

THE FELIX ORGANIZATION



Making dreams come true for children in foster care, Since 2006.

2015

ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Population we serve	1
Programs	2-4
Outcomes	5
Financial Report	6
Who We Are	7
Our Supporters	8-9
Reflections from our Founders	10
Get Involved	11

“When you give kids the opportunity, they not only do well, they excel.”

-Darryl McDaniels
Felix Co Founder

POPULATION WE SERVE

Outcomes of “Aging Out”
of Foster Care

54%

of girls are pregnant
within 12-18 months
of leaving foster care

50%

do not complete
high school

20%

Struggle with
homelessness²

The Facts:

There are an estimated **400,000** children in foster care in the U.S.

Foster kids suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder at **almost two times the rate of returning veterans.**

Some foster children experience **eight or more foster placements.** (That’s eight homes that the child moves in and out of and lost opportunities for lifelong bonds with peers and adults).

In 2013, more than **23,000** young people aged out of foster care with no permanent family to end up with. ¹

¹ Stern, & Nakamura, L. (2012), Improving Outcomes for Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii, Center on the Family.

² All Foster Care Is Not Created Equal. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://angelsfoster.org/foster-crisis/scary-statistics/?gclid=CIWrxuSYnckCFUQ2gQodzYcAXw>

PROGRAMS

Camp Felix East

In 2015, 186 New York City youth attended Camp Felix.

Our programs allow children, so many of whom work with Social Workers, Therapists, Special Educators and Lawyers throughout the year, to just be kids.

From swim instruction to art and theater, to climbing, nature exploration and dance, the kids we serve are able to overcome fears, try new activities, and form bonds with dedicated staff members and with campers who share a similar background.

15

kids per cabin

8-13

age of campers

10

seasons we've
been in operation

14-15

age of our counselors
in training

39

of former Camp Felix
campers now working as
CITs or Staff

Camp Felix West



In partnership with The Harold Robinson Foundation's "Camp Ubuntu" and Happy Trails For Kids, we sent approximately **90 kids** to Camp Felix West for a holiday retreat in December 2015.



PROGRAMS

Beyond Camp

Youth Spotlight:

Meet Marlin!

From camper to volunteer, to Beyond Camp grantee to second year camp counselor, Marlin has grown before our eyes.

As he finishes his senior year at Marist College, Marlin takes all the lessons he's learned from camp and applies it to his everyday life.

This past year he spent a week in Mexico giving back to those in need by building a school and running sports activities with the local children. Marlin Rocks!



Javonte loves writing and performing his own songs. Beyond Camp granted him a guitar of his very own and guitar lessons in September 2015.



Daisha loves to dance. Beyond Camp sent her to Downtown Dance Factory to take ballet classes. This year she performed in her first ever dance recital!

In 2015, we provided **over twenty** children with after school activities to help them pursue their dreams.



Beyond Camp is helping Brittany pursue her educational goals at Medgar Evers College.

PROGRAMS

Felix Friendship Circle

This year we hosted **100 kids** for a Thanksgiving Feast at Hill Country Barbeque.

In addition, **over 250 kids** were able to enjoy Broadway shows such as “Annie” in Los Angeles”, “The Radio City Christmas Spectacular” in New York, private movie screenings, professional sporting events, and more!



Secret Santa 2015



Over \$24,000

amount raised in gift cards for older youth aging out of foster care.

Over 700

number of gift cards distributed.

3

number of van loads of toys we delivered to younger children in foster care at holiday time.

Every holiday season, Felix collects gift cards for children aging out of foster care. We learned that for many youth, this is the only gift they will receive.

OUTCOMES

Our campers leave Camp Felix with:

- ✓ Improved physical and cognitive skills
- ✓ Improved awareness about healthy living
- ✓ Improved self-esteem
- ✓ Sense of belonging
- ✓ Heightened self-confidence including respect for self
- ✓ Improved social skills including respect for others
- ✓ Improved level of positive decision-making and leadership skills.

The impact of Felix's programs is life-long.

In 2015

30 Camp Felix Campers have become Counselors in Training.

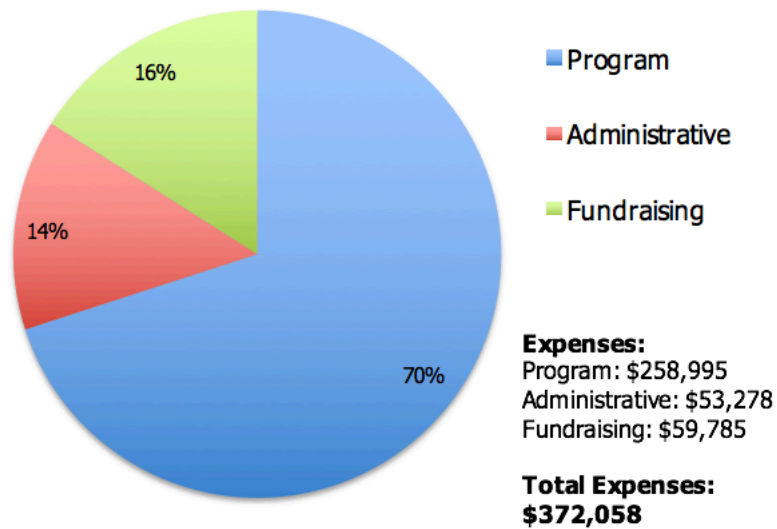
5 campers have become volunteer staff.

4 former campers have moved to Camp Felix employee.

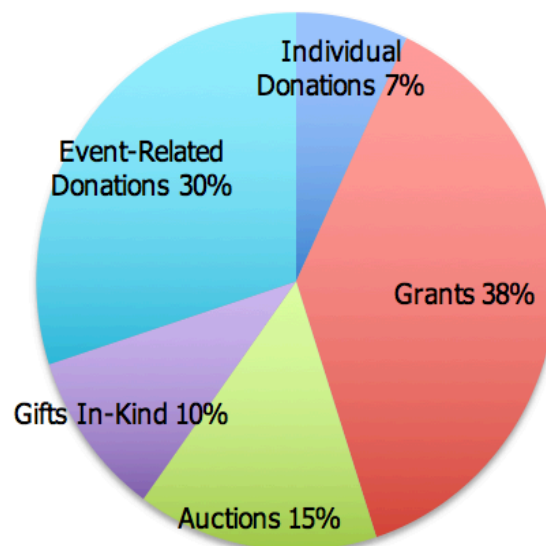


These opportunities help our youth build job experience, enhance their leadership skills, and expand their resumes to prepare them for their professional careers.

Felix 2015 Financial Report



Private Contributions by Source



Felix remains a grass-roots organization that relies 100% on contributions to fulfill its mission.

WHO WE ARE

Founders

Sheila Jaffe

Casting Director and Children's Rights Activist

Darryl "DMC"McDaniels

Hip Hop Artist and Children's Rights Activist

Board of Directors

Conny Baris

CPA, Baris Financial
Management Ltd.

Doug Herman

Partner, Titan
Advisors, LLC

Michael Lang

Co- Founder, Woodstock
Ventures Founder, The
Michael Lang
Organization

Laurie Parise

Executive Director/Founder,
Youth Represent

LaVonne Roberts

Entrepreneur, Investor
and Advocate

Larry Ryckman

President and CEO
AfterMaster Audio
Labs

Advisory Board

Denise Chamian

Casting Director

Jolyn Farber

Entrepreneurial
Investor

Susan Gluck Papajohn

CEO & Founder,
Arthenia

Claire Mercuri

Founder/ President,
Claire Mercuri Public Relations

John Shaw

Operating Partner &
COO, Hill Country
Hospitality

Vanessa Spencer

Owner,
Rodriguez Spencer Casting

Junior Board

Sean Bahrami

Contracting Officer,
Columbia University

Saman Behbahani

Sr. Director, Strategic
Development, Viacom

Dan Casarella

Executive Assistant
MTV Networks/
Logo

Mike Dassinger

Sr. Manager, Strategic
Development & Affiliate
Marketing, Viacom

Justin Kirkland

Basketball Coach
Actor

Shane Walsh

Production Associate
Viacom

Dan Wonderly

Photographer
Wonderly Imaging

Staff

Amanda Simonetta

Executive Director

Myra Scheer

Creative Consultant

Lexi Van Wart

Administrative Assistant

OUR SUPPORTERS

OVER \$10,000

Bryan Jacobson Foundation
Mark Wahlberg Youth
Foundation
Sal Bellino

\$5,001 TO \$10,000

Christina Carlino
Fred Gabler Helping Hand
Camp Fund
JMJ Foundation for Music
Judith C. White Foundation
Larry Ryckman
Laugh Factory, Inc
Norman Reedus

\$1,001 TO \$5,000

Barbara King
David Shabsels
Dawn Ward Hargraves
Denise Chamian
Doug & Lisa Herman
Dr. Anne H. Addington
Fund
Giants Foundation
Howard Friedberg
Ilene Landress
Judy Taylor
Lorraine Bracco
Nicholas Bellino
One Simple Wish

Passmore Charitable Trust
Pure Yoga
Susan Gluck Pappajohn
Tanya Boulton
The John Drew Theater at
Guild Hall
Therese Mahar

\$501 TO \$1,000

Alan Ruud
Christopher Ruud
Conny Baris
Danielle Battista
Ed Heck

Howard Jaslow
Joseph Houlihan
Joseph Santori
Kathryn Schenker
Miriam Lissak
Nia Vardalos

Penny Marshall
Robert Luzzi
Sheila Jaffe
Signature Tracks
The Woodstock Chimes Fund

\$251 TO \$500

Charles Bisenlus
Claire Mercuri
Danielle Gletow
David Jaslow
Dwight Manley
Elizabeth Quinn
Georgianne Walken
Gerard Falcone
Holly Brooks
Howard Berkenfeld
James Joseph
Jane Rose
Karen Baynard
Kathryn Schenker
Kohl's
Laura Tufariello
Linda Arnone
Lisa Nalven
Lori Klein
Marei Von Saher
Nancy Tenenbaum
Paul E Rowan
Paul Herman
Rob Weiss
Susan & Douglas Stover

\$101 TO \$250

Anastasia Traina
Anonymous
Anthony Simonetta
Brian Goodman
Burt Stangarone
Carol Ricken
Charles Balducci
Cindy Kozak
Ellen Delsener

Eric Snyder
George & Deborah
DelHoyo
Isca Greenfield-Sanders
JoAnn D'Agostino
Joyce Hanly
Julianne Phillips
Kim Braun & Ryan
Schowalter
Korey B. Liebman
Laurie Parise
Liz Friedfeld
Mark Grinnell
Michael Rabin
Penelope Talleur
Rubin Museum of Art
Sheri Rivera
Steve & Anne Scheer

UP TO \$100

Amanda Simonetta
Annabeth Deamer White
Anthony Mastromauro
Barbara & Marvin Strauss
Barbara Marzano
Betsy Heiman
Billy Devlin
Carol Blumenthal
Carolyn Benitez
Chelsea Farrington
Cheri Phillips
Christina Garofalo
Danielle Colli Goulet
Darryl Hensley
Delores Vitale Henle
Ellen Lewis
Emma Considine
Frances Fisher
Fred Behbahani
Gary Belsky
Geri Johnston Manlin

Hannah Cooper
Ira Schreck
Jaceson Mann
Jeff Waxman
Jessica Hecht
Joan Martorano
Joanna Bonaro
Jon Witt
Julie Isaacson
Justine Hempe
Kate Carter
Kelly Herrera
Kevinee Gilmore
Laura Dudley
Leslie & Jon Urdang Tenney
Leslie Ward
Madeleine Lesser
Melissa Ellin
Michael Garnett
Michele & Mpande Simelane
Michele Hierholzer
Nancy Neimeth
Natalie Mines
Puja Madan
Rebecca & Andrew Apfelberg
Richard Schwab
Rony Reyes
Saman Behbahani
Shelly Blumenthal
Sheri Rivera
Siranoush Arabian
Susan Behbahani
Susan Berninger
Susan Hovey
Tineka Becker
Valerie Cappello
William Xifaras

OUR SUPPORTERS

Foster Care Liaisons

April Dinwoodie
Barry Chaffkin
Caryn Ashare Norman
Gabiella Cassandra
Jane Feyder-Siegel
Shirley Salomon
Susan Greenberg

Volunteers

Anna Chung
Cilda Shaur
Clayton Barmore
Connor Fox
Corynne Corbett
Dan Wonderly
Deborah Dragone
Delon Marshall
Destiny Paradiso
Donnie Kehr
Eduardo Solano
Erik Blam
Jeff Wallner
Jenn Holmes
Judy Taylor
Justin Kirkland
Kieren van den blink
Kim Cook
Kay Kay Clivio
Mindy Fox
Miriam Lissak
Sal Bellino
Samantha Bula
Steven Rios
Tanya Boulton
TJ Mizell
Traci Coulter
Travis Welcome

In-Kind Donors

Amanda Salles
Angela Peri
Anna Chung
Baris Financial
Berwick & Kovacic
Beth Day
Carol Kane

Caroline Phillips
Cathy Konrad
Cilda Shaur
Claire Mercuri
Claire & Leslie Mosely
Clay Neimeth
Columbian Home
Products
Creative Ops
CS Films
Cyndi Ruud Johnson
Dan Wonderly
Daniella Asantewaa
Danielle Magnante
Darryl McDaniels
Denise Chamian
E's Bar
Ed Heck
Eric Murray
Equinox
Franco
Good Sports
Hildy Gottlieb
Hill Country BBQ/John
Shaw
Jack Douglas
Jane Giat
Jane Rose
Jeff Wallner
Jess Salles
Jolyn Farber
Joy Heslinga
Katie Kornfield
Kate Lewis
Kathryn Schenker
Lauren Versel
Laurie Parise
Lindsey Valdez
Lion Brand
Lorraine Bracco
Lisa Gillan
Liz Ludwitzke
Lysa Heslov
Macy's
Magnolia Bakery
Maria Vecchiotti
Martha Stewart Living
Maureen Bellino
Mary Vernieu

Mitchell and Ness
Monica Simonetta
Monsieur Touton
Morley
Nicholas Bellino
Nick Byassee
Norman Reedus
Peter McManus
Regal Foundation
Rao's Restaurant
Richard Horowitz
Risa Shapiro
Robby Browne
Ron Perelman
Scott Duquette
Sheila Jaffe
Stephen Eads
Stephanie Simon
Susan Cartsonis
Tanya-B
Textile Mills
The Singer Group

Auction Winners

Cyndi Ruud Johnson
Daniel Rosenbaum
Donna Labermeier
Edward Hom
Eric Forst
Joel Weinshanker
Joseph Ferguson
Joseph Lawless
Joseph Santori
Julio Comas
Ken Mak
Maen Hussein
Michael and Helen
Schaffer Foundation
Richard and Natalie
Mines
Richard Clareman
Rick Reidy
Robbie Knie
Sheri Dwyer
Stephen Scolli
Thomas Horath
Tommy Volker

"It's truly amazing how a thought can lead to an action, a movement. And that movement creates a result, a reality for a child. When that reality occurs, we now have a connection somewhere in that child's thoughts. Through all of us we will now create a result for that child at Felix who is dreaming and hoping for their own special reality."

-Jeff Wallner
Donor and Volunteer

REFLECTIONS FROM OUR FOUNDERS

To our Felix Family,

Ten Years and counting! We are almost a decade old and so grateful for all of you for making a dream we had become this reality. We have expanded our services, our outreach and our staff and we are filled with pride at these accomplishments.

There are so many people who have contributed to our success and we gratefully acknowledge and thank you all.

We wish you all a prosperous, happy and healthy new year and ask you to keep walking this way with us so that we may continue to serve many more children in the foster care system for another decade!

Love,

Sheila and Darryl



GET INVOLVED

Events:

Give a kid a chance, all you gotta do is dance!

Dance This Way 2016!

Join us on May 15th, 2016 as we celebrate our tenth year!

Sign up at dancethisway.org.

Donate:

Make your check payable to

43 Oyster Bay Road

Locust Valley NY, 11560

Or online at thefelixorganization.org

Visit us:

thefelixorganization.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

"I love Camp Felix because it makes me feel happy and important. Camp makes me have better self esteem."

- Camp Felix Camper