

# Great Oaks News

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[www.greatoakscamp.org](http://www.greatoakscamp.org)

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This has been an exciting year at Great Oaks! In January, we held our monthly board meeting at the camp. After the meeting, the board members and I did a complete walkthrough of camp, discussing the future of camp and realized that we had to begin updating and making improvements. Our goal at Great Oaks is to minister to the urban youth of Peoria and create disciples of Christ. Our goal for every child is to introduce them to Jesus at camp, disciple them through our TRAIL program in Peoria, and finally plug them



into a local church. Our ministry at Great Oaks starts at summer camp, and we want to provide the children with accommodations that are as good as those that paying guests use. The inner city side of camp needs some major remodeling to get there. Not only does the inner city side need remodeling, but the guest groups side does as well. Frankly, if we want to have a future in guest service (guest groups not only are a ministry but they provide much needed funds to the camp) we have little choice but to upgrade and improve. God has blessed our decision to remodel camp by providing for us. Recently we just finished remodeling Eagle Nest (an inner city cabin), replacing the roof on Stafford Chapel and continue working on the completion of Hickory Lodge (a cabin for inner city children). Not only has God provided funds to complete the above projects, he has also provided a matching funds grant. This grant will match every donation dollar for dollar on the projects listed on the back. Would you please prayerfully consider donating to one of the projects on the back and help us continue to minister to the urban youth of Peoria and guest groups from all over Illinois?

Tyler Keene

## T.R.A.I.L. UPDATE:

After another successful year at camp, T.R.A.I.L. is once again in session. Last year, we averaged 12 in attendance; this year we are averaging almost twice that. We also have a list of potential attendees but no seats left on our vans. We are going through the book of Acts this year, learning about the great things ordinary people accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit. It has been great to see an increase in the amount of

volunteers this year, as three former counselors are volunteering every Tuesday night. We ask that you would pray for the T.R.A.I.L. participants to be engaged by God's truth and that they will be focused during Bible Study. Without your continued prayer and support T.R.A.I.L. would not be possible.

Paul Tanner

