

Camp Easterseals UCP

Super Summer Camp 2017 July 23 – 29, 2017

Fifty-one children and four Counselors-in-Training (CIT) with visual impairment or blindness attended Super Summer Camp 2017. Easterseals UCP North Carolina & Virginia worked collaboratively with Kate Jacobs and Caren Phips to ensure a successful and memorable Super Summer Camp experience. At Camp, the campers had an opportunity to be with old friends, make new friends, and participate in a variety of fun activities all in an accepting and safe atmosphere.



Picture 1 is of three campers and a counselor enjoying a canoe ride!

During our morning programs, the children were able to participate in canoeing, horseback riding, nature activities, sports, cooking, and arts & crafts activities. During afternoon activities, children were able to participate in advanced arts & crafts, swimming, archery/paintball, performing arts, nature hikes, Zumba, fishing, climbing wall, and zip-line. Many games of gaga, a below the waist dodge ball game, were played throughout the week. The groups (cabins) were assigned activities in the morning and campers chose their activities individually in the afternoons. One exciting afternoon was filled with water activities such as a slip-n-slide and pool. Super Summer Camp evenings were filled with fun as well. Campers were able to participate in a campfire, Australian night, campouts, talent show, and a dance.

With fifty-five, the overall number of campers and CITs attending was similar to last summer. We did have four campers cancel including one who simply didn't show up. We would love to see more campers as we plan for more by hiring enough staff and buying enough food and supplies for up to sixty. We could potentially have up to 74. Having more campers decreases the cost per camper since our staff expense is fairly fixed.



Picture 2 is of three girls enjoying the pool together.

The four CITs assisted counselors in supervision and participated in activities with campers. We had three vision teachers working in cabins to assist with camper supervision. The vision teachers were also there to assist staff with any questions they may have had regarding visual impairments. One vision teacher also led several arts & crafts activities and Zumba. Jackie Lowry was hired to assist with any interpreting. We also had two volunteers who assisted campers throughout the week.

Lastly, we sadly said good bye to several Super Summer Camp staff including Kate Jacob (pictured here on the left) who has helped run Super Summer Camp for the last 40 summers. Jackie Lowry (pictured here on the right) has served as interpreter for over 20 summers. Daniel Miller has served as an orientation and mobility specialist for over 20 summers. They will be missed!



As always, we had another wonderful year with Super Summer Camp and are already planning for next year's session.

Thanks!

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Picture 4 is of a happy camper riding a horse led by two staff.