

The mission of Dream Camp

is to transform the lives of underserved youth through innovative yearlong programs that nurture the individual, educate the mind, and inspire the spirit. In partnership with families and schools, Dream Camp develops young leaders who embrace challenges, seize opportunities and overcome obstacles, and are inspired to live their dreams.

The Trinity Dream Camp was started in 1998 on the campus of Trinity College in Hartford, CT. In the past 17 years, Dream Camp has provided more than 4,000 Dream Camp Scholarships to underserved children to attend the after-school, summer, and mentoring programs at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. Through the generosity of one major donor and some other individuals, corporations, foundations and grants, all tuition, fees, transportation, meals and supplies are provided for Dream Camp students free of charge.

Student lives are changed and measurable results are achieved through four core Dream Camp programs. The After-School Academy, Summer Camp Program and Dream Camp's Young Leaders Program and Mentors in Training Program have made a profound difference in the lives of children and their families from Hartford.

Educational success is the primary focus, however, a holistic approach is taken to develop the comprehensive Dream Camp curriculum in order to ensure academic achievement as well as character development and physical health.



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Dear Friends,

Dream Camp is grounded in the belief that every child has an innate desire to succeed, and all children should be provided the opportunity to flourish. Over the past 17 years, we have seen the many obstacles our campers face to reach high school graduation and embark on their college careers. We honor their tenacity and celebrate their achievements in school, sports, service, and in life.

Dream Camp offers engaging experiential learning activities which cultivate an enthusiasm for education year-around. Gaze into our classrooms during the school year and you'll see Dream Camp students paired with mentors who provide guidance, life skills and homework assistance. In the summer, you'll find our students competing in athletics, performing on stage, creating their own music video or engaged in robotics or literature discussion. Each year we strive to introduce new programming to enrich the Dream Camp experience. By providing healthy role models through our dedicated staff and a safe educational environment, Dream Campers are empowered to become leaders in the classroom and their community.

From the outset, Dream Camp's mission has been clear; to nurture, educate and inspire our Dream Camp students. We are humbled every day by the triumphs of our students. We also remain truly grateful to all who invest in the educational aspirations of our Dream Campers.

As you read the following pages, you will see statistics and measurable results, which are truly awe inspiring. Coupled with their determination and problem-solving skills, our children can overcome the hurdles placed before them and experience success.

Please enjoy the results featured in this report. There is no comparison to seeing the faces of Dream Camp children in the midst of discovery and achievement.

Words cannot express my gratitude for the impact Dream Camp has made on the lives of so many. Thank you for being instrumental in our efforts to break the cycle of generational poverty that has existed among so many underserved families we work with. Trinity has allowed us to create a successful pathway for the youth of Hartford, helping them to become responsible adults and future contributors to society.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Rouse
Executive Director and Co-Founder

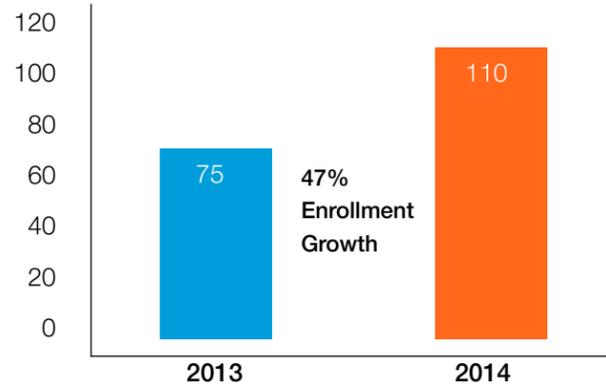
After School Academy



If you were to spend an afternoon at our After School Academy, you would see our students engaged in a variety of academic and enrichment activities including:

- Reading Workshops
- Math Interventions
- Chess
- Team Building Activities
- Arts & Crafts
- S.T.E.M.
- Dance

After School Program Enrollment 2013-2014



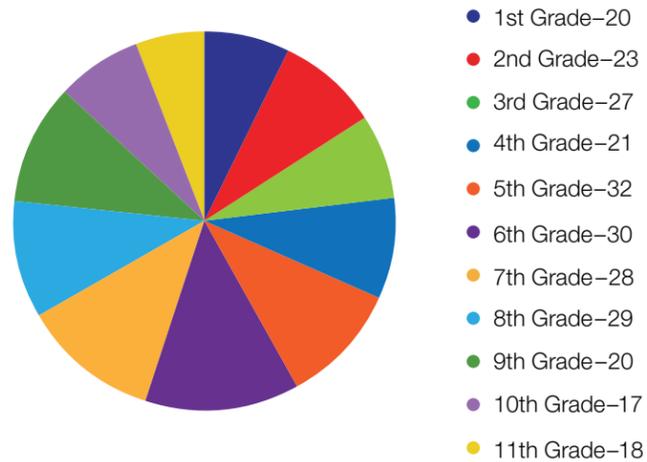
- Enrolled 110 students in the after school program
- 98% average attendance rate
- Staff/Student Ratio: 1: 3
- Eight Trinity students served as mentors

Summer Program

Once again, Dream Camp provided a summer experience unlike any other. Children participated in sports, arts & crafts, creative & performing arts, swimming as well as S.T.E.M. and reading programs.

Meeting new friends, trying new adventures and challenging themselves to read academically, our students make memories that will last a lifetime. Dream Camp provided our campers the opportunity to walk into their classrooms more confident and excited for the start of school.

Summer Enrollment by Grade



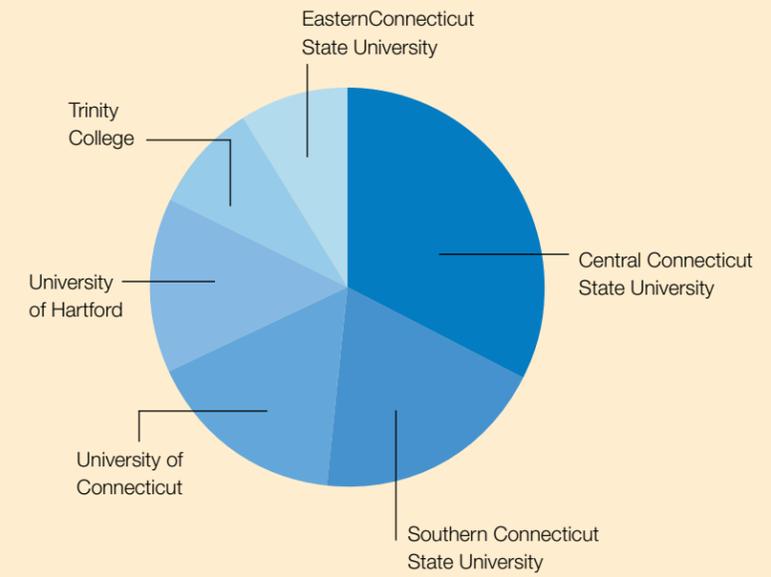
- Enrolled 265 campers this summer
- 92% average attendance rate
- Staff/Student Ratio: 1: 3
- 80 staff members including 11 Trinity students
- 10,196 healthy, nutritious meals served to our summer campers

College Matriculation

Top 4-Year Universities Represented by Dream Camp Alumni

- Dream Camp Graduates attend over 26 distinct 4-Year Colleges
- The schools with the highest representation are:

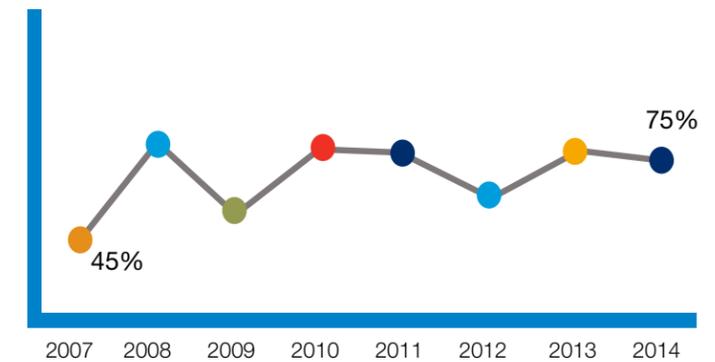
School	Alumni
Central Connecticut State	12
Southern Connecticut State	7
University of Connecticut	5
University of Hartford	5
Trinity College	3
Eastern Connecticut state	3



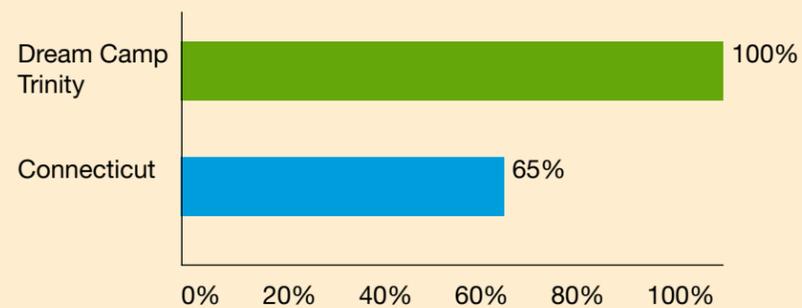
Higher Education Participation

From 2007 to 2014, the percentage of Dream Camp Alumni attending higher education at a 4-Year College or University has increased from 45% to 75%. Moreover, the ACCEPTANCE RATE for Dream Camp applicants is 100%.

% of Dream Camp Graduates Attending a 4-Year University: 2007-2014



Low Income Children High School Graduation Rate in Connecticut



In Connecticut, the average high school graduation rate for children below the poverty line is 65%. Among Dream Camp graduates, that number is an astonishing 100%.

2013-2014 Year in Review



September 2013

To insure another successful year in our afterschool program, the staff participated in two nights of training. Staying true to the mission of Dream Camp, great emphasis was placed on safety and security, roles and responsibility as well as providing instruction on all programming and enrichment opportunities developed for the coming year.

Supplies were distributed, and rooms were set up. Our enthusiastic staff members were finally ready for our students!

October 2013

Welcome Back! We were so excited to have the Dream Campers return to Trinity. Busses pulled into the Koepfel Center, and while the Hockey teams got back to practice, the students and mentors got back to work.

In October, we enjoyed many autumn-themed activities. For example, our younger students made fall wreaths out of leaves and paper plates as well as created spooky masks out of various arts and crafts supplies. It was a great start to the After-School program!

November 2013

Dream Camp is constantly striving to find ways to pay it forward. For the Thanksgiving holiday, we delivered a full Thanksgiving feast complete with all of the trimmings to the family of a very special Dream Camper. This camper's family was very thankful for the delivery of food because it gave them an opportunity for the whole family to celebrate this holiday.

As the weather got colder, many of the activities were moved indoors. All month long, students continued to work hard and enjoyed a number of educational and fun activities including the kick off of the Dream Camp Science Fair.

December 2013

Dream Campers laced up their skates and hit the ice! Before Trinity's winter break, we took a break from our homework and celebrated the holidays. Students took to the ice as carols played over the loud speakers. Afterwards, students were treated to holiday cookies and hot cocoa. A fun time was had by all!

Once again the Dream Camp team insured that the holidays were a special and joyous time for a very deserving family. One family was selected as the Miracle on West Family, providing them with healthy, nutritious meals as well as some presents to ensure that they start the New Year off right!

January 2014

Students returned after winter break refreshed and excited to learn! Even the snowy winter couldn't stop our afternoon of bowling at Bowl-a-Rama! Families joined this fun even and a great time was had by all.

Also, our students attended a fire safety and prevention seminar. Lt. Martin Jones of the Hartford Fire Department provided them with fire safety and prevention tips to keep themselves and their families safe.

February 2014

The After-School program was in full swing, but it's never too early to start planning and discuss programming for the summer!

Applications were sent out to returning campers and employment applications were carefully reviewed. Dream Camp began to schedule interviews as well as work with Trinity College to solidify rooms and facilities.

March 2014

As the weather got warmer, and the seasons began to change, our activities followed suit. Activities in the after school program began to shift back outdoors!

In March, all of our students' in grade(s) 5-8 participated in the annual science fair and presented their projects to their fellow students and mentors. It was great to see the scientific method in action!

April 2014

Preparing for our summer program became a main focus of our time. The staff got all of the programming in place and our leadership teams began to meet. Students and mentors alike left for spring break and returned with great energy to finish out the semester. In addition to celebrating Earth Day, students enjoyed the return of baseball!

May 2014

Our mentors could hardly hold back their excitement! For some, graduation was upon them. For others, another successful year of college neared the end.

The summer leadership team at Trinity made their way to Philadelphia for an annual leadership summit hosted by ESF at Rosemont College. Many of the new programs and opportunities were unveiled, along with the opportunity to learn from leaders of several different ESF camp sites.

June 2014

Dream Camp welcomed its staff to the Washington Room for an intensive two-day training. During this time, many of the everyday protocols and safety procedures were introduced.

Staff also experienced more training with a "day in the life" of Dream Camp by conducting a typical day in the life at Dream Camp (without campers) ensuring staff was ready to go.

July 2014

Dream Camp begins, 265 campers took Trinity College by storm! Another fantastic summer at Dream Camp begins and as always, we continued to be inspired by the personality and determination of all of our campers.

Summer Highlights

On July 1, Trinity College welcomed its first African-American woman President. Dr. Berger-Sweeney, an experienced scientist and educator, made a special visit to Dream Camp this summer. We enjoyed spending an afternoon with Dr. Berger-Sweeney and were honored for the opportunity to meet her.

Special guest Alvin Williams, a Villanova University standout and former NBA player, provided a daylong basketball clinic. Williams advocated the importance of teamwork and fundamentals as the key to victory both on and off the court.

Dream Camp put together a College Readiness Panel of speakers that engaged high school campers, instructing them about the college acceptance process. The panel included:

Kim Bornstein, Day Camp Director and Admissions counselor at St. Joseph's University, West Hartford

Mandi Haines, Admissions counselor, Trinity College
Paul Assaiante, Squash Coach at Trinity College

Dream Camp enjoyed another summer of wonderful cooking offered by the Vetri Family Foundation as part of our "Eatiquette" initiative, continuing our healthy eating program.

Academic Learning Time focused on keeping our campers' minds sharp throughout the summer. This program made learning a competitive and engaging focal point.

Day Camp enjoyed a performance by the Connecticut Traveling Science Center as they went in depth about the science of bubbles and suds. It was a fun-filled presentation that was very well received.

High school students were given access to a website that tracked all of their work and provided links to several helpful resources to use while on the college hunt.

Summer Survivor provided the perfect end to our summer at Dream Camp. This weeklong competition ended after the "Apache Relay", which is a relay race that covers the whole campus. This summer, Summer Survivor did not disappoint. The Gold team won only by a narrow margin, and again it all came down to the Apache Relay. The competition encouraged good sportsmanship and positivity, and is truly a mainstay and tradition.

August 2014

Another successful summer came to a close. Campers enjoyed themselves and continued to learn what it takes to be responsible and civic-minded members of society. Our staff gained great experiences and performed well above expectations.

Overnight Adventure Camp

The first week of August was a life changing event for six Dream Campers and 10 staff members from Trinity. Attending ESF Adventure Camp at Lawrenceville provided an opportunity for Dream Campers to participate in an array of outdoor activities as well as experience dormitory living and develop team building skills. We hope to increase the number of campers next summer!



Dream Camp Graduates



Maria Rodriguez

Maria is enjoying her first semester at the University of Hartford. She is majoring in Social Work with a minor in Dance. She is very involved at school and working as a model in her spare time.



Shannon Francis

Shannon completed a very successful summer as a Y.L.P. at Trinity College. She will surely continue her success at Sacred Heart University where she will major in social work.



Kahdeem Robinson

Kahdeem completed a very successful summer as a Y.L.P. at Trinity College. He is nearing the end of his first semester at Manchester Community College.



Mashauri Palmer

Mashauri enjoyed his time at Dream Camp for more than 10 years. He has moved on to begin studying Graphic Design at the New England Institute of Technology.



Gimani Mitchell

Gimani enjoyed his time at Dream Camp, and his siblings are also Dream Campers. Gimani is doing very well during his first semester at Monroe College in New York.



Arlene Torres

Arlene was a very successful M.I.T. at Dream Camp and will surely move on to accomplish many great things as she begins her years of college at Manchester Community College.

Thank You to our 2014 Mentors and Staff

Mentoring is a structured and trusting relationship that brings young people together with caring individuals who offer guidance, support and encouragement aimed at developing the competence and character of the mentee. For many children; parents satisfy this role, however, there are a multitude of children who do not have someone to serve in the capacity of mentor. It is estimated that 20 percent of youth, approximately 8.5 million children, do not have supportive adults in their lives.

The success of Dream Camp is built upon the relationships between staff and students. Staff members consider themselves to be mentors, get to know each child individually and learn about his or her talents, hopes and aspirations. With a mentee to mentor ratio of only three to one, mentors are able to create a real support system for the

students. Mentors typically stay with the program for years and are able to see the children reach their goals.

Our mentors are tremendous role models for our students because they can share their college experiences with students and are great examples of how the world opens up when you believe in your dreams. Some of the colleges that our mentors attend are: Boston College, College of the Holy Cross, James Madison University, Northeastern University, Trinity College, University of Connecticut and Wesley College.



Mentors and Staff Continues



Dr. Dan Swartz

Site Director

Dan Swartz is the Site Director at Dream Camp at Trinity College. Dan has been a part of Dream Camp since the summer of 2003. He served as

the Big Ten Conference Director for three years and has been the Site Director at Dream Camp for the last seven years.

During the school year, Dan is an associate professor, the physical education program director and chairperson of the Exercise Science Department at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT. He has been President of the Connecticut Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Dan received his Bachelors degree from Eastern Connecticut State University and Masters' and Doctorate degrees from Florida State University.

currently lives in Southington, CT. Matt is committed to educating children in a fun and safe environment, where they can try new things, learn from mistakes, and use those lessons to power their future.



Matthew Proffitt

Program Manager

Matthew Proffitt began his tenure with ESF, Inc. and The Dream Camp Foundation in 2011. He took on the role of General Manager in 2012. Matt began as Aquatics Director at Trinity College and stayed in the pool until 2013. Previously, Matt worked for the Cheshire Public School System, in Cheshire, CT, as an instructional specialist working with children with special needs. Matt is also an experienced coach.

Matt graduated from Central Connecticut State University with a degree in Management. He

Accolades for our 2014 Mentors & Staff

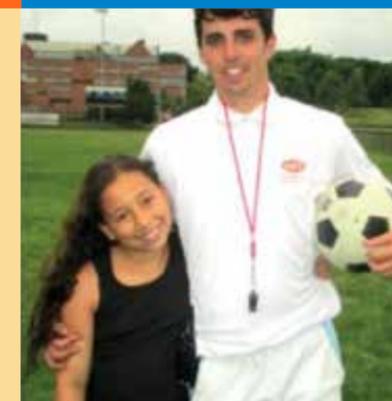
Meghan Constantinou

Master Teacher

Meghan was new to Dream Camp this past summer. An accomplished teacher, Meghan was the perfect example of what it means to go above and beyond. She was responsible for launching Academic Learning Time and the results far surpassed all expectations. Meghan truly has a gift for making learning fun and engaging.

Additionally, Meghan took the lead for a college readiness initiative, helping each of her high school students feel prepared and excited for the college

acceptance process. Meghan's passion for education and her desire to give back is indisputable. She was an exceptional addition to our strong team of specialists, and has raised the bar for future Master Teacher award winners at Trinity College.



Ricky Underdown

Ichiban

This year's Ichiban has been a mainstay at Dream Camp for the last five years. Following three successful years as a coach in the Big East, Ricky Underdown just finished his second summer as the Soccer Specialist in Sports Camp. Ricky

is very deserving of this recognition, which was made evident by the respect he's earned from our campers and staff. His passion for working with our campers is undeniable and on display each and every day.

Ricky knows each of our 175 sports campers by name and treats them with the utmost respect and dignity. He is able to properly balance the fun and energy of soccer while constantly encouraging his players to display sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect on and off the field. His presence and work ethic is invaluable to our team and we commend him for his established, strong personal ties with the campers, staff, and leadership team.