



BridgeWays



2021
ANNUAL
REPORT

BRIDGEWAYS: A NEW BEGINNING

OUR MISSION

The mission of BridgeWays is to instill a genuine sense of hope, purpose, and self-worth by connecting young people to their peers, their schools, and their families — and ultimately, to their potential as responsible, contributing citizens of their communities.

OUR STORY

BridgeWays was founded in Birmingham, Alabama as a local council of Camp Fire Girls in 1959. Since then, the organization has seen many changes, including the transition to coeducational programming in the 1970s, expanding program delivery to schools classrooms (also in the 1970s) and, most recently, a disaffiliation from Camp Fire National and rebranding to better communicate and facilitate the work we do in local communities across central Alabama. The organization has been a United Way agency partner since 1965.

In addition to programs delivered in over 60 schools, BridgeWays also provides programs and services at historic Camp Fletcher in southwest Jefferson County. Camp Fletcher was founded in 1926 by Pauline Bray Fletcher, the first African American R.N. in Alabama. She was aided by a diverse group of supporters who recognized a lack of opportunities for inner city black children to explore nature and the outdoors. A Ku Klux Klan raid at the camp in 1948 proved to be the sole impetus for the passing of Alabama's anti-masking law in 1949—the first southern state to pass such a law. BridgeWays acquired ownership of the property in 2004. In 2016, BridgeWays established Fletcher Preserve Supporting Organization, a nonprofit corporation which now holds the deed to the property - forever securing it as a community asset for young people and families.

Today, BridgeWays provides direct service to over 10,000 young people, teaching those in grades K – 12 the interpersonal and soft skills now known as Social Emotional Intelligence: specifically, the core values of kindness, caring, and respect for every individual's intrinsic value as a human being — including themselves. We also offer career mentoring and experiential learning, opening young eyes to the possibilities life offers — as well as achievable paths to success.

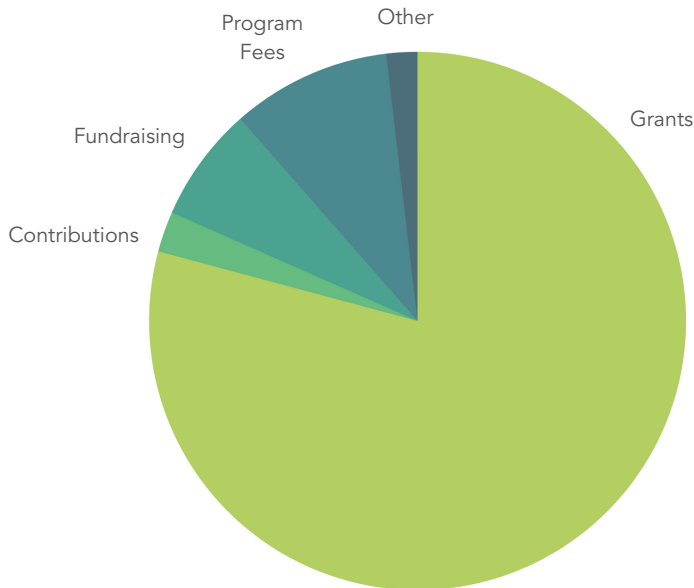
At the same time, BridgeWays supports educators and parents at their individual points of need — which often includes helping them identify those needs, then tailoring programs to meet them. In short, we listen, we hear, and we accommodate.

The organization currently has support staff in three locations which serve young people, families, and educators in 7 counties across east and central Alabama. The main office is located in Homewood. Branch operations are located in Coosa County, and at historic Camp Fletcher in unincorporated southwest Jefferson County.

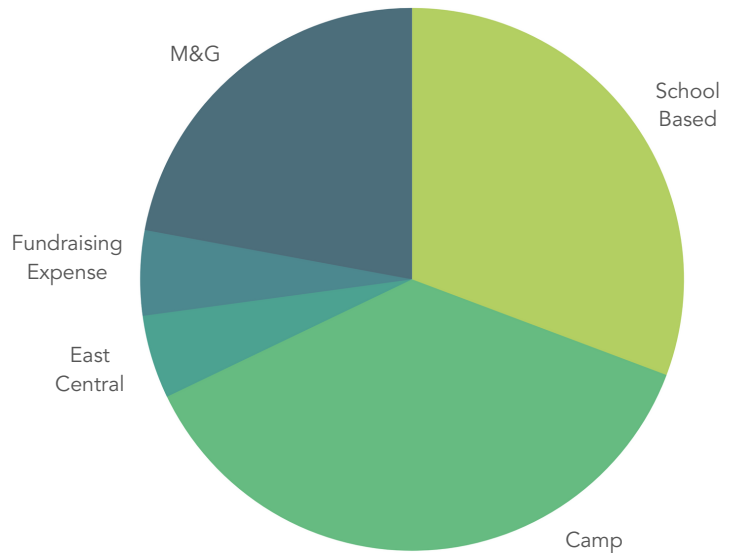
FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Statement of Activities -- Year Ended December 31, 2021

2021 REVENUE: \$1,410,766.00



2021 EXPENSES: \$1,193,153.09



2021 FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

REVENUE

Grants (Including UWCA, Government, Non-Government):	908,996.00
Contributions (Individual, Corporate & In-Kind):	27,898.00
Fundraising (Event Revenue):	79,589.00
Program Fees:	110,290.00
Other (East Central, Investment, Miscellaneous):	21,445
Total Revenue:	1,148,218.00
Total Capital Contributions:	262,548.00
Total Revenue with Capital Contributions:	1,410,766.00

TOTAL

EXPENSES

School Based:	366,701.22
Camp:	443,218.13
East Central:	59,295.65
Fundraising Expense:	60,421.09
M&G:	263,517.00
Total Expenses:	1,193,153.09
Net Revenue over Expenditures:	(44,935.09)
Net Revenue over Expenditures (with Capital Campaign):	217,612.91

This financial summary does not include PPP loan received in 2021

IMPACT

8590

YOUTH SERVED

45

SITES & LOCATIONS

5

COUNTIES

59 VOLUNTEERS DELIVERING SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS

OUTCOMES

90% of program participants reported that the Outside-In program helped them to better understand and appreciate the differences in others.

84% of participants in the Career Prep program demonstrated an understanding of the importance of exploring careers at an early age.

75% of participants in the My Choices Matter program demonstrated an increase in knowledge of how to respond to negative behaviors and how to keep themselves safe.

100% of educators felt their students had a greater understanding of current environmental issues after participating in the Outdoor Education program.

TESTIMONIAL

"I have had a wonderful experience volunteering with the Links-Up Mentoring program. I believe that volunteering at BridgeWays has been very beneficial to me since I am a Social Work major. I enjoyed visiting the school each week to teach students a new topic. The children understood the importance of each topic, why it's important to be kind to one another, and how impactful words can be. Working with children has taught me how fast they learn and how incredibly smart they are! I am very grateful for the wonderful experience BridgeWays has given me because I was able to interact with children from all different cultures and backgrounds."

Links-Up Program Mentor

HIGHLIGHTS

DISAFFILIATED FROM A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION



The year of BridgeWays! On June 1, 2021 we launched our new brand, replacing the name Camp Fire Alabama with BridgeWays. Ending our affiliation with Camp Fire National will allow us to fully shift our focus to issues and program-development needs specific to our own community, while expanding the scope of services we offer locally to children, youth, educators and caregivers.

EXPANDED PROGRAMS TO EAST CENTRAL ALABAMA



In 2021, we began the process of expanding programs to Coosa, Talladega and Tallapoosa Counties. As we started looking at the needs of the children and families in these areas, we realized there are very few resources available. We invested in a full-time staff member to drive growth and service and provide social and emotional school-based & out-of-school-time programs.

BIRMINGHAM CITY SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP



BridgeWays partnered with Birmingham City Schools to deliver our programs to students at West End Academy, Robinson Elementary and Sun Valley Elementary participating in BCS's summer enrichment programs. Students in grades K-5 received Career Prep, Character Development and My Choices Matter programs that focus on social and emotional awareness, decision making, relationship skills and self-perception.

SIGNATURE EVENTS



June 24

S'mores & Pours



October 20

K.P.B. Leadership Open



Raised Over \$100,000 of critical funding for the organization!

THE PEOPLE OF BRIDGEWAYS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff DeArman
President

Mason Morris
V.P. President-Elect

Craig Rogers
V.P. Camp

Ken Nolen
V.P. Development

Francis Hare
V.P. Marketing

Tim Ferguson
Treasurer

Katie Patrick
Secretary/Asst. Treasurer

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Sidney Knight, III

William Cooch

Jeff Drew

Todd Engelhardt

Leah Hazzard

Darryl Lee

Carin Mayo

Adrienne Mitchell

Dr. Martha Wingate

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nancy Meadows, MA
Chief Executive Officer

Rick Ellis, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

Kaitlee Daw, MPA
Director of Program Operations

Dean Cowser
Camp Administrator

Lynn Anne Castleberry
Regional Director

SOME OF OUR SUPPORTERS

Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention – Children’s Trust Fund
BCBS/The Caring Foundation
Jefferson County Commission
John and Delia Robert Charitable Trust 2
Navigate Housing Affordability Trust
Nolen Family Foundation
Nordstrom Foundation
Summer Adventures in Learning
Susan Mott Webb Charitable Trust
The Daniel Foundation of Alabama
The Ferguson Family Charitable Foundation
The Independent Presbyterian Church Foundation
United Way of Central Alabama
Virginia Stockham Ladd Family Foundation

A PROUD PARTNER AGENCY OF



**United Way
of Central Alabama, Inc.**



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