



Camp Fire USA – Fact Sheet

The following information has been assembled by the National Scouting and Youth Services Committee to assist chapters with their interaction with Camp Fire USA.

Camp Fire USA is one of the nation's leading not-for-profit youth development organizations, currently serving nearly 750,000 children and youth annually. Camp Fire USA, with national headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., provides all-inclusive, coeducational programs in hundreds of communities across the United States. The organization was originally founded in 1910 as Camp Fire Girls. In 1975 the program began encouraging boys to participate in the activities offered and currently approximately 46 percent of the youth served by Camp Fire USA are boys.

As the first nonsectarian, interracial organization for girls in the United States, Camp Fire USA takes pride in its long-standing commitment to providing fun programs and services to all children and families in America. Their programs are structured to be inclusive, open to every person in the communities they serve, welcoming children, youth and adults regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or other aspect of diversity. Camp Fire USA's programs are designed and implemented to reduce sex-role, racial and cultural stereotypes and to foster positive intercultural relationships.

Camp Fire USA's mission statement is: *"Camp Fire USA builds caring, confident youth and future leaders."*

Camp Fire USA has five nationally developed youth development programs that are delivered through 145 local and statewide councils and community partners across the nation. Programs are specific to community need and some may not be available in all communities. The five out-come based program areas include: Small-Group Clubs and Mentoring Opportunities; Leadership Development; Camping and Environmental Education; Child Care; and Self-Reliance and Service-Learning Classes.

Camp Fire USA has established five program levels for participants, based upon grade level. Each program-level name symbolizes expanding opportunities, choices and leadership:

Little Stars	Pre-Kindergarten (ages 3 to 5)
Starflight	Kindergarten through second grades
Adventure	Third through fifth grades
Discovery	Sixth through eighth grades
Horizon	Ninth through 12th grades

Camp Fire USA has also established the "Teens in Action" program that provides service-learning experiences for teens.

In Camp Fire USA programs, youth meet regularly in small groups with other youth and participate in a variety of activities. Youth develop partnerships with adults as they build self-esteem and master skills that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Recognitions within Camp Fire USA for youth members are structured by age level and consist of emblems, pins and beads, reflecting the members' individual efforts to learn new things and participate in activities that will help them grow as individuals. The Wohelo Award is Camp Fire USA's highest youth honor. It can be earned through one of two tracks, through the Horizon program or through the Teens in Action program.

Camp Fire USA sponsors an annual community service project - Absolutely Incredible Kid Day®. It is held on the third Thursday in March each year. The project is a national letter writing campaign that urges adults to write letters of love and support to the children in their lives. Nationally, the goal of Absolutely Incredible Kid Day® is for every child to receive a letter.

For more information on Camp Fire USA visit the national organization website: <http://www.campfire.org>

For assistance in locating your local Camp Fire USA council visit: http://www.campfire.org/council_locator/

For more information about Absolutely Incredible Kid Day® visit: http://www.campfire.org/a_i_kid_day

For more information on the Teens in Action Program visit: http://www.campfire.org/teens/teens_action/