

2021

IMPACT REPORT

MENTORSHIP
SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES
YEAR-ROUND ENRICHMENT



WAYFINDERS
HELPING OPPORTUNITY FIND EVERY CHILD

For over 30 years, **WAYFINDERS** has supported scholars with enriching experiences which allow them to develop leadership skills, build their confidence, and increase their social capital. Studies show that low-income children lack access to horizon-broadening opportunities and experiences, which increases inequity. By providing these opportunities and supplementing with mentor support, we help narrow this equity gap.

OUR 2021 SUMMARY

Positive summer camp experiences and year-round enrichment and mentoring **motivate scholars to be successful in school, increase their self-confidence, and improve their leadership skills.** These intermediary outcomes influence long-term outcomes such as school attendance, academic performance, and ultimately, graduation from high school.

In a year of many changes, Wayfinders continued to be a consistent presence in scholars' lives. In 2021, our mentors collectively volunteered over 4,000 hours. Consistent access to a mentor is one of the most impactful strategies for scholars to increase their social capital.

We **expanded our partnership with Green River Preserve**, allowing scholars to participate in a two-week climbing, kayaking, and hiking experience. We welcomed new camp and community partners including **Books of Belonging, Camp Grier, Duke Pre-College Summer Programs, Keystone Camp, McColl Center for Arts + Innovation, Urban Farm at Aldersgate, and Wake Forest Summer Immersion and Exploration** to offer our scholars even more meaningful enrichment.



34 YEARS OF SUPPORTING YOUNG SCHOLARS

151 SCHOLARS RECEIVED SUPPORT IN 2021

12 CMS SCHOOL PARTNERS FOR 4TH GRADE SELECTION

93% SCHOLAR RETENTION RATE

ALMOST **100** RETURNED TO IN-PERSON CAMPS THIS SUMMER

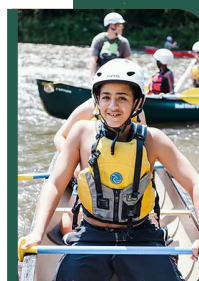
SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT



BLYTHE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

We rely on strong partners to help us bring new experiences to scholars so they can graduate with a plan for college or career. **Scholars look to Wayfinders to expand their horizons through job shadowing and internship experiences.** Partners like Blythe Development Company support us in multiple ways, strengthening our organization and our community. Thank you to Spencer and Luke Blythe and Blythe Development Company!

“**Wayfinders plays a critical role in our community, and we are proud to be partners in helping opportunity find every child. We support Wayfinders both as mentors and by offering internships for scholars at Blythe Development. We know the resources we provide help empower scholars to set and achieve goals for high school graduation, college, and careers.**”



VISION

Every child, regardless of zip code, has access to transformative life experiences through camp, mentorship, and educational opportunities.

MISSION

We ignite students' potential by expanding their confidence, connections, and horizons. We achieve this through summer camp experiences, year-round enrichment programs, and mentor relationships for self-motivated, underserved students.

BY THE NUMBERS



INDIVIDUAL SOCIAL CAPITAL

100% of parents reported witnessing their **child** using **new skills learned at camp**

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

100% of scholars **entered 9th grade** on time
100% of scholars **graduated high school**



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

98% of scholars **feel confident** that they can do well in school
99% of parents reported an **increased level of responsibility and maturity** in their child

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

Through Wayfinders, scholars are offered the chance to fast track their career readiness through internships and job shadowing. We look for unique opportunities to bring scholars experiences in line with their career interests. **Chalin has been part of Wayfinders for 7 years.** He has expressed interest in a career in architecture or construction and interned last summer for DPR Construction.

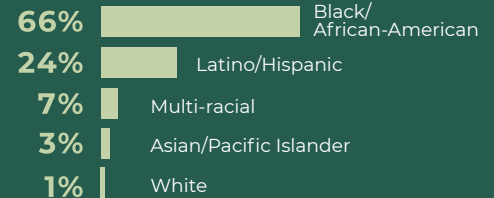
Chalin continues to work hard in school and pursue internships in construction and architecture. Through the experiences that Wayfinders provides and through conversations with his mentors, Steve and Melissa, Chalin realized that entrepreneurship could be a path for him. He says he wants to pursue architecture after high school and start a family business in construction with his brother, also a Wayfinders scholar.



It costs \$2,600 per scholar for a full year of our program. We could not achieve our full program including camp, mentoring, and year-round enrichment without the support of our community. **Thank you for being part of the Wayfinders family and helping opportunity find every child!**

TOP FOUNDATION & CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Albemarle Foundation	Google
Ally Financial	The Leon Levine Foundation
Anonymous	Longleaf Fund
Bank of America	McShane Partners
Binswanger	The Merancas Foundation, Inc.
Blythe Development Company	Morrison Millwork
Bridge Builders Charlotte	Moore & Van Allen
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated	Mullinix Mortgage
Covenant Presbyterian Church	Ratchford Wealth Management
Elliott Davis	Towne & Reese
Good Friends	



128 ADULT VOLUNTEER MENTORS

"I was on a jobsite in Camp North End. I got to read the plans, help on site, and I had a whole team of project engineers who would help me out. I really got to have a great summer because most of the time was inside the job trailer or outside working. I got to learn a lot. It was a lot more hands on experience than a class."



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