

2023 Annual Report

Summit Future Foundation

Reflecting on 5 Years of Impact



5 Years of Impact



Summit Future Foundation

Empowering Inclusivity since 2018

5 years! Such an incredible and exciting milestone! We have so much to reflect upon. In the early months of our mission's development, we had a clear vision of our goal for those we planned to serve, and it was that regardless of a person's ability level, they would have the opportunity to continue to grow and develop as a person, as well as be an active and included member of their community. It has been an absolute joy and pleasure to watch that vision come to fruition over the course of the last five years.

We feel strongly that the rapid growth in our mission is the result of the unfulfilled needs in the community that our programs address. Our ability to sustain this growth has been made possible by charitable contributions through our special events and private donations, as well as our partnerships with local and state level support systems that fund our services. And, our ability to maintain that growth is a testament to our commitment to solvent business practices.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the impact that our founding board members, many of whom are entering their sixth year of service, have had on the development and growth of our mission and vision. It has been my honor to serve alongside such a dynamic group of leaders. I also want to recognize the incredible team of program leadership and direct support professionals who are the boots on the ground of our mission fulfillment efforts.

On behalf of myself and our entire board of directors, it is with gratitude-filled hearts that we thank those whose generous support has aided in our mission in reaching this exciting milestone, and those we have had the opportunity to serve for trusting us to be a part of their life and journey.

Cassidi Jobe, Executive Director



5 Year Highlights

Educating over 150 family members on how to plan for their child's future in a way that allows them to lead an integrated life.

Engaging 42 teens in work based learning experiences to promote employment readiness skills to assist them in entering the workforce following graduation.

Becoming accredited by the Center for Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Supporting 65 individuals to increase their personal independence in their home and community.

Facilitating community based recreational experiences for 79 teens and adults.

Being recognized for our inclusive best practices by the Missouri Governor's Council on Disability.

Expansion of our facilities as a result of the growth of our programs.

Assisting 30 adults in obtaining and maintaining employment in their community while being paid equitable wages.

Engagement in a hiring initiative that has resulted in the City of KC being only the second in the nation to adopt an ordinance that creates career pathways specifically for persons who have developmental disabilities.



2023 Highlights

➤ Model Employer Initiative

As part of our mission fulfillment efforts, Summit Future Foundation strives to increase employment opportunities for adults who have developmental disabilities by working with local businesses to improve their disability inclusion practices.

In the fall of 2022, we announced the City of Kansas City's commitment to a Model Employer initiative, which is a national framework that is used to help local- and state-level governments improve the recruitment, hiring, and retention of persons with disabilities. After a year of collaborative effort between Summit Future Foundation and key stakeholders within the City of Kansas City, efforts have resulted in the city becoming only the second in the nation to have adopted an ordinance that is designed to create career pathways specifically for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



➤ Opening of the Summit Social Center

In July of 2023, we opened the doors of our new social and recreational facility, affectionately named the Summit Social Center.

Our larger space is designed to foster an environment where those we support can mingle and socialize with friends while also learning new life and self help skills.



Information obtained through a survey in October 2023.

Summit Future Foundation recognizes the vital role that families play in an individual having the opportunity to lead an integrated life.

This is why a central focus of our transition services includes providing families with tactical training and education that they can use to plan for their child's future.



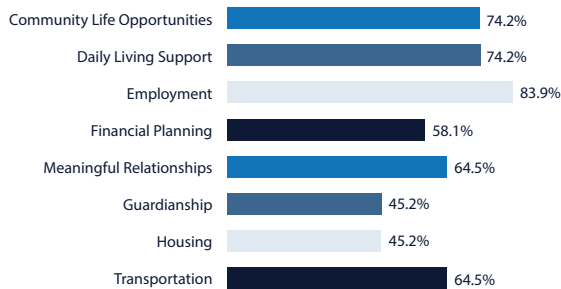
60%
of families reported they **feared** someone in their household will have to **quit their job** to be a **full-time caregiver** to their adult child.

Over **74%**
of caregivers reported they **DO NOT understand** how to support their child in **gaining and maintaining employment**.

Only **19%** of caregivers stated they **understand the role of Vocational Rehabilitation** and the services they provide.

Over **80%** of families stated they **DO NOT understand** the opportunities available once they age out of school-based services.

Transition Planning Areas of Concern



80%
of families have goals for their child to be employed as an adult.

Over **67%**
of caregivers **lack support and community resources** to assist with transition planning

Summit Future Foundation provides programs for parents and caregivers to be better equipped in supporting their child to reach their fullest potential, by living their most independent and self-directed life.

Post-What's Next Workshop Survey

Only **4%** **DO NOT feel confident in understanding guardianship** and alternatives to guardianship.

"All the resources given were very useful and I know that it will benefit my family in a huge way."

72%
of families have a **better understanding** of what community life and engagement opportunities are available for their child in the future.

Over **60%** of families **feel more confident** in understanding what employment opportunities are available.

80%
of families **feel confident** in their ability to plan for their child's future.

"I feel much more confident in my ability to advocate for my child's future."

76%
of parents and caregivers feel more confident in understanding **funding sources for the future**.

"This has given me more peace of mind that I am heading in the right direction."

Over **80%**
of families feel they have **more access to resources** to help plan for their child's future.

Employer / Individual Spotlight: Parker (aka Mr. P) and Mimi's Pantry



Parker began participating in Watch Me Thrive in the summer of 2020. As a person who is non-speaking and requires customized teaching approaches to learn new skills, Watch Me Thrive allowed Parker the opportunity to be engaged in work-based learning experiences in

settings that both spoke to his strengths and met his learning needs. In the summer of 2023, after three years of volunteering at Mimi's Pantry, the executive director learned of Parker graduating from high school and his desire to pursue a paid employment position. Parker's onsite successes and growth in his skills resulted in a part-time job offer as an official Mimi's Pantry employee.

On having Parker join their team, Mimi's Pantry Executive Director Kelley Catterson shared, **"I would highly recommend that employers consider hiring individuals with disabilities. If your company can provide an opportunity to give a person a purpose, it will not only benefit your company but can provide a lasting positive effect for the individual and the community. I see no disadvantage to becoming an inclusive employer."**

Parker's journey demonstrates the power of our customized transition planning programs and the success of our business outreach efforts. Through these approaches, we are able to assist even those with the most significant disabilities in achieving their goals, and in living meaningful, inclusive lives.

Persons Served

25
2019

52
2020

111
2021

165
2022

161
2023

Program Overview



Individualized Supports

Assists person served in increasing their personal independence in the home and in the community.

➤ **57 Individuals Served**



Watch Me Thrive - Transition Services

Our signature program is designed to help transition-aged youth and their families prepare for life after school based services. This program is designed to work with youth to develop the employment readiness skills needed to enter the workforce after graduation, while also supporting the family in creating an actionable transition plan. This program results in individuals and their families being better prepared for life after school based services.

➤ **12 Teens Served**

➤ **52 Families Trained**

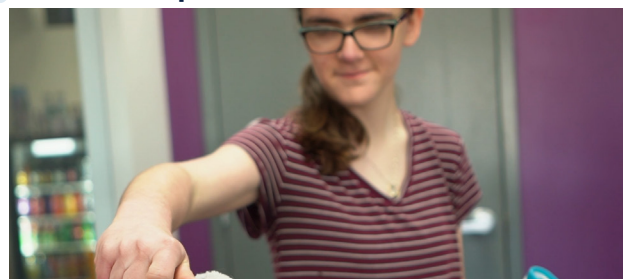
(40 What's Next Workshop, 12 in Transition Planning Parent Mentoring)



Social and Recreational

Designed to meet the unique social and emotional needs of the individuals we serve and promote growth in interpersonal skills through participating in community based leisure activities.

➤ **68 Participants**



Supported Employment

Assists those who have a goal of working in their community to find and maintain competitive and integrated employment.

➤ **20 Adults Supported**

(10 in maintaining employment, 6 in obtaining new employment, 4 currently seeking employment)

“Connecting with supports that we will utilize will be so helpful, not just from global learning but also coordinating services individually.”

➤ **An attendee of our What's Next Workshop**

Funds Raised in 2023



> \$855,722.14

funds received through local, state, and federal contracts for direct services provided to those we serve.



> Special
Events

\$52,456.68

> Private
Donations

\$5,980.60

> Miscellaneous
Revenue

\$3,989.68

\$918,149.10

Total Revenue

Breakdown of Expenses

Programs: 75%

Administrative: 15%

Fundraising: 10%

Numbers are estimated and un-audited. If you are interested in viewing audited financial statements please contact our administrator.

Any donation, big or small, has the ability to positively impact the lives of teens and young adults who have developmental disabilities.

Private donations are utilized to ensure all have access to our **innovative programs**, and that our program staff are equipped with the **resources they need to provide person centered and quality supports**.



> To make a program specific donation, please email info@summitfuturefoundation.org or visit summitfuturefoundation.org

2024 Focus

➤ Expansion of Programs

One of the core factors that contributed to the expansion of our facilities in 2023 was our desire to increase the number of youth we support and to have the ability to provide more **comprehensive enrichment opportunities**.

In 2024, our goal is to increase the number of teens we are able to **engage in our social and work readiness programs to further advance our mission fulfillment efforts**.

➤ Professional Development for Program Personnel

The skills and talent of our program personnel is what drives the success of the individuals we have the opportunity to support.

In 2024, we are committed to continuing to **provide quality and comprehensive professional development opportunities** for our team to foster optimal outcomes for those we serve.

➤ Growth in Community Engagement

Support from the Kansas City community has been a crucial component of the growth and success of our mission.

As we look ahead to the future of our work we recognize the need to **expand and deepen relationships with community members who value disability inclusion**.

Peer to Peer
After School Club

Watch Me Thrive





2024 Event

➤ Capture the Future

6th Annual Charity Gala

The Gallery Event Space

June 21, 2024



In 2023, Capture the Future raised over **\$50,000** for the organization. Funds were used to support our innovative programs and services.



In November of 2023 Summit Future Foundation welcomed our first full-time Development and Outreach Coordinator. The creation of this new role is a result of our focus to broaden and deepen community relationships in 2024 and beyond.

Join us in welcoming Eve Smith to the Summit Future Foundation family.

Eve brings to us 15 years of nonprofit expertise in community development, notably contributing to the revitalization of Northwest Arkansas. Her impactful work includes collaborations with prestigious institutions like Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, showcasing her dedication to positive change.

Beyond her role here, Eve is a cultural producer, educator, and practicing artist, infusing creativity into both her professional and personal pursuits. Passionate about nature, she spends weekends camping, finding inspiration for her art, and spending time with family and friends.

Eve's commitment to community and the arts adds a unique perspective to our team, propelling the mission of Summit Future Foundation and the Kansas City community initiatives with enthusiasm and expertise.



How you can be an **INCLUSIONIST**

➤ Volunteer

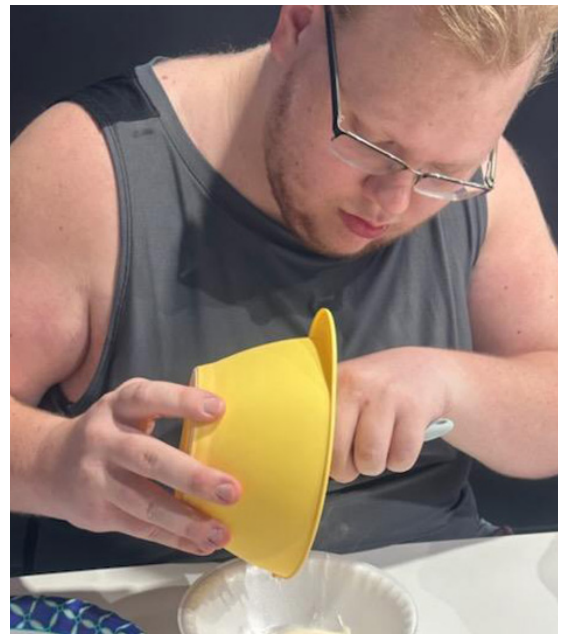
- Serve on our Board of Directors
- Serve on our Events Planning Committee

➤ Employment

- Become an inclusive employer by hiring at least one person who experiences developmental differences

➤ Donate

- Corporate Sponsorship
- Monthly Donations



Thank you to our Gala Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



In-Kind Sponsors



Summit Future Foundation

Empowering Inclusivity since 2018

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