

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



170

youth referred to
CYAP in 2023

15%

of youth referred are
homeless or at risk of
homelessness

62%

referred by schools

26%

referred by prosecutor

10%

referred by other
agencies

2%

self referrals

76%

of youth
referred
receive free
or reduced
meals at
school

17%

of parents do
not speak
English

54

K-5th Grade

52

6-8th Grade

64

9-12th Grade



Maggie Figge

Early Intervention Advocate



Melissa Yarger

Early Intervention Advocate



Emiy Timmins

Administrative Assistant

President

Stacey Pomeroy
 IU Health

Vice President

Bill Harris
 Regions Bank

Secretary

Alicia Chandler
 Oak Street Funding

Treasurer

Craig Kunkle
 FirstMile Security

Ex-Officios

- Tricia Akers, Executive Director, Hamilton County Youth Assistance Program
- Dr. Michael Beresford, Superintendent, Carmel Clay Schools
- Melanie Brewer, Senior Project Manager, City of Carmel
- Judge Paul Felix, Hamilton County Circuit Court
- Judge Michael Casati, Hamilton County Superior Court #1
- Tammy Thornbury, Asst. Dir. of Special Services, Carmel Clay Schools

2023 At Large Board Members

- Katie Feley, CEO, Indiana Nurses Association
- Leslie Geiger, Attorney, Church Church Hittle + Antrim
- Brian Henson, Managing Director, INS Capital Group
- Melissa King, Independent Event Consultant
- Jeff Nolan, Vice President of Sales, Clinical Architecture
- Jill Schipp, Principal, West Clay Elementary
- Dave Schnase, Vice President, NCAA
- Samantha Schwartz, CEO/Co-founder, The Plaid Agency
- Steven Shackelford, Regional Vice President, Retirement Plan Sales
- Kevin Woods, Vice President of Client Relations, Navient

2023 was a year of growth for the Carmel Youth Assistance Program (CYAP). I am honored to serve as the Board President. We continue to thrive with the help of our community to be stronger and more important to those we serve. CYAP continues to mature from the early days of 2015 and are building a healthy community for tomorrow by investing in the youth of today.

The Carmel Youth Assistance Program serves as an early intervention advocate for youth ages 3-17 who are facing challenging life circumstances. Leveraging the distinct legal authority of our Early Intervention Advocates, we collaborate closely with schools, law enforcement, and the judicial system to craft comprehensive intervention strategies. We coordinate our community's vast array of talents, services, and resources to help youth and empower parents and caregivers. I am proud of the impacts CYAP has made this past year and opportunities created for the future.

In 2023, we began preparing ourselves for our next phase of growth:

- Secured more than \$542,000 in grant funding
- Completed 3 year strategic plan
- Began preparation to hire 2 new staff positions

Because Carmel continues to be one of the top places to live in the nation, many families come to Carmel risking everything for their child's success. CYAP has become an integral program in the Carmel community for any child who is experiencing a challenging life circumstance. Mental health, job loss, trauma, and food insecurity penetrate socioeconomic boundaries. CYAP strives to minimize barriers for our youth and families by wrapping families in support to allow them to find a path to success. We live in a city that values all its citizens, especially our children and their families that need extra support to reach their full potential. The program makes a difference in the individual life of the child and their family and it also has a great impact on the community as a whole. Please join our mission and ask how YOU can help!

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacey Pomeroy".

Stacey Pomeroy
Carmel Youth Assistance Board President

“

Many years ago, our family was introduced to the Carmel Youth Assistance Program. While I can't recall the exact year or the circumstances of our introduction, the impact of this program on our lives is vividly stamped in our memories. It has seamlessly become an integral part of our family, providing **invaluable support** and **opportunities** that have significantly enriched our lives.

Through the Carmel Youth Assistance Program, two of my children have had the privilege of attending sleepover camps, where they enjoyed **memorable experiences and learned life skills**. Also, during Christmas when providing gifts for my children becomes a financial challenge, the Carmel Youth Assistance Program consistently steps in, ensuring that **our family experiences the joy of the season**. During the challenging times brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, my son had the opportunity to participate in a study group, helping him stay **academically engaged** and his grades were better for it. This same son of mine also perfected his swimming skills thanks to opportunities availed by the program.

Not only does this program provide tangible assistance, but it is also led by **compassionate** individuals. Maggie, Melissa, and Emily, are so **dedicated** and they have been instrumental in improving our lives. They are not only easy to talk to, but they also demonstrate **empathy and respect**. They never looked down on us and always treated us with respect and kindness. Their unwavering efforts to investigate all options and fulfill our requests, such as securing a last-minute spot for my daughter at a sleepover camp, demonstrate their dedication to **easing our burdens**. We are deeply grateful to the Carmel Youth Assistance Program and the incredible people who make it a source of blessing and **support** for families like ours.

”

Beverly,
Carmel Youth Assistance Program Parent

What is mentoring?

CYAP's mentoring program is designed to give Carmel youth a fun, consistent, positive adult relationship. Mentors and mentees focus on having fun and enjoying each other's company. Mentors are matched with 1 child and are expected to see the child once a week for at least one year. Mentees vary in age but are typically between 4th grade and 10th grade. Mentee's have been identified by CYAP as needing a positive adult in their life.

510 MENTOR HOURS

11 MATCHES



Thanks to our 2023 mentors!

Kate Brandt
Diane Braun
Jeannette Mills

Julie O'Connor
Randy Pete
Mark Plaskow

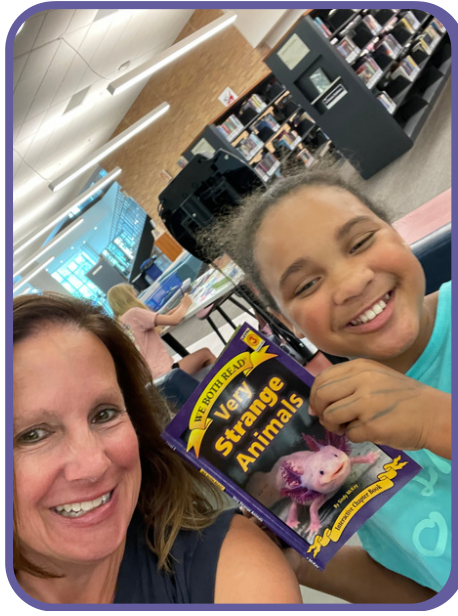
Molli Salter
Susan Shelley
Dennis Wichern
Kevin Woods

What is tutoring?

CYAP offers two tutoring programs: Summer Bridge and 1-1 tutoring. The focus of CYAP’s Summer Bridge Tutoring Program is to mitigate summer learning loss. Youth in grades K-4 meet one-on-one with their tutor twice weekly to work on reading and math skills. CYAP’s 1-1 Tutoring Program takes place during the school year and focuses on improving a student’s understanding/learning in a specific class. In this program, matches focus on re-teaching and homework completion.

307 TUTOR HOURS

18 MATCHES



Thanks to our 2023 tutors!

Nancy Barnes
 Deseree Becker-Wilpolt
 Heidi Brinkman
 Dominique Camara

Shawn Curtis
 Mandy Galle
 Kim Gonzalez
 Nicole Ludwig

Erin Mayer
 Anne McCollum
 Liz Riley
 Brian Schneider

Kim Seelig
 Nancy Straatman
 Stacey Summers
 Miesha Wright

CARMEL GALA

Raised an amazing \$75,000 at the 2023 Carmel Gala. We are so proud that all the money raised goes directly to programming and supporting our youth.

TUTORING PROGRAM

Kicked off our 1-1 Tutoring program to support youth academically and help them realize their potential. We were able to match 5 youth with tutors.

HOLIDAY SUPPORT

Supported 19 youth for the holiday season thanks to the Carmel High School Senate student group. We connected 44 youth to additional holiday assistance programs.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Completed our first organizational strategic plan. This plan will help guide CYAP over the next three years to ensure we are maximizing our resources to better serve the youth in Carmel.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT

Guided our second youth through his acceptance to the IU Group Scholars Program. We had the privilege of walking alongside this student through applying for financial aid, getting all the dorm necessities, and even attending orientation with him. We continue to be so proud of how he is navigating this new experience.

GRANTEE PARTNERS

Bolstered programs through a grant writing consultant who helped CYAP win several grants to expand and amplify our reach to youth. We are excited to put these funds to use in the 2024 year to address needs and trends identified by CYAP.

COMMON THEMES OF NEEDS

In 2023, we noticed many families who were referred to CYAP for assistance posed the same needs. The majority of our families fit into the definition of “ALICE” which stands for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed. Although our families are employed, many can barely make ends meet and they struggle to access basic needs. After meeting with and listening to over 100 hundred families throughout the course of the year, the needs below highlight where there are resource deficits in our community.

HOUSING INSECURITY

While housing costs continue to increase, wages have not increased enough to make up the difference. Many of our families struggle month to month to pay rent and necessary bills. CYAP is consistently working to find housing resources for those who cannot find stable housing or are facing eviction.

MENTAL HEALTH

Access to mental health care continues to be a growing concern. Many of our youth and families cannot access mental health services due to lack of transportation, lack of insurance, or scheduling constraints. In addition, more and more therapists no longer accept insurance making it even more unattainable.

TRANSPORTATION

We have consistently heard of transportation being a barrier for our families over the years. Due to a lack of public transportation in Hamilton County as well the cost of car maintenance, repairs, gas, and insurance, many of our families do not have consistent transportation or access to other methods.

MEDICAL NEEDS

For those who are uninsured or underinsured, we often receive referrals for youth who have even the most basic medical needs. For example, in 2023 we worked with youth who needed glasses, had poor dental hygiene and desperately needed dental care or braces, or who needed medication management for disorders like ADHD, anxiety, and diabetes.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Thank you to the following partners of Carmel Youth Assistance Program for helping us serve the families of Carmel during 2023.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Adam Grubb Media | Hamilton County Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs |
| Ben's Ranch Foundation | Hamilton County Dept. of Children's Services |
| Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville | Hamilton County Dept. of Probation Services |
| Camp Tecumseh YMCA | Hamilton County Good Samaritan Network |
| Camptown, Inc. | Hamilton County Health Department |
| Carmel Clay Public Library | Hamilton County Humane Society |
| Carmel Clay Schools | Hamilton County Juvenile Courts |
| Carmel Dads' Club | Hamilton County Kids Coats |
| Carmel Education Foundation | Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Dept. |
| Carmel High School Senate | Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office |
| Carmel Monthly | Hamilton County Sheriff's Department |
| Carmel Police Department | Holder Mattress |
| Carmel Rotary Club | Indiana Youth Institute |
| Carmel Swim Club | Joe's Butcher Shop |
| The Chris Center | Kiwanis Club of Carmel |
| City of Carmel | Kroger |
| Current in Carmel | Merciful H.E.L.P. Center |
| Genesis Church Carmel | Northview Church |
| Godby Home Furnishings | Paws & Think |
| Grace Community Church | PIP Printing |
| Hamilton County Commissioners | Ritz Charles |
| Hamilton County Council | Salvation Army |
| Hamilton County Community Foundation | Wilkinson Brothers |



BUSINESS SUPPORT

Thank you to the following businesses, organizations, and schools for their support of Carmel Youth Assistance Program throughout 2023!

Afterglow Market LLC
Allied Solutions
American Structurepoint Inc
Anthem BlueCross BlueShield
Arthur Dean Family Foundation
Blaze Midwest Inc.
Brave Heart Foundation
Carmel City Clerk
Carmel City Council
Carmel Elementary School PTO
Carmel High School
Carmel Middle School
The Cat
Central Indiana Community Foundation
Church Church Hittle + Antrim
City of Carmel
CNO Financial Group
Delaware Community Foundation
Duke Energy Indiana LLC
Encore Landscape LLC
Estridge Family Foundation
F.A. Wilhelm Construction
Forest Dale Elementary School
FirstMile Security
Forest Dale Elementary School
Genesis Church
Hoosier Motor Club
Jarred LLC
JBE Foods Carmel LLC
Joe's Butcher Shop and Fish Market
Kappa Kappa Kappa Inc.
Kimley-Horn
Kroger
Krieg DeVault LLP
Lake City Bank
Mohawk Trails Elementary School PTO
Navient
NCAA
NextGear Capital
Northside ENT
Northview Church
Oak Street Funding LLC
The PLAID Agency
Porchfest
Rotary Club of Carmel, Indiana
Smoky Row Elementary PTO
Solential Energy Solutions LLC
Somerset CPA and Advisors
State Bank
TCC Gives
Telamon Corporation
Towne Meadow Elementary School
Towne Meadow Elementary School PTO
United Consulting
United Way of Central Indiana
Wallack Somers & Haas PC
West Clay Elementary School PTO
Woodbrook Elementary School
Woodbrook Elementary School PTO

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our individual donors for making 2023 another successful year! Individuals donated more than \$84,000 to CYAP's programs and mission. Our volunteers gave over 1,500 hours to CYAP. We simply could not do this without donors and volunteers to support our mission and programs.



**“Building a healthy community for tomorrow by investing
in the youth of today”**



Carmel Youth Assistance Program
Carmel Community Life & Learning Center
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317-501-1739