



**I M P A C T  
R E P O R T  
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**CAMP ENCOURAGEMENT**

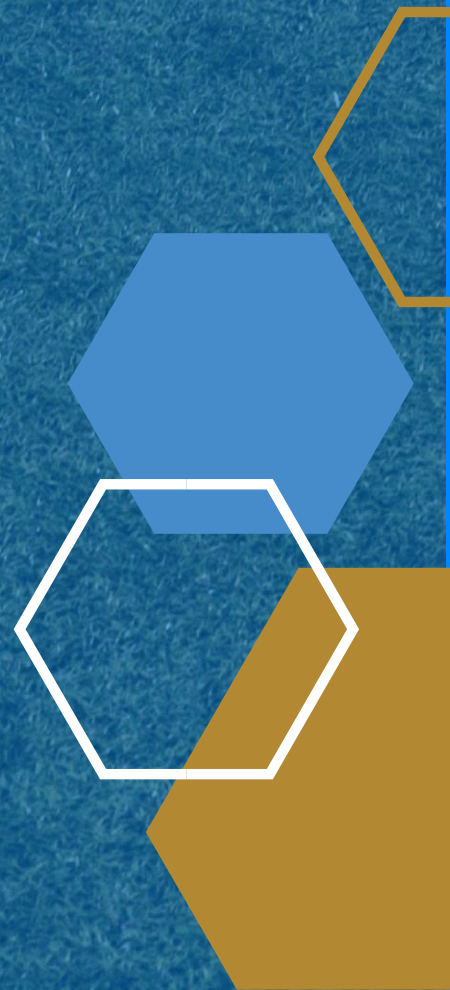


**TRIPPLEY  
FOUNDATION**

[WWW.WILLTRIPPLEY.ORG](http://WWW.WILLTRIPPLEY.ORG)

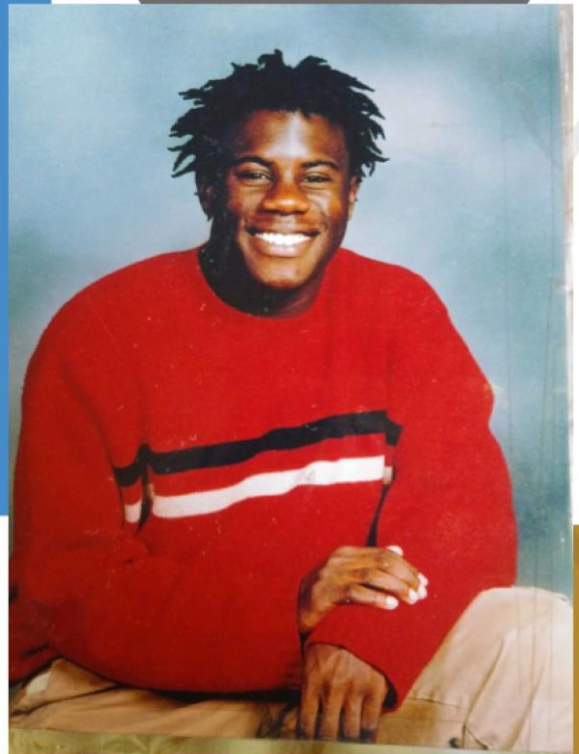
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# In memory of Will Trippley, a compassionate, goofy, dedicated son and friend.

Will Trippley was an extraordinarily bright and talented son, friend and athlete. After earning himself a full soccer scholarship to the prestigious Shipley School and Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania, Will's life was taken too soon by prevalent gun violence in the Chester community. Like the kids in our program, Will had so much potential to offer the rest of his community. We continue to cherish Will's memory by teaching and working with the children whose curiosity and passion reflect Will's spirit, and through whom, his legacy will live on.



WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT THE



# TRIPPLEY FOUNDATION

At the Will Trippley Youth Development Foundation, our mission is to enrich all childrens' lives by giving them opportunities to develop their cognitive intelligence, open their hearts, learn new skills, and rediscover hope.



## Sharing her story

Following a dark time and seeking to provide a counseling opportunity for other families dealing with loss, Will Trippley's mother and our Founder, Pat, went back to school to get her master's degree and developed the Camp Encouragement model. Since its founding in 2016, Camp Encouragement has evolved from three half-day sessions to five full days into the first-ever virtual camp. More than 100 campers have participated in many enriching creative experiences, including yoga, chess, journaling, and horseback riding.


Pat created Camp Encouragement in honor of her daughter. When losing her brother, Pat's daughter did not have any place to go to heal. Losing a loved one is a devastating and beyond-words overwhelming and traumatizing experience for youth to process. Being 23 years old - at the time, her daughter had a lot to process, and it was challenging for Pat to find the best ways to be there for her daughter while also being overwhelmed with her own grief. However, Pat realized that she and her daughter were not alone.

# The problem at scale

The bereavement that follows a loss is painful, crucial, necessary, and unavoidable, and it's a phenomenon that millions of youth across the country face every day. According to research by Jefferson Health and numerous other studies, bereaved people of all ages are at higher risk for serious mental and physical challenges such as depression, suicide, drug, alcohol abuse, and heart disease. This makes it all the more important for encouraging open and honest communication among communities and families to help support each other along the way. However, there is no straightforward one-size-fits-all solution for parents to support their children during such a devastating time.



Research shows that camps are promising therapeutic outlets in helping bereaved children develop and build resilience in dealing with loss. Various sources show that “grief camps” consistently provide a safe place for children to share their feelings about their loss with other children who can empathize in their own unique ways that are otherwise challenging for adult family members to relate to. Children can also look at older children or their counselors as near-to-peer mentors to help them understand the concept of death, including its physical and biological processes. Programs like Camp Encouragement have demonstrated to ultimately cultivate empathy, support, love, acceptance, resilience, and fun during such a heavy time.



**Pat created Camp Encouragement with the hope of supporting children and facilitating digestible conversations around the topic of grief of losing a loved one. Since Camp Encouragement's founding, Pat has inspired children across Chester to restore their own hope and wellbeing.**

# About Camp Encouragement



Camp Encouragement is a multifaceted counseling program for children who have experienced loss or separation of a loved one. Students are connected with one another and with mentors to participate in activities that foster the Growth Mindset such as art lessons and creative writing.

## Program Theory: The Growth Mindset

Our programs incorporate the Theory of Growth Mindset, providing children with tools to be resilient in the face of challenges, such as grief and loss.

Based on Stanford professor Carol Dweck's research, the Growth Mindset theory encourages a rewarding process based on effort rather than results. Kids use the FESPI approach to evaluate their Focus, Effort, Strategies, Perseverance, and Improvement. This framework helps youth learn and grow from adversity, rather than giving up, shutting out, or adopting unhealthy coping mechanisms.

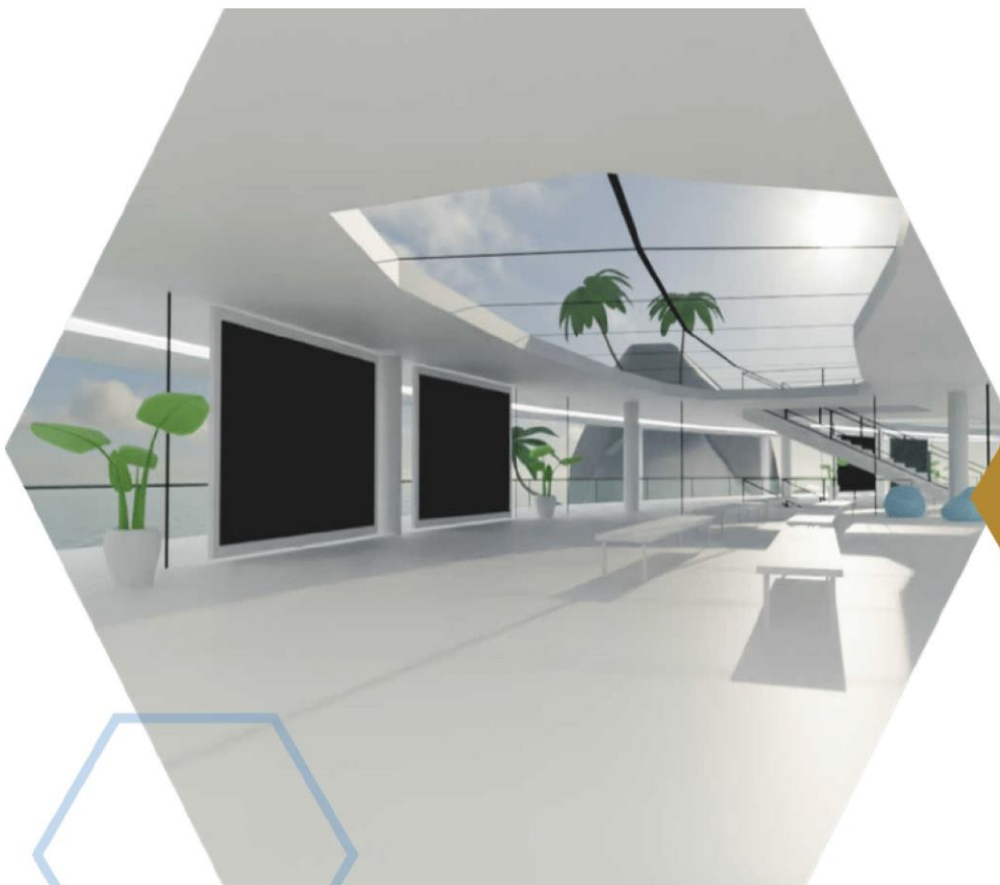


# The New Normal

## Healing in a Time of Isolation

The grief of loss should never be carried alone, especially by our youth. The trauma of loss, paired with the mandatory isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, has exacerbated the need for Camp Encouragement programming more than ever before.

Despite the shift to online, 12 students attended Camp Encouragement virtually in 2020, where they continued to engage with one another, counselors and mentors. In addition to peer-to-peer connections, campers had the opportunity to take part in unique activities enabled by the virtual nature of the camp such as graphic design and music production online sessions. To date, Camp Encouragement is proud to have impact the lives of 56 students .



# Diversity Matters

The Trippley Foundation serves all communities and youth who can benefit from our programming. We prioritize diversity, equity and inclusion, and aim to reach underserved youth who are often overheard or overlooked.

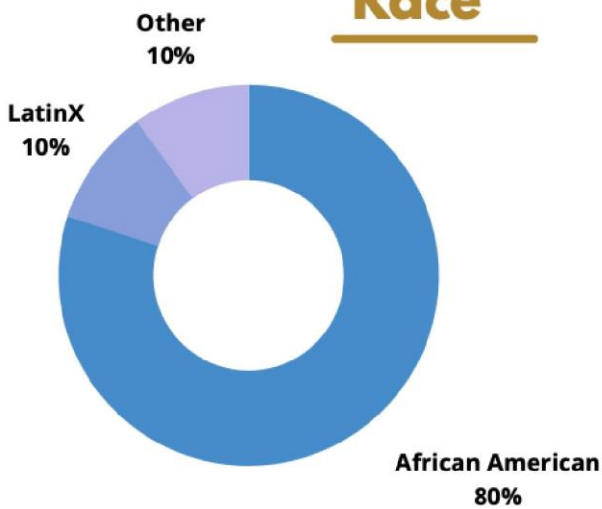
**100+**

campers served

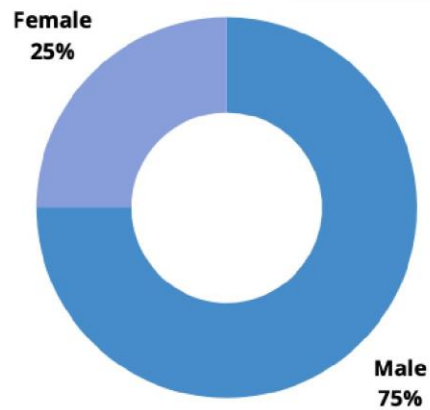
**56**

virtual campers

## Race



## Gender



# Our Impact

**59%**

say it is easier to speak about their loss

**67%**

improved their focus

**90%**

felt less alone

**90%**

campers reported they "felt better" after Camp Encouragement

**90%**

rated program 8+/10

**100%**

felt better about themselves

# Meet The Team!



Patricia  
Trippley-Demiranda  
*Founder*

Co-Founder of the William Trippley Youth Development Foundation (WTYDF), created to honor the memory of her son, William Trippley.



David Brown  
*President*

A close friend and teammate, David is dedicated to continuing Will's legacy by leading the strategic vision as president of the Trippley Foundation.

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## Advisory Board

Susan Dennis  
Gwen Owens  
Tony Morelli  
Donna Bobo-Carter  
Dr. Lisa Dennis




**20**

volunteers

**100**

volunteer hours

Our counselors and volunteers are specifically trained and equipped in improving youth trauma. We also have teachers of various backgrounds on our staff including special education and disability specialists.



# Letter from our Founder

Camp encouragement is a great opportunity for children to receive help with the loss of a loved one. Our camp has also given each child the opportunity to have regular activities, but what is unique is it gives each child the opportunity to participate in counseling sessions, talk about their loved one, and also meet other children who are going through the same or similar issues.

Through the grieving process, our children come feeling alone and missing their loved ones, but at the end of the camp, our children are smiling and are given a few tools to learn to deal with the loss of their loved ones. We continue to reach out to them through cards on their birthday and the birthday of their loved ones. And we offer our children counseling throughout the year. This also allows them to talk about their loved ones. With grief, parents are still so broken-hearted that the counseling session gives the children a chance to talk about their loved ones.

Camp Encouragement is a great joy for the parents, the children, and for me. I enjoy the beautiful smiles the children have after their week with us, and I know we have accomplished our mission.

- Patricia Trippley-Demiranda

*Patricia Demiranda*



# And special thanks to our partners & sponsors!



Margie Wainfain and her program "Art Barn"

Allison DeSalvo And her program "Word of Song"



**TRIPPLEY**  
FOUNDATION

**RESILIENCE. GROWTH. SUCCESS.**

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