

FIVER CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

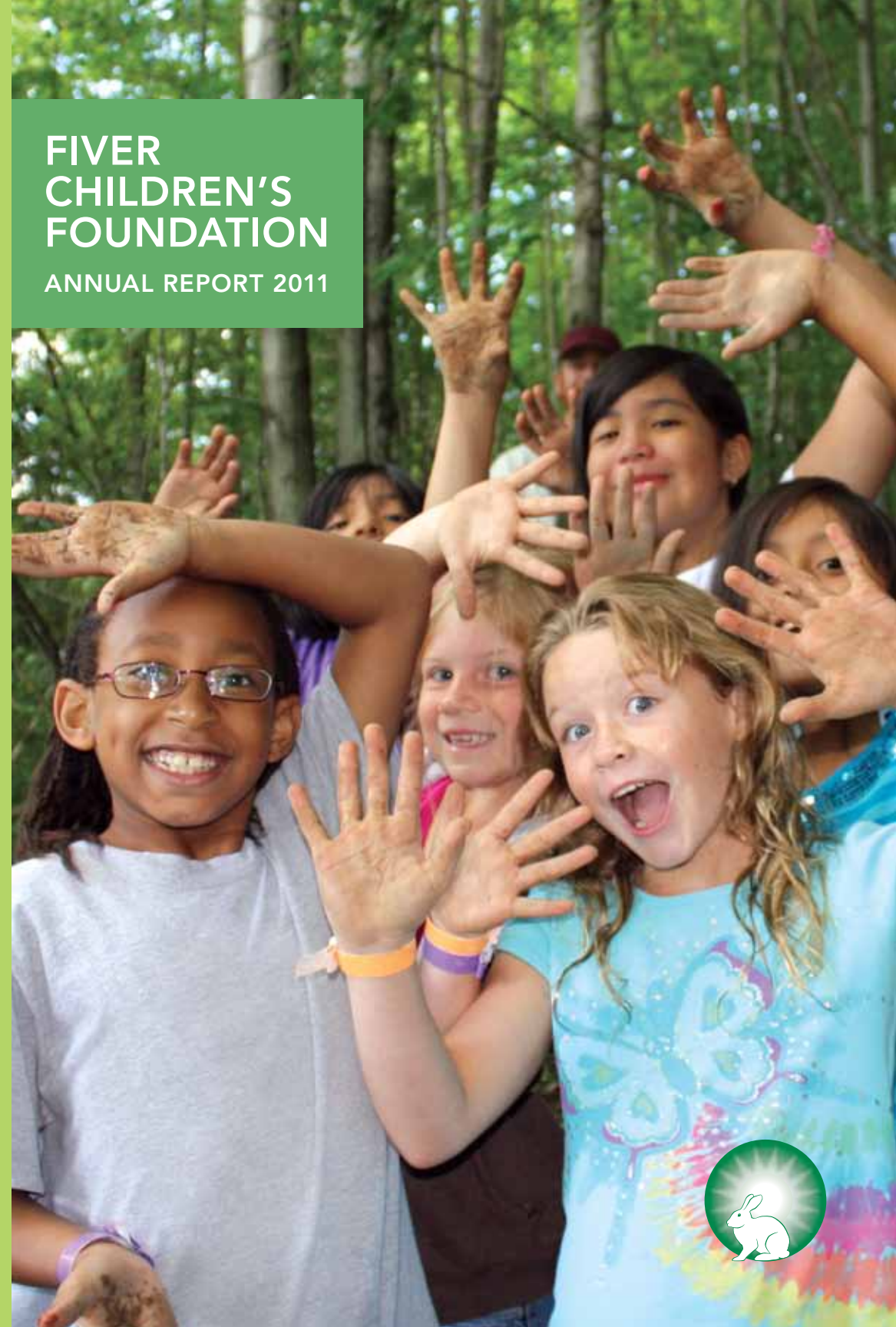
ANNUAL REPORT 2011

EMPOWERING CHILDREN TO MAKE POSITIVE LIFE CHOICES

FIVER CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

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OUR MISSION

The Fiver Children's Foundation is a comprehensive youth development organization that empowers children from underserved communities to develop life skills and to reach their full potential. Fiver's 10 year commitment to each child includes year-round mentoring and counseling programs, a character building residential summer program, and partnerships with schools and community based organizations.



DEAR FRIENDS,

In 2000, the Fiver Children's Foundation opened its doors to 250 children by providing a character-building experience at Camp Fiver in the rural setting of Poolville, NY. Exposure to the rolling hills, rambling creeks, and fresh air was just the beginning of their ten-year journey with Fiver. Several years later, we began implementing programs year-round during the out-of-school-time hours. This increased contact with Fiver kids allowed for continuity of relationship and a focus on key transitions into middle school, high school, college, and careers. Even after our evolution into a twelve-month program, Fiver never lost sight of its roots. Summer programs, including both Camp Fiver and the leadership and internship programs that make up Summer in the City, are the cornerstone of our work.

As research has shown, the lack of structured and healthy summer learning opportunities available to children from low income communities leads to a decline in academic performance, increased rates of obesity, and increased risky behaviors. With the goal of curtailing these trends, Fiver's summer programs have continued to thrive, serving over 500 children annually and maintaining a retention rate of at least 85%. In 2011, Fiver was honored to be recognized with the prestigious Excellence in Summer Learning Award. This award, from the National Summer Learning Association, acknowledges outstanding summer programs that demonstrate excellence in enhancing academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people.

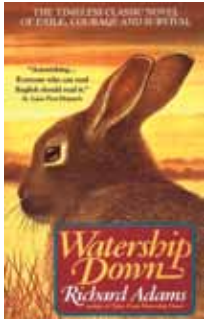
In order to sustain high-quality programs worthy of such distinction, we rely heavily on support from the Fiver community including volunteers, alumni, parents, staff, donors, kids, board members and partners. We were thrilled to see so many new faces, from professionals to celebrities, join Fiver's effort to expose our participants to a record number of positive opportunities this year. If you are interested in helping to create more of these transformational moments for Fiver students, please reach out. Fiver's doors are always open.

Sincerely,

THOMAS H. TUCKER
Founder and Chairman

CHRISTIE KO
Executive Director

OUR STORY



THE FIVER CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION takes its name from Richard Adams's celebrated work of fiction *Watership Down*. The novel focuses on the survival, leadership, and courage of a group of rabbits, led by the visionary rabbit Fiver, who set out to find a better way of life. Inspired by this story, Founder and Chairman of the Board Tom Tucker established the Foundation in 1998 to benefit children from underserved communities. What began as a summer camp has evolved into a comprehensive, year-round youth development organization.

OUR ROOTS

Children are referred to Fiver through our strong partnerships with community-based organizations and schools. All younger siblings of referred Fiver participants automatically join the program when they reach the age of 8. Through these partnerships, children and families are provided with comprehensive services throughout the year. These services offer our families opportunities for growth they would otherwise not have.

OUR 10-YEAR COMMITMENT

Fiver commits to each child for a period of 10 years, free of charge. This decade long commitment ensures continuity of relationship with each participant and their families.

OUR GOALS

- + Promote healthy life choices
- + Enhance self-efficacy and leadership skills
- + Boost motivation to succeed in school
- + Increase employability

OUR APPROACH

+ **Cultivate character:** Children do not just attend Fiver programs. They become Fivers.

Being a Fiver means: being a Friend, an Individual, a Valuable Team Player, an Environmentalist, and a Risk Taker.

Participants learn why these character traits are important and how to develop and exhibit them in a personal and positive way.

+ **Developmentally appropriate programs:** Fiver participants progress through program stages that focus on developing self confidence, broadening perspective, preparedness for the journey through high school, the importance of giving back, lessons learned through team-building initiatives, developing leadership skills, and college and career preparation.

"We receive dog tags to show that we have learned how to do certain things. It feels good to get a dog tag because you feel like you accomplished something that you did well and it shows that people can rely on you."

GUSTAVO, AGE 11

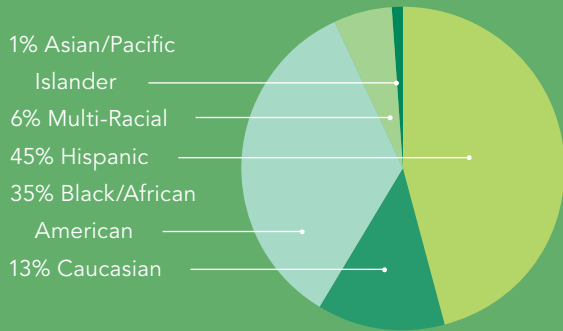


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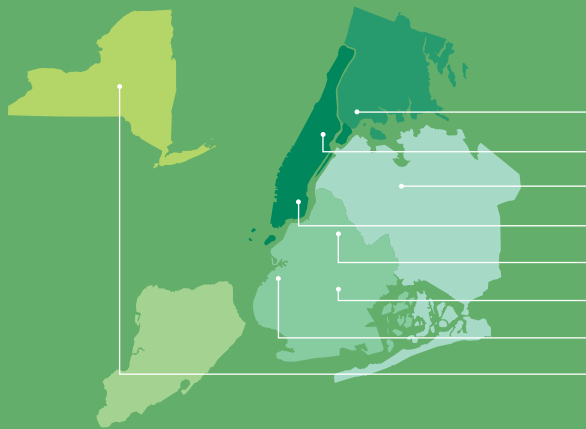
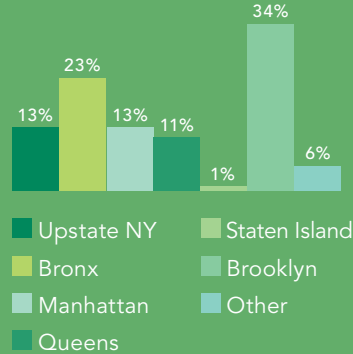
CHILDREN ENROLLED

185 in Elementary School
195 in Middle School
170 in High School

STUDENT DIVERSITY:



WHERE THEY LIVE:



COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERS:

- Mercy Center
- Friends of the Children of NY
- Goodwill Industries
- George Jackson Academy
- Maura Clark-Ita Ford Center
- CAMBA
- Center for Family Life
- Madison County
- Community Action Program

93%

of program graduates have graduated from high school since 2000.

(a figure well beyond the 65 percent average of their New York City peers).

OUR FIVERS

Students are referred to the Fiver program through 8 partnering community organizations when they are in the third grade. The organizations ensure that participants receive the support they need throughout the year in their home communities.

Fiver participants have substantial academic, financial, and social service needs which make them at-risk of not completing high school successfully, becoming involved with the juvenile justice system, engaging in drug use or becoming parents before they are ready.

100%
Receive free or reduced lunch at school (annual income <\$40,000 for family of four)

58%
Live in single-parent homes

48%
Parents/Guardians born outside of the US, most in the Caribbean, Central and South America

OUR IMPACT

95% of those graduates have gone on to college, many being the first in their family to achieve this milestone.

Across four summers, Fiver participants reported lower incidences of risky behaviors and higher incidences of healthy behaviors than normative groups of NYC children.

Based on Fiver's 2011 Youth Experience Survey (completed by 175 high school participants):

93%
believe Fiver has been a positive turning point in their lives

82%
tried new things at Fiver that they didn't get to do anywhere else

83%
started thinking more about their future at Fiver

OUR PROGRAMS

YEAR-ROUND

Fiver offers programs aimed at teaching students to make positive, healthy decisions, and to provide skills and guidance to navigate the difficult transitions into middle school, high school, college, and work. Programs take place at our Manhattan office and at community partner locations throughout the City.

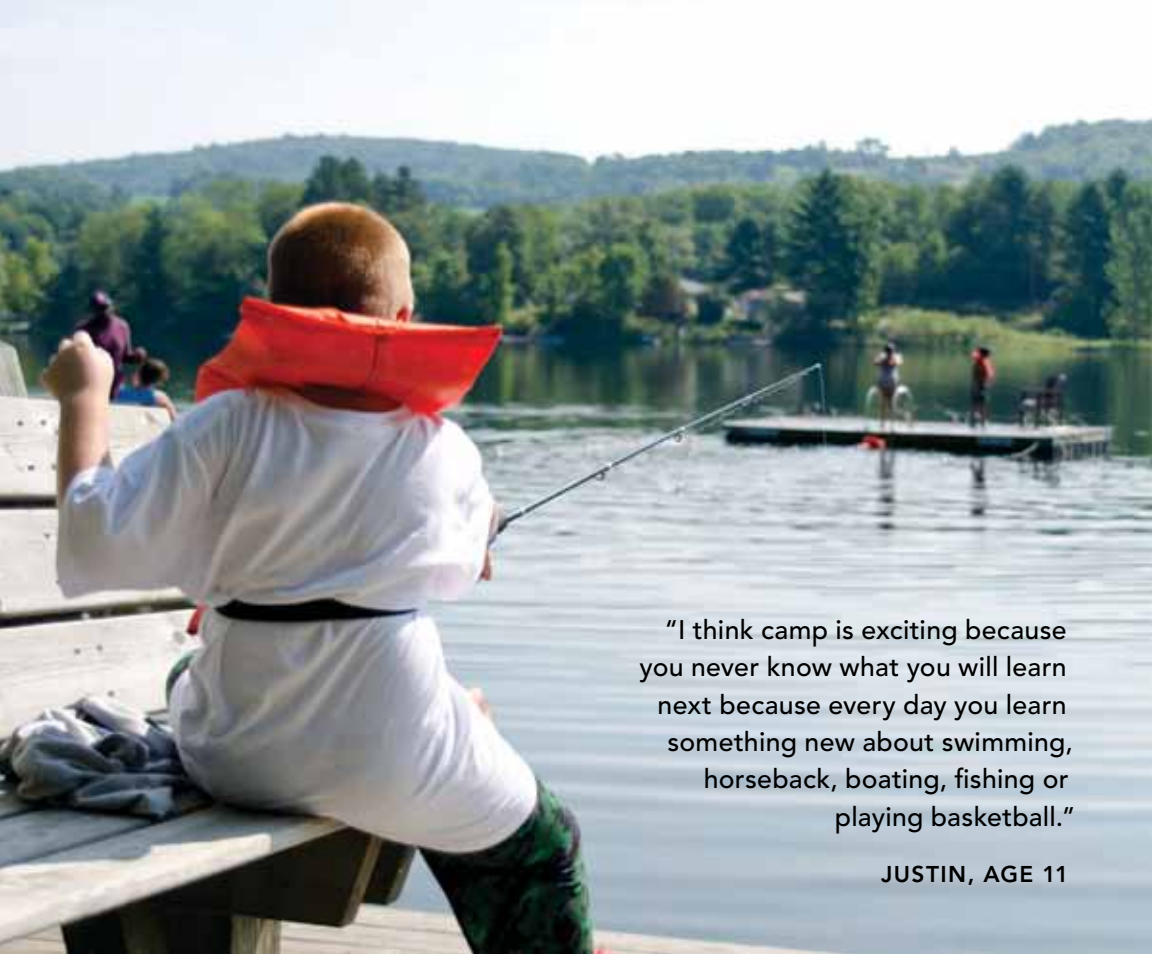
Year-Round Programs Include:

- + Book Clubs
- + Cultural Outings
- + Health Education
- + Middle School and High School Transition Programs
- + Teen Socials
- + Leadership Programs
- + Community Service Projects
- + College Access Programs and Trips
- + Career Awareness Workshops



"Fiver is a safe environment where I can be myself, having fun, meeting new people and learning things along the way."

JESSE, AGE 15



“I think camp is exciting because you never know what you will learn next because every day you learn something new about swimming, horseback, boating, fishing or playing basketball.”

JUSTIN, AGE 11



“Fiver introduced me to helping other people through the AIDS walk. It was long and intense but we did it together and it meant something to me that we could do something so positive.”

BRIAN, ALUMNUS



SUMMER

ALL FIVER PARTICIPANTS ATTEND **CAMP FIVER**, a residential summer program in central NY aimed at helping kids develop strong character and healthy decision-making habits. For teens, the Summer in the City Program offers internship and leadership development opportunities in New York City.

Camp Fiver Programs Include:

- + Literacy Enrichment
- + Environmental Education
- + Swimming Lessons
- + Canoeing and Fishing
- + Sports, Dance and Music Classes
- + Wilderness Trips
- + Public Speaking and Debate Classes
- + Ropes Courses

Summer in the City Programs Include:

- + Internships
- + Job Training Workshops
- + Career Networking Events
- + College Tours
- + Community Service Projects

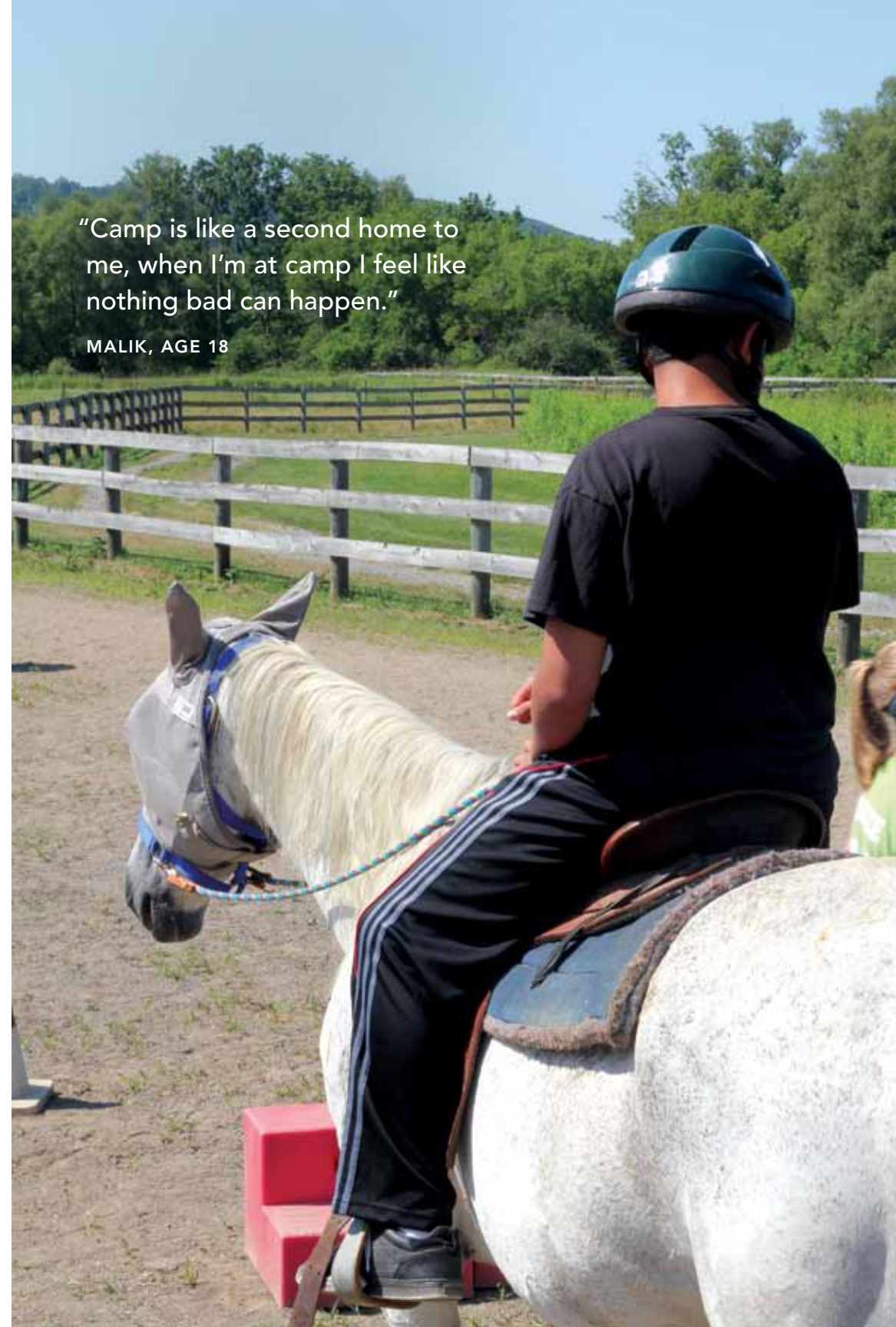


EXCELLENCE IN SUMMER LEARNING AWARD

Fiver Children's Foundation is one of only five organizations nationally to receive the 2011 Excellence in Summer Learning Award from the National Summer Learning Association. The annual award recognizes summer programs demonstrating excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting healthy development for young people, demonstrating exemplary practices in overall programming, including supporting staff, schools and other program partners in fulfilling shared goals.

"Camp is like a second home to me, when I'm at camp I feel like nothing bad can happen."

MALIK, AGE 18



OUR FAMILIES

THE PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL promotes parent involvement by offering workshops, support, social events and an annual parent retreat at Camp Fiver. Parents also support Fiver by volunteering at events and in the office. Family programs allow children and parents to bond with one another and with other Fiver families.



“Fiver gave me the opportunity to meet wonderful people that work extremely hard to make kids happy, by exploring a world they never thought existed. Thanks, Fiver!”

HUGO, FIVER PARENT



“Fiver gave me the opportunity to grow into a person who dreams big dreams and makes them achievable.”

AKILAH, ALUMNA

OUR ALUMNI

FOLLOWING AN EMOTIONAL GRADUATION CEREMONY, 41 students joined the ranks of Fiver alumni in 2011. Fiver holds several reunion events annually and offers guidance and workshops to alumni. Many alumni return to work at Camp Fiver following in the footsteps of the counselors they once admired.

“Fiver has given me the opportunity of being able to hold my own life decision in my own hands. Allowing me not to be discouraged in moving up in life, in becoming successful as a black/Hispanic woman in New York.”

KRISTINE, ALUMNA

2011 HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY–MARCH

Alumni Banquet

Fiver Alumni enjoyed an evening of good food and friendship, sharing memories and celebrating accomplishments.



Spinathon

Over 50 individuals supported Fiver and raised \$12,000 by spinning at Soul Cycle.

La La Powerlunch

La La Vasquez, MTV Host and wife of NBA star Carmelo Anthony, spent an afternoon with some of our Fiver girls for a candid conversation about what makes them powerful.



APRIL–JUNE

Teen Council Career Speakers

Madison Square Garden President, Scott O'Neill, and Fiver's founder, Tom Tucker, each shared their personal career stories with Fiver teens.

Fiver Benefit

Fiver's annual fundraiser was held at Bridgewater at the South Street Seaport and raised over \$300,000. Steve Carlson, the CEO of INTL Provident Group was honored for his service and passion for Fiver.



Family Picnic

Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks helped create a fun day for 170 Fiver kids and family members.



JULY–AUGUST

Camp Fiver

Fiver welcomed 509 kids to Camp Fiver for a powerful character-building experience. Over 50% of summer staff returned for at least their second summer.



KPMG Service Day

Eight KPMG interns renovated Fiver's library, donated books, and created our city garden.



Blackburn Challenge

Dean Spagnoli raised over \$20,000 for Fiver in the Blackburn Challenge canoe race.

Career Nights

Fiver teens attended career networking events and heard from guest speakers including Moore Capital COO, Scott Lawin.

SEPTEMBER–OCTOBER

Parent Retreat

Over 50 parents explored the wonders of Camp Fiver at the 6th Annual Parent Retreat.

Reunion of former employees of Lehman Brothers

Fiver board members with roots at Lehman Brothers gathered with former colleagues to reconnect and share the Fiver story.



Piper Jaffray Mentor Day and NASDAQ Bell Ringing

Through our partnership with Youth INC, Fiver students participated in Mentor Day at Piper Jaffray and had the opportunity to attend the ringing of the closing bell at NASDAQ.



2011 HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

Heartbeat Ideas Career Day

The team from Heartbeat Ideas introduced Fiver teens to the world of marketing and branding.



Tonya Lewis Lee Visit

Fiver kids and family members learned about healthy decision making when Tonya Lewis Lee read her children's book "Giants Steps to Change the World".



"Fiver has truly been a huge blessing to me, not only have they given me another place to call home, but they have provided year-round activities and assistance in any aspect of my life."

ESOHE, AGE 17

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER

Young Professional Bar Night

The newly established Young Professionals Committee raised over \$3,000 at an event at Prana in NYC.

Barnes and Noble Partnership

Fiver launched a partnership with Barnes and Noble that included book fair and gift wrapping fundraisers, as well as opportunities to meet authors, including Bill Clinton.



National Summer Learning Award Ceremony

Fiver received the Excellence in Summer Learning Award from the National Summer Learning Association at a ceremony and conference in San Francisco.



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