

Getting Involved Working Together

The success of Shady Oaks Camp is due to the combined efforts of parents and friends who are willing to contribute time, talents, and energy, to ensure that disabled individuals will have a summer experience that is long remembered.

All this is possible because the members of the Parents Association are united in a common purpose: To enrich the lives of their children by creating an environment where they can enjoy outdoor activities, shared friendships and the discovery of new interests.

The Parents Association for Cerebral Palsy Children is dedicated to the welfare of individuals with cerebral palsy and other disabilities. It is an inter-racial, non-denominational, charitable not-for-profit 501c3 organization chartered by the State of Illinois in 1942.

New members to the Parents Association are the guarantee of a continuing future for Shady Oaks. Just as each child differs from all others, each member has a different talent and ability that is a valuable asset to the Association. Members can become involved in the overall operations of Shady Oaks Camp by serving as an officer, board member, or committee chairperson.

To be a member of the Parents Association, dues of \$50.00 must be paid between September 1st and December 31st. After December 31st, dues are \$100. Dues must be paid in order to hold an office, serve on the Board of Directors or to send a child to camp.

In order for a child to attend camp, minimum requirements must be met.

Requirements for 2011 are:

- Attend a minimum of 4 general meetings a year
- Sell 10 or more tickets to major raffles held each year
- Volunteer a minimum of 10 hours per year on various fundraisers
- Buy/Sell a minimum of 2 tickets to the Annual Dinner Dance
- Raise a minimum of \$500.00 (this can be accomplished by selling raffle tickets to a major raffle or by purchasing tickets for our annual dinner dance or any qualifying fundraiser. For every dollar brought in beyond the \$500 requirement, 50% goes towards reducing your camp fee.)

If a member does all of the above, camp fees will be assessed at a reduced rate. If these requirements are not met then a higher camp fee will be assessed.



Supporting Organizations



Shady Oaks would not be possible without the hard work and generosity of the many individuals and organizations. Among our most important supporting organizations are:

Aileen S. Andrew Foundation
Bethel Christian Reformed Church
Cook Country Sheriffs Department
Corcoran Family Foundation
J. Edward Mahoney Foundation
Foundation for Developmentally Handicapped

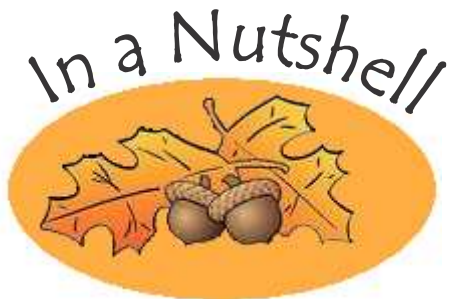
To all these groups and to those not mentioned, we express our heartfelt thank you!

Mission Statement

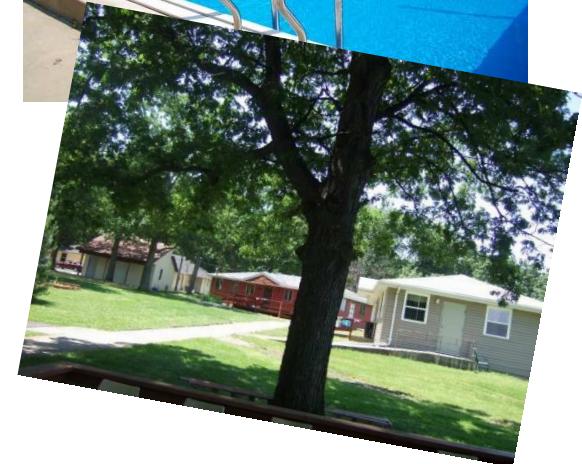
To provide people of all ages and backgrounds, who have a disability, the same recreational opportunities that their peers without disabilities enjoy in a summer camp setting. We believe camp provides an opportunity for personal growth, increased self-esteem and social skills building. We strive to create a space for our campers that promotes safety, independence, supportive care and attention based on the individuals needs and goals.




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Parents Association for People with Disabilities, Inc.
and
Shady Oaks Camp






About Shady Oaks Camp

Shady Oaks Camp provides outdoor fun and recreation for children and adults with cerebral palsy and various other disabilities. The camp, located 35 miles southwest of Chicago, was built specifically around the special needs of these campers.

Shady Oaks provides 8 weeks of camping for male and female campers. Programs at the camp include planned recreation, games, arts & crafts and swimming. All are adapted to fit the needs of each individual camper.

At Shady Oaks, every summer since 1947, these campers enjoy 2 to 8 weeks of field trips, movies, swimming, campfires, song fests, handicrafts, talent shows, parties, and special adapted games.

In addition to in-camp activities, there are field trips to entertainment areas and cultural centers, enabling campers to join in the everyday activities of living in the mainstream of life. Field trips may include 4th of July local fireworks show, baseball games, museums, theatres, and other places of interest within the greater Chicago land area.




About the Facilities

The camp is nestled in a grove of oak trees, on a 25-acre site located Homer Glen, Illinois. From its inception in the late 1940s, the camp has grown from its three original buildings to six dorms, two staff houses, a large dining hall, director's quarters, a heated in-ground pool and a recreational center.

The recreation center, Ford Hall is the center of many activities. It is a haven for varied activities on rainy days, housing numerous books, games, a pool table, a piano and a TV.

Ford Hall is also where visiting groups would present entertainment for the campers. During the off-season, September through May, Ford Hall (along with the Dining Hall) is available for rental for retreats, picnics, etc. Rates vary so please call for pricing details and availability.



About the Campers

The campers are children and adults with cerebral palsy and various other disabilities; all of which are members of the Parents Association. The minimum age for attendance is five years. There is no maximum age for campers. We accept campers not only from Illinois but from all over the United States and other countries.

The Board of Directors and the Executive Director make the final decision on eligibility to attend camp.

The level of disability ranges from minimal in some cases to severe and profound in others. Care is designed around the needs of each camper.




Who Runs the Camp?

Shady Oaks is operated by a large and capable staff. The Executive Director and assistants are responsible for the overall daily operation. The Staff consists of American college students as well as staff from a variety of countries from the six continents of the world. Counselors are college students majoring in special education or related areas. Counselors are directly responsible for the well being of the campers on a one-to-one basis.

Other important staff include:

- A Medication Manager, on duty 24 hours a day
- An Activities Director
- A Pool Attendant
- A Cook who provides meals designed for the campers needs



Main Source of Income

Shady Oaks Camp relies on a variety of fundraisers and private donations to fund their operations. Shady Oaks does not receive any state or federal funding for their program.



Camp Fees

2 weeks: \$3325 *6 weeks:* \$7225
4 weeks: \$5475 *8 weeks:* \$8875



Operating Expenses

The operation and maintenance of Shady Oaks Camp is over \$280,000.00 per year, with most of the expenses incurred during the eight-week camp period. The cost of improvements and maintenance on the buildings, water, electrical wiring and plumbing systems varies from year to year.

Staffing cost also tend to increase each year. That's due to the fact that to acquire the type of intelligent, dependable staff necessary for the happiness and well being of the campers, it is necessary that we offer a competitive salary.

Specific projects completed in the last 5yrs include:

- New Accessible Playground
- Renovated Recreation Hall & Dining Hall
- Renovated Dorms 5, 6, 7, and 9
- City Water and Sewer



Points System

Member of the Parents Association raise points in order to qualify their child for attendance at camp. The number of points raised determines the length of the stay at Shady Oaks Camp. March 31st is the deadline for earning points for the current season. No points may be carried over to the next year. Minimum requirements (listed under "Getting Involved Working Together" section) must be met before points are applied to reduce camp fees.

Important Note: The Parents Association is a volunteer organization. Members receive no pay for their work, other than points earned for camp.

Activities to Earn Points

Donations: dollar for dollar if the camper is designated

Raffles: ½ for designated camper, ½ for general fund

Fundraisers outside camp sponsored event:

If run by parent, guardian, etc specifically for a child's camp attendance, 100% net proceeds will be given to campers account. If a fundraiser is planned that references raising money for Shady Oaks Camp only 50% of profit will be applied to child's camp time.