



FLYING DEER NATURE CENTER

2025 Annual Report SEPTEMBER 2024–AUGUST 2025



Out in the community ...

We nurtured 32 community partnerships, including collaborations with:

- Red Road Reclamation, for the annual Mohican Children's trip
- Ichabod Crane School, for our 6th year of the Tree-cess program
- Jacob's Pillow and BCC, for the 9th year of the STEAM summer program
- Greater Hudson Promise Neighborhood, for a weekly afterschool program
- Morningside Playcare in Manhattan, for family nature days in and outside the city



Connecting globally ...

Amey Zhang (above right), an anthropologist and PhD candidate at the Rachel Carson Center in Munich, Germany, shared the following reflection after her 12 months of research at Flying Deer, looking at how children learn to relate to nature across cultures.

"Flying Deer combines an uncommon openness to the wisdom of global cultures with a deep commitment to authenticity and the local. Drawing inspiration from practices from around the world, they honor the drive and the joy of children while preparing them to be resilient, responsive, and responsible stewards of a rapidly changing world."



... and at home

- Flying Deer teachers and mentors gathered for three weeks of professional development, strengthening skills to meet emerging needs.
- A generous new grant in 2024 allowed us to provide critical increases in staff compensation and benefits, without compromising on our outreach goals.
- We continued to improve infrastructure by building a Welcome Pavilion; a new outdoor classroom called Coyote Camp, and a living willow garden fence.



... and locally

Black&Wild is an organization that connects Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) to nature through mindful wilderness trips and ancestral skills. It was founded four years ago by Raei Bridges (above, far right), who also serves as a Director at Flying Deer.

In the year ahead, we will deepen our partnership, as Black&Wild becomes a new branch of Flying Deer and continues to expand opportunities for BIPOC communities to connect with the natural world.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



\$80,000

in financial assistance awarded, supporting access for 113 students



increase in donation income



2,080

students served—up 9% from last year

More than

140

volunteers, who offered 5,700 hours of support and care



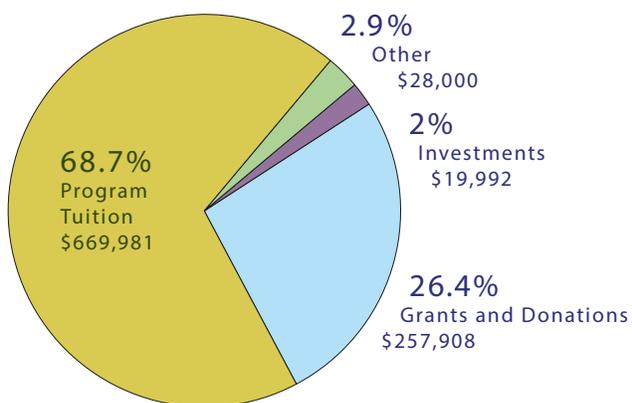
1,159

kids participated in in-depth nature immersion programming at no charge to them, through schools and community centers—up 23% from last year

\$21,600

in new health insurance stipends for staff, benefiting an additional 14 employees

2024 INCOME



2024 EXPENSES

