriver, we remain committed to welcoming children, ages 8-12, boys and girls, with and without disabilities, from low-income urban neighborhoods and ensuring diversity among its campers. In 2020, 100 campers with and without disabilities were served from Boston (80%) and Quincy (20%). The majority of campers lived in the neighborhoods surrounding UMass Boston, including Dorchester, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roslindale, South Boston and Roxbury.

The ethnicity of our campers are representative of the communities in which they live: 77% of campers are from minority groups. We are committed to maintaining this level of diversity in our camp population: 37% of campers self-reported as Black/African American, 23% as White, 20% as Hispanic/Latino, 17% as Asian, and 3% as other.

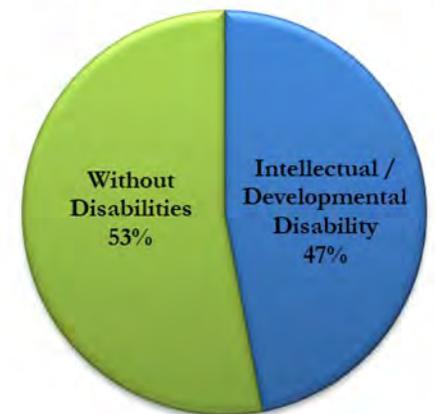
At the heart of Camp Shriver's unique inclusive experience, an equal number of children with and without disabilities are brought together to engage in the same recreational activities alongside one another. Our campers with disabilities are children with intellectual disabilities, on the autism spectrum, and who have other developmental delays. In 2020 47% were children with a disability and 53% were children without a disability.

Additionally, Camp Shriver partners with schools and community groups to identify children from low-income neighborhoods who might be interested in and benefit from a free summer sports camp. In 2020, 51% of Camp Shriver families were low-to-moderate income as defined by the Federal Financial Institution Examination Council.

Camper Ethnicity



Camper Disability Status



Family Income Levels



2013

AT-HOME SUPPORT FROM CAMP SHRIVER

100 Activity Kits delivered to campers. Activity Kits included:

- Camp Shriver t-shirt
- The Daily Kindness and Activity Calendar
- Gimp for creating bracelets, key chains, etc.
- Sidewalk chalk, coloring pages and crayons
- Fidget spinner, stress ball and more!

60 Activities on the Daily Kindness and Activity Calendars

- 2 activities for the campers to complete on their own time each day, including one athletic activity, such as “skip, jog in place or jump rope for 14 minutes” and one kindness activity, such as “make an effort to smile at 5 strangers today.”
- “How To Complete the Activities” instructions included in the Activity Kit
- Demonstrations of activities from counselors and coaches on Camp Shriver’s social media

The #CS2020Challenge on Camp Shriver’s social media

- Daily posting of the Kindness and Activity Challenge, where campers could post pictures of their own progress and follow along

July 2020
KINDNESS AND HAPPINESS CHALLENGE!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Think of 3 things you are grateful for and write them down.	2 Write a letter to thank someone for what they did.	3 Find the joy in music: dance, sing, play or listen.	4 Take a picture of something that makes you smile and share it.	5 Make a plan to do something with a friend.	6 Do 3 things that will bring others joy.	7 Ask a loved one what they feel grateful for today.
8 Send a positive text to someone who might be feeling down.	9 Make time to do something playful. Just for fun!	10 Cook your favorite food and share it.	11 Thank a friend for the joy they bring to your life.	12 Write a kind note on a rock for others to find.	13 Watch something that will make you laugh.	14 Create a list of your favorite songs.
15 Make an effort to smile at 5 strangers.	16 Do something to help a family member.	17 Share 3 photos that are meaningful to you with a friend.	18 Recall 2 things that you've done that make you proud.	19 Make a plan of one nice thing a day for the week.	20 Make 2 healthy food choices.	21 Find a fun way to do 15 minutes of physical activity.
22 Compliment 3 people.	23 Learn how to do something new.	24 Have a tech-free day.	25 Sit for 5 minutes and concentrate on breathing.	26 Stop and watch the sky and clouds for 10 minutes.	27 Make a list of things you take for granted.	28 Make a list of all the people who love you.
29 Tell the people on your list that you love them too.	30 Do an extra chore.	31 Do something to make someone's day easier.	 D. Bille 2020			

PARENTS REPORTED ON CAMP SHRIVER'S AT-HOME IMPACT

87% of campers wore the Camp Shriver t-shirt

83% played with the sidewalk chalk

57% made a bracelet, key chain or other item with gimp.

52% followed the daily Kindness and Activity Calendar

“We used the Kindness and Activity Calendar as part of our routine of what we will do that day.”

“My kids used the sidewalk chalk to have street art challenges with other kids in the neighborhood!”

“Really glad you were able to maintain a presence during this tough summer.”

Special thanks to the 23 families who took the time to write such thoughtful responses to our parent survey!

AT HOME EDITION
2020
SUNDAY



5
30 Heel kick
8 Jump Twist

MONDAY



6
10 Lunges (each side)
10 Squat Jumps

TUESDAY



7
20 seconds Heel Walk
20 seconds Tippy-toe Walk

ACTIVITY CHALLENGE!

WEDNESDAY

1
CARDIO DAY (2 MIN)
Skip, jog in place or jumprope

THURSDAY

2
10 Reverse Lunges
20 Knee Raises

FRIDAY

3
8 Burpees
8 Frog Jumps

SATURDAY

4
CARDIO DAY (4 MIN)
Skip, jog in place or jumprope

11
CARDIO DAY (8 MIN)
Skip, jog in place or jumprope

CAMP SHRIVER STORIES

... AN ANALYSIS OF OUR CAMPER STORIES THROUGH THE YEARS

Every year, the stories of our campers demonstrate how impactful Camp Shriver can be. Our Director, Inclusion Specialist, counselors and coaches work together to bring best practices into our camp and create opportunities for all campers to succeed. Here is a retrospective of our stories—an analysis of how our campers triumph in the safe, supportive and inclusive environment of Camp Shriver.



Children, across age, identity and context, face unique challenges, particularly in recreational settings like Camp Shriver. Some campers, like Sienna, a ten-year old girl with autism, have trouble socially connecting during free time after lunch with others due to limited verbal skills. For campers like Maddison, an 11-year old girl with a learning disability and PTSD, the challenge is adjusting to the rules and routines at camp. Similar social challenges for children without disabilities are not uncommon; many campers struggle to initiate conversations, make friends, or ask others to play. Across the playing fields, the gym, and the swimming pool, it is common to encounter behavioral outbursts, crying, yelling, and name calling. **In many settings, these behaviors would represent problems. For children with and without disabilities at Camp Shriver, these behaviors represent learning opportunities.**



2013

... CAMP SHRIVER STORIES (CONTINUED)

Camp Shriver staff come prepared every summer to confront behavioral challenges by providing a supportive and accommodating environment for each and every camper. Camp Shriver specializes in developing **unique interventions** for campers that are highly collaborative and individualized. No two interventions are like; each plan is developed with the specific needs of the camper in mind. For Sienna, this meant that her mother, her teachers, the Camp's Inclusion Specialist, and camp counselors all had input into her intervention plan. Other interventions have involved camp Director Mark sitting down with 10-year-old Jackson to talk about inclusive language, or camp Counselor Melissa using colored flags to help Ryan transition from playing soccer to eating lunch. In one particularly creative approach, camp counselors even used tennis balls to help 12-year-old Aaron learn to share. In all cases, camp counselors strategically capitalize on built-in opportunities, during sports games, free time, and lunch, for campers to practice their emerging social skills.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of staff, campers leave Camp Shriver at the end of the summer truly transformed, having learned a variety of new skills. These new skills often include leadership abilities; many campers learn to become role models for other campers. One 10 year-old camper, Walter, began helping his teammates carry lunch trays and pack up the locker room. Campers who needed to be first at lunch, like Madison, are suddenly offering to give up their spot in line for another camper. Other campers have learned to be adaptable; routines have generally become easier by the second week of camp and campers have learned to



... CAMP SHRIVER STORIES (CONTINUED)

transition between activities with ease. Most campers, like 12-year-old Jasmine, have learned to just enjoy being a kid, and can be found showing off new swimming skills.

Most importantly, Camp Shriver provides the opportunities and support necessary for campers **with and without disabilities to develop friendships, an opportunity many do not have.** Campers are seen sharing, sitting with each other at lunch, playing together during free time, making crafts together, and asking to join groups. 10-year-old John, a camper who sat alone at the beginning of camp, was teaching his teammates card games by the end of the summer. Will, a painfully shy ten-year old, not only learned to feel safe with other campers, but even started to ask others to play with him when he noticed they were alone. Above all, these social opportunities have taught campers to become inclusive and accepting of other campers, with and without disabilities. Whether it be their first year or third year, Camp Shriver campers are always eager to return to their friends next summer.

Although these stories highlight many successes, the experiences of past campers reflect the challenges that children with and without disabilities face every day. The work that Camp Shriver does as an inclusive recreation setting will continue to be crucial in the coming summers. **Now, more than ever, children with and without disabilities need opportunities for social connection, skill development, and to just be a kid.** By creating an environment that allows all campers to thrive, Camp Shriver can continue to leave future generations of campers feeling that their summer was, as camper Ryan puts it, “better than awesome”.



THE CSDE MODEL OF INCLUSION

Founded in 1976, the Center for Social Development and Education (CSDE) at the University of Massachusetts Boston is a multidisciplinary research institute whose mission is to promote the social development and overall quality of life for children with disabilities. The principles of the CSDE model of inclusion—based on 40 years of CSDE research and evaluation—are found in Camp Shriver programming:

Commitment to Inclusion: To demonstrate a commitment to serving children with and without disabilities in an inclusive environment, 50% of campers have an intellectual or developmental disability.

Commitment to Full Participation: To promote participation, all activities (swimming, soccer, basketball, kickball, crafts and more) are developed following the principles of Universal Design. When needed, individual accommodations are made to allow participants to engage in the same activities. Choices are offered between variations of activities (which line to shoot free throws from) and between different equipment (whether to throw a basketball, a playground ball or a balloon).

Commitment to Social-Emotional Development: To foster social connections and meaningful social interactions between campers, staff promote a culture of social responsibility by modeling and encouraging positive social behaviors among campers during structured and unstructured time. Social skills such as cheering for your teammates, inviting others to play with you and joining in groups that are already playing are the building blocks of positive peer relationships and friendships.

Commitment to Staff Support: To ensure that staff have the requisite skills and knowledge to promote inclusion, all staff participate in two days of intensive training focusing on best practices in the field of inclusive recreation. An inclusion coordinator supports all camper and staff needs. Staff have defined roles: coaches plan and direct inclusive activities and counselors model inclusion on the camper teams they lead. In a low 4:1 camper-to-staff ratio, coaches and counselors focus on each child's individual skills and abilities (not a specific disability label).

Commitment to Evaluation: To continuously improve inclusive programming so that its positive benefits can be maximized each year, Camp Shriver conducts a rigorous, annual evaluation, involving parent surveys, counselor observations of campers and one-on-one interviews with campers.

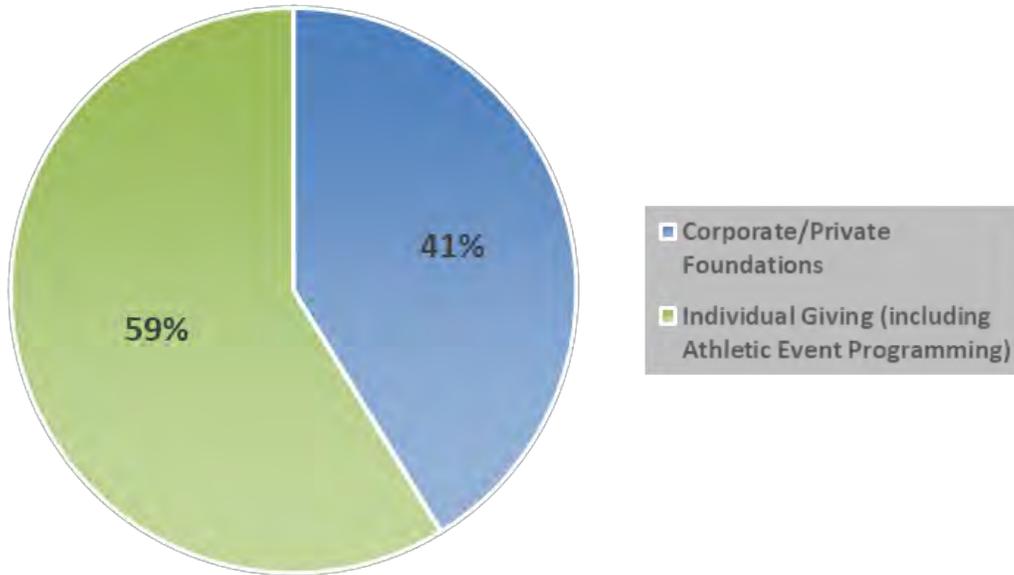
With this model, Camp Shriver created inclusive communities where all children have equal opportunities to fully participate.



SUSTAINABILITY OF CAMP SHRIVER

Camp Shriver is a financially stable program, comprising support from the Center for Social Development and Education (administration and fundraising) and the University of Massachusetts Boston (facilities and transportation). Additionally Camp Shriver has been awarded multi-year grants from the Liberty Mutual Foundation and the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism, as well as a long-term partnership with Boston Athletic Association as an Official Charity Partner of the Boston Marathon.

In these challenging times, we are grateful to our continuing partners and the many, many individuals who supported our teams in the Boston and NYC Marathons! We will continue to actively solicit new and varied funding opportunities for the coming year.



A GRATEFUL THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Camp Shriver and the Center for Social Development and Education would like to thank the UMass Boston community and all of our friends and sponsors:



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CAMP SHRIVER

AT UMASS BOSTON



2012

AT-HOME EDITION
2020