

# Patchworks

SUMMER 2025

THE CABBAGE PATCH SETTLEMENT HOUSE



Dear Patch Friends and Supporters,

At The Cabbage Patch, summer isn't just a break from school—it's a season of growth, discovery, and connection. For children who face limited access to enriching experiences, camp can open doors. This summer, Patch members learned to swim, pitched tents, created art, and tried new sports like volleyball. Each experience built confidence and curiosity.

But what makes summer at The Patch truly different is the foundation on which it rests. Our dedicated, long-tenured staff know each child personally. Because we build relationships that last through childhood and beyond, we can customize programs to meet the unique needs of every young person. That's what sets us apart—and it's what makes camp more impactful here.

When a child cooks at Chef Camp, they're practicing teamwork and patience. When they hike a trail at Travel Camp, they're solving problems and gaining independence. Even Wednesday Swim Days help develop friendships and social skills. These moments may seem small, but they are essential building blocks of life success.

And because our staff are mentors, not just activity leaders, these skills take root. Children are encouraged to stretch, try, fail, and try again—with someone by their side who truly knows and believes in them.

Thank you for supporting summer at The Patch. Your generosity makes it possible for young people to explore new interests, build life skills, and grow into their God-given potential—guided by trusted adults who are with them for the journey.

With gratitude,

Corey G. Miller  
Executive Director



## Revamped S.T.R.E.A.M. Program Helps Learners Dive Deeper

In its second summer, the innovative S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math) Learning Retention Program improved its approach to better serve students. Launched to combat “summer slide” — learning loss that occurs in the summer months — the program is designed to help spark a love of education for kids ages 8-12.

S.T.R.E.A.M. was revamped to a six-week format, with greater emphasis on reading and math. Mondays through Wednesdays were “core content” days, where students worked on math and reading for an hour each, while Thursdays featured enriching activities like guest speakers or trips to the pool. Fridays were reserved for hands-on S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities.

The new format allowed for more deep learning and flexibility if students needed more time to understand a particular subject. Rachel Daniel, Education Manager clarified that “The goal wasn’t to cover curriculum, it’s for them to walk away knowing a skill better than when they started.”

The program has ignited a love of learning in the students who participate. One of the older students became a mentor for the younger kids in his group, and by the end of the program was so excited to spend the entire day doing math. Another, Kamari, often had to be coaxed into taking breaks because she was so engrossed in the work she was doing.

“It’s always rewarding when they want to be here, not because they have to be but because they’re excited to learn,” Rachel said.



## “It Changed My Life”: Damaris Phillips, Food Network Star and Cabbage Patch Alum, Hosts Special Day of Chef Camp



We had an extra special visitor at Chef Camp this summer. Food Network star and Louisville native Chef Damaris Phillips joined us to lead a day of camp, teaching Patch kids how to make a traditional full Southern breakfast from scratch. Plus, she shared her secret for making delicious homemade pie crust.

What makes Damaris’ visit even more special is that she and her brother Donny, who also helped with Chef Camp, both grew up coming to The Cabbage Patch as kids during the summers. As she walked around campus, she shared fond memories of attending Fun Club with Roosevelt Chin and spending her days reading books in the library. “I cannot tell you how many memories I have that are because of The Cabbage Patch. So being able to come in and hopefully give kids memories, it feels kind of full circle to me,” Damaris shared.

The menu included scratch-made biscuits, gravy, chicken sausage, soft scrambled eggs and French toast. But Damaris taught more than just how to follow a recipe. She also taught invaluable kitchen skills that all home chefs need to know, such as how to tell when sausage is ready to be flipped in a pan and how to make sure your biscuit dough stays fluffy, not chewy.

“The work The Cabbage Patch is doing is changing lives. It changed my life, it has been changing lives for over 100 years, and it is a great way to uplift our community,” said Damaris.



Bike Camp



College Tour



Chef Camp



Dance Camp



Travel Camp



Fashion Camp



Outdoor Explorers Camp



Theatre Camp



We Love Summer Camp!



Tennis Camp



College Tour



Outdoor Explorers



Entrepreneurship Camp



Fashion Design Camp



S.T.R.E.A.M. Camp



**Kosair  
for Kids**

Special thanks to Kosair for Kids for supporting summer camps at The Cabbage Patch. Committed to the belief that every child deserves to be their best self, we are dedicated to promoting childhood health and wellness. Thank you, Kosair for Kids, for helping Cabbage Patch kids reach their full potential.



More Tennis Camp



Illumination Week Yoga



Volleyball Camp

## Giving That Endures: Samantha Horton's Lasting Gift to The Patch

For Samantha Horton, the decision to include The Cabbage Patch in her estate planning was driven by seeing the impact it has on children and youth with her own eyes. A longtime volunteer, she has been a tutor and a helping hand in gardening programs at The Patch. "It is important to me that my estate continues to serve others, and I believe The Cabbage Patch is a worthy steward of that legacy," Samantha shared.

The Cabbage Patch also upholds the values Samantha believes are important. "It's [The Cabbage Patch's] commitment to faith-based values and community support gives me full confidence in this decision," she noted.



"By leaving my estate to The Cabbage Patch, I hope to continue supporting a mission that has meant so much to me and the community it serves."

If you are interested in learning more about how you can leave a legacy through your estate plan and become a member of the 1910 Society at The Patch, contact Jennifer Scott at 502-753-4446 or email [jscott@cabbagepatch.org](mailto:jscott@cabbagepatch.org).



## Double Your Impact!

**Did you know your employer might match your donation to The Cabbage Patch? Many companies do — and it's an easy way to double your impact.**

Some of these generous companies include: Baird Foundation, Inc., Bristol-Myers Squibb, CBRE, Costco, First Financial Bank, GE Foundation, The Humana Foundation, Inc., PNC Foundation, Regeneron, Republic Bank Foundation, River Road Asset Management, Robert Half Management Resources, Truist Financial Corporation, US Bank Foundation, The UPS Foundation, Inc., and Yum! Brands Foundation Inc.

Please reach out to Laura Goodman at 502-753-4427 or [lgoodman@cabbagepatch.org](mailto:lgoodman@cabbagepatch.org) if your company has a matching program.

## John Keen Brings Performing Arts Back Home

Anyone who has sat down to talk with Performing Arts Specialist John Keen knows his passion for performing arts is infectious! After touring nationally and running his own dance studio in New York City for the last several years, John has been driven by a mission to promote the arts back in his hometown of Louisville. Furthermore, he wants to share his expertise in the place that shaped him when he was younger — The Cabbage Patch. “I wanted to take all I learned and bring it back to the place where I started. It was just full circle for me,” John shared.



- This summer, John had two
- opportunities to share his passion
- for the arts by leading both Dance
- Camp and Theater Camp. Each
- week of camp was filled with eager
- young campers first learning the basics, the history, and the context of each
- art form, then advancing their skills by learning new moves and techniques.
- Finally, the campers finished the week by channeling everything they had
- learned into their own creative productions.
- Campers at Dance Camp dived into the history of jazz, ballet, tap, modern
- and African dance styles while learning the dances associated with each.
- By the end of the week, they were able to rehearse routine after routine,
- almost as if they were in a professional dance troupe.

In Theater Camp, kids learned to warm up their vocal chords before engaging in theater games. They discovered the history of theater by watching musicals like “Fame”, “Camp, A New Musical” and “Shrek the Musical”. Finally, the kids developed their theatrical abilities further by learning improv and doing scene work.

John also gave his campers a taste of true professionalism. Kids attending Theater Camp participated in mock auditions for the musical “Matilda”, introducing themselves to the director and reading lines for the part they wanted to play. They even got their headshots taken! Similarly, John held mock tryouts in Dance Camp to help campers focus on mastering their skills and discover what it is like to try out for a dance team.

The auditioning experience offers valuable life lessons, encouraging campers to take risks, step outside their comfort zones, and tackle challenges—even when success isn’t guaranteed. But John also likes to remind his students that they don’t have to be perfect, and it is okay to make mistakes. “In class, this is where you make mistakes. This is where you’re supposed to learn from your mistakes and grow from them,” he explained.

One final piece John includes in his teaching is allowing students to come up with their own creative productions and learning how to express themselves in their own unique ways. “They need to learn how to have their own voice — what people need to hear from you, how to get out what’s in your mind and in your heart. That’s one of the most important parts of the process,” John declared.



### “Sew” Much Confidence: Frances Lewis Inspires the Next Generation of Fashion Designers

Frances “Frankie” Lewis is no stranger to The Cabbage Patch. This established Louisville fashion designer was very involved as a Patch kid and now, as an adult, uses her platform to inspire young designers.

Drawing on everything she has learned from her “Project Runway” appearance in 2019 and launching her own Frankie Lew fashion line in Los Angeles, she partnered with Patch staff to put on the first-ever Fashion Design Camp this summer.

Campers learned the history and basics of sewing, including hand-stitching and how to use a sewing machine. Patch kids worked on projects that grew more complex as the week went on, beginning with a simple cloth bag, then learning how to make a drawstring bag. By week’s end, they had designed their own set of bottoms - i.e., shorts, pants, and skirts - and brought them to life.

For Frankie, the camp was about embracing creativity and individual empowerment. “I wanted the campers to see that they can be creative their whole lives,” she shared. “I hope the students will see that they can do hard things, no matter their age. I hope they learn how to practice and mess up and learn techniques instead of producing perfect products.”

A prime example of that is Amir, a 12 year old who was the camp’s sole male participant. Amir was initially discouraged as he kept struggling to use the sewing machine. Finally, with the help of his camp leaders, Amir figured out what he was doing wrong. For his final project, he created the perfect pair of shorts. Beaming with pride, Amir tried on his shorts and showed them off to his friends at The Cabbage Patch.

Frankie is a “fitting” example of how Cabbage Patch alumni give back and inspire new generations of Cabbage Patch members.



Thanks to your generosity, Cabbage Patch kids are making summer memories that will last a lifetime. Because of your support, families only pay \$25 per week for camp — and even less when needed.

Your donations open the door to adventure, friendship, and new experiences. Thank you for believing in our children and making high-quality camp affordable.

## A Life of Giving: The Sharon Smith and James Mauch Family Fund

James Mauch and Sharon Smith know the outsized impact The Cabbage Patch can have in empowering children, youth and families to reach their full potential. “We feel strongly that helping kids acquire basic life skills that they may not all have access to in their daily life is the starting point to building a great community,” James shared.

“Sharon and I have always had the desire to give back to our community and The Cabbage Patch mission speaks to us. We have experienced many ‘hands up’ along the way. The Patch offers us an opportunity in our own community to honor the gifts we’ve received and give a hand up to kids who rarely get them, if ever,” James added.

Of all the programs offered at The Cabbage Patch, the couple consider the College Scholars Program to be among the most impactful and meaningful. “Aside from the fact that it set up participants for the best shot at a successful life, it gives them a sense of personal accomplishment that they can’t help but share with their families and community and inspire other kids to follow their path,” James said.

He and his wife, Sharon, established the Sharon Smith and James Mauch Family Fund in 2019 to honor James’ mother, Bee Mauch, who exemplified a life of giving. Bee dedicated her life to helping people recover from addictions. No matter the circumstances our youth face, the couple believes The Cabbage Patch levels the playing field for children, youth, and families.



## Swinging for Success: 2025 Cabbage Patch Golf Tournament Raises Over \$113,000

This year’s Cabbage Patch Golf Tournament was a day to remember, not only for the good fellowship and friendly competition, but also for the impact the money raised will have on young people and families! Although the day began with a bit of rain, it ended in a beautiful summer afternoon filled with high spirits, a meaningful celebration, and a memorable awards ceremony.

Thanks to the dedication of our players, sponsors, staff, and volunteers, we raised more than \$113,000 to support The Patch’s Educational Opportunities Program.

Attendees heard from two College Scholars — Madyson and Sasha — whose uplifting stories are shining examples of the talent and commitment of students in our program.



We are incredibly grateful to our outstanding co-chairs, Megan Imel and Justin Moore, and our generous Eagle Sponsors—Stock Yards Bank & Trust and The Mackin Family Foundation—and Corporate Sponsors—Kosair for Kids, LG&E and KU Foundation, Optimist Club of Louisville, Semonin Realtors, Pinnacle Group and System Parking. We also extend our deep thanks to Audubon Country Club and its outstanding staff for hosting our event on their beautiful course!



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**22ND ANNUAL CABBAGE PATCH  
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**Thursday, September 25, 2025**  
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Contact Laura Goodman, Director of Annual Giving & Marketing  
at 502-753-4427 or email [lgoodman@cabbagepatch.org](mailto:lgoodman@cabbagepatch.org) for more information