



camp via west
an abilitypath affiliate



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Dear Families, Friends, and Community Members,

We want to celebrate a truly remarkable year, made possible by the unwavering support of our incredible community of families, donors, board members, volunteers, and staff.

It's hard to believe it's already been a year since Camp Via West became affiliated with AbilityPath. At the start of our affiliation, Via's First Step program joined AbilityPath's Children's Therapy Services, allowing Via to focus entirely on camp services.

The AbilityPath and Via Services Board of Directors formed a Camp Via West Operating Committee to offer strategic guidance and formulate plans to upgrade and improve camp facilities and explore new and innovative programs. The Camp Via West Operating Committee is comprised of an incredibly talented group of professionals from across the country, with years of experience and knowledge in operating camps and serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

With exciting investments being made in camp infrastructure, we made progress towards transforming Camp Via West into the #1 Camp for staff, families, and campers! During Phase I of construction, we completed extensive renovations of the sports field, which included new turf, a concession building, and two ADA bathrooms. We installed six new "glamping" tent bungalows for camp counselors. We also put in new landscaping, fencing, and firepit installations, along with extensive infrastructure improvements and fire prevention work.

Summer camp kicked off in June and what a wonderful summer it was! We were joined by nearly 350 campers who enjoyed a wide variety of activities with a wonderful and caring group of staff – many of whom plan to return this coming summer.

We are continually expanding our off-season camp rentals, which helps fund our operations, and support our core focus of serving campers in the summer months.

We're incredibly proud of all these accomplishments and we're grateful to everyone who supported our work this past year. Thank you for being part of the Via family. We look forward to furthering our impact on the lives of those we serve in the year ahead.

Sincerely,



Bryan Neider
CEO, Via Services and AbilityPath





2023 Highlights

Increased Attendance at Summer Camp

We were joined by nearly 350 campers, which was a 55% increase over the prior summer. Campers enjoyed a wide variety of activities, from making delicious rocket ship kabobs and crafting beautiful seashell picture frames, to playing games of noodle tag, soccer, and more on our newly renovated sports field. Of course, no summer would be complete without the timeless tradition of drenching our counselors on the hot summer days! Campers also enjoyed the summer staff who came from all over the U.S, and a number of international locations as well.



“Jamieson was not the same person when we picked her up from camp. It has transformed her life. She is making friends, playing team sports, and can really just be herself. We are so grateful for this camp and the impact it has had on her life, and the whole family.”

-Christine, mom to Jamieson

Investing in the Future of Camp

Many exciting improvements were made at camp including “glamping” accommodations for camp counselors, which will help with recruiting top-notch camp staff and help increase off-season camp rentals. We had a wonderful ribbon cutting, officially opening the newly renovated sports field where campers enjoy soccer, field hockey, frisbee golf, and more fun activities. We dedicated the Camp Via West Sports Field in memory of Bryce Dolinko, who was a happy camper here for several years, until his passing in 2019. Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, Cupertino Mayor Hung Wei, community leaders, and campers joined in the celebration. Channel 2 News ran special coverage of the event on the evening news!

In the next construction phases, we plan to include additional bungalows for camp counselors, a registration center, comfort stations, entry signage, and walkway improvements.



Heart of Camp

Our annual fundraising event *Heart of Camp* (formerly *Via Ball*) returned to campus with some fun new additions including one of the top party bands in the country, The Dick Bright Orchestra. Guests enjoyed dinner and dancing under the stars on our new sports field. We presented the inaugural *Heart of Camp* Service Award to Cupertino DeAnza Lions Club in honor of volunteers Joan Chin and Dagi Zimdahl. Thanks to many generous sponsors and donors, the event raised nearly \$300,000, including matching funds from the County of Santa Clara.



**Thank you to our
Heart of Camp Sponsors!**

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Coming Together as a Community

During Pumpkinpalooza, campers and their families enjoyed Halloween festivities with trick-or-treating, face painting, costume contests, and more. Families also enjoyed our Winterfest event – sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cupertino – where camp was transformed into a winter wonderland with activities and crafts for participants!



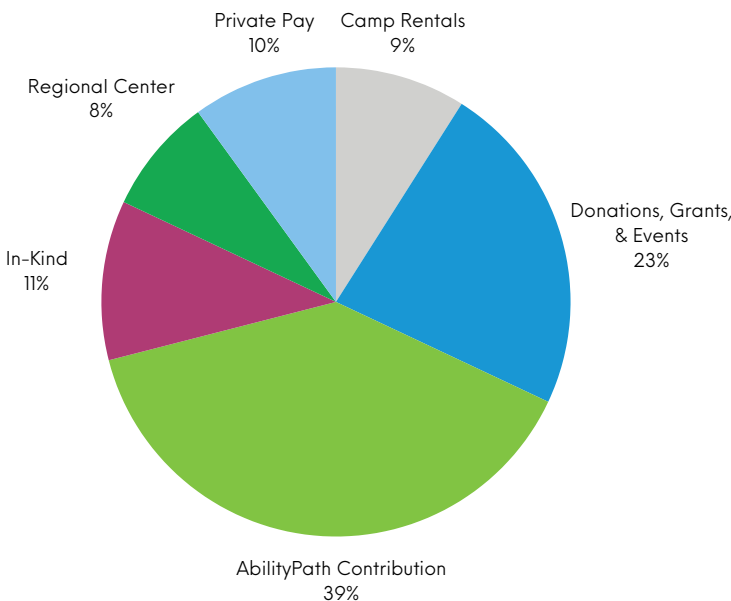
Financial Outcomes

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

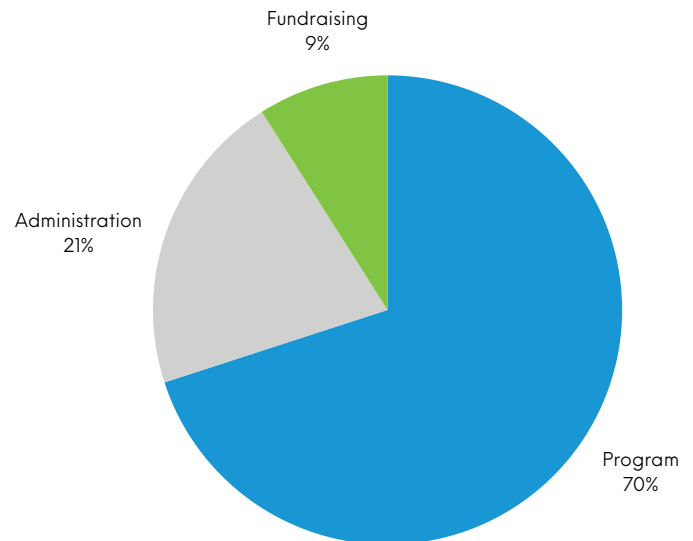
FY23 was a significant year, as we made steady progress on increasing post-pandemic summer camp enrollment. Contributions and grants were an important source of revenue, which included a \$1.1 million contribution from AbilityPath. Thanks to this partnership and the generosity of our supporters, we were able to invest in Camp infrastructure including renovating the sports field used by campers, the addition of six new bungalows for camp staff, ADA-related upgrades that improved accessibility, and the addition of high-speed internet service. The bungalow housing is a key upgrade that will help with recruitment of summer camp counselors, allowing us to enroll more campers. Camp rentals are also an increasingly important revenue source to help cover camp operating costs throughout the year.

The affiliation with AbilityPath and Camp Via West provided administrative and overhead efficiencies for the Camp. AbilityPath leveraged existing administrative, development, and marketing resources to support Camp operations. However, there were one-time, non-recurring costs associated with the Affiliation incurred during FY23. We anticipate administrative costs will decrease as a percentage of Camp operations in the future.

Operating Revenue



Operating Expenses



Thank You to Our Donors

We are grateful to all of the individuals, families, corporations, and foundations that supported our programs between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

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About Us

Since our founding in 1947 Camp Via West has envisioned an inclusive world in which people of all abilities and their families are living joyful and fulfilling lives. Camp Via West's beautiful 13.5-acre campus nestled in the Redwoods of the Cupertino foothills offers a wide variety of respite and inclusion camps for children and adults with developmental disabilities to learn new skills, develop meaningful relationships, build confidence, and more...all while enjoying the great outdoors!

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