

WEEKEND-ADVENTURES



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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EXECUTIVE NOTES

As the year comes to an end, I am reflecting on all the things that made me happy and most proud. I'm also thinking about the lessons I've needed to learn and the challenges that I have faced.

I started Weekend-Adventures (W-A) with a vision of ending generational poverty. That was nearly 10 years ago. I remember standing at the doorway of the University of San Francisco's 2014 Winter graduation completely blown away by the beauty of the event. My mom, dad, aunts, and my three children along with several friends were in attendance. I was my family's first college graduate, and I was getting a Master's degree.

You see, I was raised in a neighborhood deeply impacted by the 'war on drugs'. Drugs that had mysteriously found their way to the poorest and most hopeless areas of San Francisco. This war ripped my life apart. I lost many people, including my mother. While some youth transition into their adulthood after being held and led during their formative years, I was alone during that time and left to learn and discover how to live on my own. I was 14.

So, the graduation left me with two questions:

1. How did I, Adama Bryant, get here?
2. How many other kids, living in poverty, can I show a new and different path than what is being shown to them?

Weekend-Adventures lives to be a catalyst for what's possible for our youth and children. We know that education alone will not shift the mindset or circumstances of someone. Especially if that person is battling the elements of

poverty. The psychological elements of poverty largely go unchecked in our conventional youth programs. This piece of the poverty puzzle is what keeps the cycle going. According to the National Center of Children in Poverty, "...the chances of being poor in early adulthood increase sharply as the time spent living in poverty during childhood increases...". This means even with the best neighborhood youth programs, kids are more likely to remain in poverty when these programs lack tangible experiences beyond the neighborhood.

And what are we doing if not leading our youth to better and brighter futures?



ADAMA BRYANT
FOUNDING DIRECTOR



WHO WE ARE

Weekend-Adventures (W-A) is a fiscally sponsored program of the Social Good Fund founded in 2018. W-A serves children and youth grades third through eighth with life-shifting adventures in the arts, sciences, and the outdoors. Our trips are designed to show our youth that they belong in safe, fun spaces free from stress, adversity, violence and drugs.

We serve kids in San Francisco City and County who live in neighborhoods that have gone unchecked and as a result are filled with adversity such as drug sales and usage, violence, and extreme filth.

We believe, as you do, that every child has a right to a triumphant future.



MISSION

Our mission is to show youth and children who they are beyond their neighborhoods. We do this by leading experiences into the arts, sciences and the outdoors.

VISION

Our vision is to create opportunities for youth and children to explore what's possible for themselves and their lives that motivate and empower them to create a life of their choosing.

TEAM

ADAMA BRYANT
Founding Director

MELISSA STEYSKAL
Program Manager

JENNIFER GREENE
Advisory Board

CYNTIA SALAZAR
Advisory Board

ELIZABETH ROOD
Advisory Board

DONOVAN FUNSTON
Advisory Board
(term expired 12/31/22)



OUR CORE VALUES



SAFETY

Our programs are a place where everyone feels safe to explore their interests and test what we know and don't know.

SELF-CONFIDENCE

We give our participants the self-confidence to take on new projects and adventures in school and play.

CONNECTION

We connect our participants to each other and the environment.

LIVED EXPERIENCES

We cultivate an environment where we honor each other's life experiences so that they can see the value in themselves and others.

STEWARDSHIP

We provide exciting activities where participants are introduced to and develop an appreciation for the multicultural diversity of our world in people and land.

FUN AND PLAY

We understand that the best adventures are filled with laughter, play and fun.

OUR PROGRAM



AN ADVENTURE THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

First and foremost, our programs are free to families. We provide transportation, entrance fees, healthy snacks, lunch, and drinks. We do this to remove any barriers that would prevent our families from saying yes to their kids' participation in Weekend-Adventures.

We serve as a vital resource to our families and children who live in neighborhoods deeply impacted by poverty and the war on drugs. During the pandemic, the disparities in San Francisco made national news! The families in the neighborhoods we serve, especially the Tenderloin, had little to zero means of getting to safe outdoor spaces. This is when our program saw the most growth.

Now that we are in the livable stages of COVID-19, we can start leaning into every

aspect of our programs. We are arts, sciences, and the outdoors. Our focus is on social-emotional learning, stewardship, and community. Our motto, "You belong where you say you do!"

We lead year-round experiential weekend trips into the arts, sciences, and the outdoors. Our trips are designed to create a lifelong love of learning and of themselves.

Youth are grouped in cohorts based in part on cognitive development as well as social-emotional maturity. This ensures children have a common understanding in each experience and gives each group common ground in the necessary emotional and social challenges to grow and learn.

PROGRAM AREAS



ARTS

We currently offer self-guided tours at local museums such as the DeYoung, SOMA, and the Museum of African Diaspora where we view and discuss the art pieces and the artists. We also attend cultural music events that strengthen who we are as a larger community, and our youth are able to see themselves in these many places as most of the events are connected, in some way, to BIPOC artists.

SCIENCES

This is where math, bugs, plants, water, and how these all relate to all life come to fruition in our program.

We have been partnering with the Point Reyes National Seashore Association where our participants engage in learning about "...areas where crustal plates connect, plant communities converge, and a spectacular diversity of wildlife can be found, Point Reyes is an inspiring place to immerse yourself in the beauty and complexity of the natural world as you learn and observe during our education programs."

OUTDOORS

This part of our program is our most developed. Stewardship is at the forefront of our outdoors program.

We hike at the Presidio, Muir Woods, and Tilden Park, picnic at Crissy fields, and sail on the bay with our partner, The Blue Water Foundation. We learn about stewardship, how to read the tides, and how to care for the ecosystems we call home.

Through these experiences, our kids build community within their cohort outside of their devastating neighborhood.

FOOD

We provide lunch and snacks for every person on every trip. We go to Whole Foods and grab sandwiches or visit local restaurants and have sit-down lunches. Our restaurant selections serve to give our kids an experience of dining out. Some of our spots are hometown favorites, and others are hidden gems we've discovered along the way. We sit down, talk, laugh and have a server take our order. This piece may not seem like much, but for some it's the first time.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES



DISCOVER

We provide each child with opportunities to explore and immerse in enriching adventures to experience a world with limitless possibilities.

INSPIRE

We encourage each child to think big, ask tough questions and become fearless agents of social change.

EMPOWER

We equip each child with the tools to be confident leaders, standing strong in their beliefs.

CREATE

We provide roadmaps that uncover avenues for our children to build a future of their own design.

2022 SUMMARY



15
KIDS SERVED

20
TRIPS LED

300
LUNCHES SERVED

300
SNACKS SERVED

4
NEW FUNDING PARTNERS

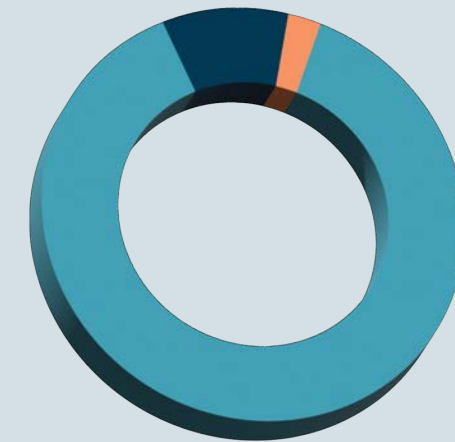
In 2022, Weekend-Adventures led abundant Spring and Summer programs. Our adventures took us on ecosystem exploring at Muir Woods, and geocaching at the Presidio. (Geocaching is a treasure hunt where participants seek specific hiding spots by using compass coordinates and wayfinding clues.) The kids and parents ate crickets at Coyote Point.

We also got a glimpse into what it's like to eat in places that most of our kids have never heard of. For some Thai food was a first, so some played it safe and ordered fried eggs and rice while others were adventurous and

ordered rib eye beef bone ramen. Our Founding Director, Adama Bryant, even tried a new dish, but leaned into her favorite drink, Thai iced tea!

We made some amazing memories with our youth, and are always showing them that it truly is OK to be grateful for what you have and to want more at the same time.

FY2022 INCOME



Individuals: \$17,660
Corporate: \$5,000
Foundations: \$160,427.14

TOTAL 2022 INCOME: \$187,087.14

FY2022 EXPENSES



Program: \$96,051.45
Administrative: \$62,187.05

TOTAL 2022 EXPENSES: \$158,238.50

TOTAL 2022 NET REVENUE: \$28,848.64



**PARTICIPANT
TESTIMONIALS**



JOSUÉ GUILLÉN

I like Weekend-Adventures because it is a place to have fun and go and try new activities, such as sailing and learning topics about things, such as space. All of these activities are very fun and new to many of the kids including me who go to Weekend-Adventures, they aren't only fun but it is also educational. Many of the trips we go to we go back home learning many new things; such as a time we went whale watching. I love Weekend-Adventures with all my heart, it has taught me many new things and I've made many many new friends while attending Weekend-Adventures. Everyone who goes to Weekend-Adventures I am friends with. Everything about Weekend-Adventures is perfect, and that's why I like Weekend-Adventures.



MISHEL PEREZ-REMENTERIA

I like Weekend-Adventures because of the fun activities we do every time we're with each other. One of the best experiences I've had on a Weekend-Adventures trip was bike riding at Golden Gate Park. I would compare Weekend-Adventures to other programs available in the neighborhood very differently, since we get to go outdoors and visit new places.



PARENT AND VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS

CORINNE POPE PARENT

Thank you for the opportunity to share my experience, and what a great experience it's been.

As a parent, my primary concern is my son's health and development. Weekend-Adventures has played a major role in my son's intellectual and emotional development. He's learned to explore and travel to new places like Coyote Point Museum where we ate dried bugs from the explorer gift shop. LOL. He's learned to be open minded, meet new people, and embrace new experiences like hiking and bike riding.

Weekend-Adventures is not just a weekend program to us. Weekend-Adventures is our family, our community! We are grateful and blessed to be part of such a great program!

MARTHA GUILLÉN PARENT

Yo estoy muy agradecida con Weekend-Adventures por que sin este programa yo no podría llevar a mi hijo a los lugares que ellos an visitado...y les están dando mucha felicidad a todos los niños que participan. ¡Muchas gracias!

I am very grateful to Weekend-Adventures because without this program I would not be able to take my son to the places they have visited... and they are bringing great happiness to all the children who participate. Thanks a lot!

MAHASTY LEBASTCHI VOLUNTEER

In early 2020 a dear friend, whom I had known through our children starting in kindergarten together, approached me about a volunteer opportunity. Adama had started Weekend-Adventures and was looking for volunteers to chaperone 'adventures' around the Bay Area. I found out quickly how special and rare a program like this was. Weekend Adventures takes local children between grades 3-8, and brings them on a day trip to local sights. These trips happen on Saturdays during spring and summer weekends. No other program existed at this time and I thought it was brilliant. The participants were from low income neighborhoods in SF, mostly the Tenderloin.

Unfortunately Covid derailed any planned trips, but Adama quickly pivoted to a book club online. This was my first chance to meet and interact with many of the children. Once we were able to get the green light that next spring we were off! During our Weekend-Adventures we took children to hikes in the Presidio, a tour of Muir Woods, and sailing. It was



so special to see these children enjoying and engaging in these trips they had never experienced before.

Weekend-Adventures is a special organization, and these kids are lucky for Adama who started the org and continues to put her passion into it.

JENNIFER GREENE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS, GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVANCY

I met Adama in a Western Addition community meeting when she was just starting Weekend-Adventures. She clearly and passionately described her mission to create opportunities for Tenderloin youth to get out of the neighborhood to explore nature, arts, and science. She is committed to making sure these children have access to the same adventures other kids have, for their imaginations, their confidence, and their futures. Adama has lived in the

Tenderloin and has raised children there. She knows what this can mean. She is also a recognized Community Expert in the Presidio and Golden Gate National Recreation Area. We cannot create a welcoming, joyful, and safe park for all without partners like Adama who know what the city's youth and families need better than we ever can.



OUR FUTURE

Weekend-Adventures is turning five in 2023. What does this mean for our program? This is our year of growth. Along with the purchase of our first van with funds from Bothin Foundation, and the addition of our new program manager, Melissa Steyskal who comes to us with more than 20 years of experience working with youth and children, we will have the capacity needed to increase our ability to serve our youth and deepen our relationships with current partners. We will have year-long programming, aligned educational pieces, and connections with community partners for more enriched collaborations. We also plan to bring on two new program associates. We've recently moved our program from a seasonal model to a block system that is better aligned with our program strategy and goals.

We will expand each element of our program's reach: the outdoors to include regional and local open spaces, connecting with Indigenous groups to learn from and how we can contribute to the stewardship of the land. We will explore how the land, air and water connect in ways that create the building blocks for life.

In the arts, we'll lean into our local artist scene to gain behind the scene knowledge of who BIPOC people are inside these areas of music, dance, and visual arts.

And in science, the foundation of life, we want to partner with San Francisco's colleges to create internships where the chemistry, biology, botany, and math students and faculty lead some of our expeditions in the outdoors or host lab days that deepen our youth understanding through real world connections.

Our leadership focus will include building a board of directors to support our Founding Director and overall organizational strategies.



WITH GRATITUDE



We at Weekend-Adventures would like to thank the generous supporters who made it possible for us to provide life-affirming programming for our youth in 2022.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$10,000

Anonymous

\$500

Simon Bertrang
Luke Johnstone
Sara Kay
Shirley Parker
Christine Shirilla

\$250

Amelia Martinez-Bankhead
Christina Nguyen
Daniel Ridge
Josh Steinfeld
Renee Strong
Scott Wintner

\$100

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Nita Kirby
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Sarita Wilson

FOUNDATIONS

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Bothin Foundation
Kimball Foundation
Bella Vista Foundation

National Parks Foundation
Dream Keepers Initiative
Elks Club

PARTNERS/IN-KIND

San Francisco Waldorf High School
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
Point Reyes National Seashore Association

Special thanks to Donovan Funston, a trusted friend and advisor since the beginning. I personally would not have been able to move forward without your belief in my vision. Thank you. - Adama Bryant, Founding Director



WEEKEND-ADVENTURES

Weekend-Adventures is fiscally sponsored by Social Good Fund, an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
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