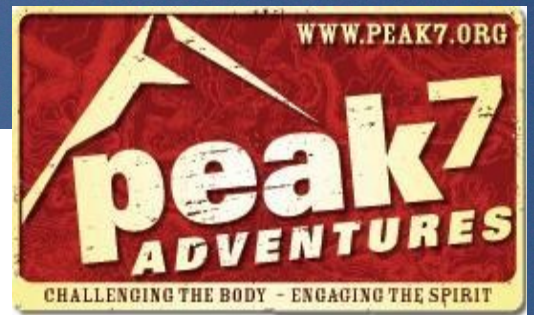


July 1, 2013

Dear Peak 7 Supporter,



A lot has happened during the first half of the summer here at Peak 7, from trips to events to some big announcements, and I'm excited to share it all with you. Inside you'll find information on a significant grant competition we're in the middle of, brief biographies of our wonderful Summer Team, and a summary of a guide's experience on a three-day trip working with the youth we serve. We didn't have room to include many other great things going on that I'll quickly mention below.

Everything we do here at Peak 7 revolves around our mission to provide life-changing outdoor adventures to youth all over the Pacific Northwest, whether they're from rural areas, the suburbs, or the inner-city. Because we keep the cost for our trips as low as possible for our youth participants, we have to raise funds to make up the difference—and we happen to do that in some pretty fun ways.

For the first time last year, Peak 7 was the charity of choice for The Dirty Dash races in Spokane, the South Sound near Olympia, and provided volunteers for the Eugene race as well. While we remained the charity for those races again this year, we were also blessed to be the charity for the Color Me Rad race in Spokane. Being the charity for each race depends on us encouraging people to register and providing dozens of volunteers to prepare for and help run the races, all of which helps us raise money. To date, the South Sound and Eugene Dirty Dash races have taken place, as has the Spokane Color Me Rad, while the Spokane Dirty Dash on July 13th. We are so blessed by the incredible number of volunteers that have given their time and energy to help with these races. If you're one of those volunteers, please know how thankful we are for you!

Another fun fundraiser that was created by Peak 7 is our very popular annual Bocce Ball tournament. This year is going to be a little different, however. Because this is our fifth year anniversary, we're going all out by having a Bocce Ball (think extravaganza or gala). It's on Sunday, September 15th, so dust off your prom outfit, start thinking of a creative team name, and keep an eye out for a save the date in the mail. It's going to be a grand time!

Finally, I would like to share with you that my wife Loran and I began a three-month sabbatical in the middle of June. Founding and developing Peak 7 over the past seven years has been an amazing experience, but it has also required a great amount of my time and energy. These three months will allow me to spend time with my family, do some traveling, and recharge my batteries so I can return energized and excited. I am so thankful for Peak 7's capable staff and volunteers whom I know will continue advancing our mission to transform the lives of youth through outdoor adventures.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Kerrigan', written in a cursive style.

Ryan Kerrigan
Executive Director





PEAK 7 NEWS

THE NORTH FACE EXPLORE FUND GRANT AWARD

We are very excited to announce our award of a grant from The North Face Explore Fund! Out of over 500 applicants, The North Face Explore Fund, whose mission is to help kids discover nature's playground, selected 40 organizations to receive a \$2,500 grant. Of those 40, The North Face then chose the top ten to compete in a crowdsourcing competition in which they compete for votes from the general public on Facebook. The top five highest vote-getters receive \$25,000 while the remaining five organizations receive \$10,000. We're thrilled to share that Peak 7 was selected as one of the top ten organizations to compete for the \$25,000 grant! A grant of this size would be an incredible blessing as hundreds of additional youth from all over the Pacific Northwest would get to experience the outdoors for the first time through a challenging yet encouraging adventure designed to help them reach a greater potential and reveal our amazing Creator.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

At Peak 7, we truly believe we have one of the most encouraging and engaged family of supporters any organization could ask for. The impact your time, talents, and financial support have had on underserved youth in our region has been remarkable, and for this we cannot thank you enough. The opportunity before us now in The Explore Fund grant is an incredible one, but it's also one that cannot be realized without your continued support. Helping us win the \$25,000 grant happens to be easy, too. The North Face has created a Facebook page featuring all ten organizations, each with a minute-long video and brief statement explaining their mission and what they would do with a \$25,000 grant. You can get to the voting page a few different ways: find a post about the voting on a Peak 7 Facebook page and follow the link, go to our website and click the Explore Fund banner like the one above, or type this URL into your browser: <http://www.bit.ly/TNFExploreFund>. Once you're on the voting page, look for Peak 7 Adventures and click 'vote' - it's that easy! YOU CAN VOTE ONCE EVERY 12 HOURS until the competition ends on July 31st. We encourage you to spread the word of this competition—share our Facebook posts, write emails, make calls, send telegrams, whatever you can do—because every vote will count! With our whole community behind this, we know we can win this! Thank you so much for your support!



NORTH COAST YOUNG LIFE

I was looking forward to my first three-day trip of the summer, taking seven 6th graders from a Young Life group on a day of climbing and two days of rafting in central Oregon. Sixth graders typically have such a happy energy, which made me excited to be one of their guides. However, the trip ended up being more intense than any of us guides had imagined.

After getting the kids geared up, Jessica*, a 12 year old girl who was a last minute addition to the trip and had never been to the YL group before, decided she wanted to start out on the hardest climb of the day. She made it half way and after 20 minutes of trying, gave up and came down the wall, defeated and crying. After talking her through her experience, she decided to get back up and try again, this time successfully reaching the top of an easier climb. Another failed attempt later in the day caused a significant meltdown where I sat and talked with her for about forty minutes, finding out that there was much more going on in her life besides failing to climb a rock wall.



After that day, she became my shadow. She followed me everywhere and all I knew to do was to talk and laugh with her, showing her what it felt like to be loved. It may have been the first time in her life that she felt loved.

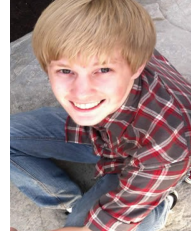
Throughout the rest of the trip we had a few more meltdowns that required more talking and processing, but it was incredible to see her overcome her fears and enjoy being a kid, even if it took a lot of time and patience. At the end of the week she cried on my shoulder and told me she had no one at home to talk to. God immediately showed me what to do. I connected Jessica with the youth leader on the trip who promised to stay in touch with her and get her going to the YL group because she had never actually been before. Even though I wasn't able to be the person to stay with her, I felt blessed by the opportunity to show her love and connect her with the leader who could help her build on the positive experiences she had on the trip.—Megan Jamieson

* Name changed to protect identity

INTRODUCING OUR SUMMER TEAM!

Our Summer Team is essential in helping us provide the hundreds of outdoor adventure trips for youth that we have every summer. We are so impressed by their hearts for the Lord, for youth, and for Creation and we feel very blessed to have each of them on the Peak 7 team throughout the summer. Please take a moment to learn a little bit about them and how they'll be reaching youth through Peak 7 this summer. Thanks team!

HUNTER BADGLEY—Originally from the wilds of Alaska, Hunter has enjoyed the outdoors from a young age, having kayaked the Yukon River and hiked the Chilkooot Trail. Currently studying Communications and Theology at Whitworth University, Hunter is excited to share Creation with youth and will be leading climbing and Ascent trips in Spokane this summer.



JIMMY KEITH—Growing up in northern Idaho, Jimmy and his family spent much of their time enjoying the outdoors. Jimmy currently attends Northwest University where he studies Biblical Literature and Greek. He is excited to spend time with youth, leading Ascent, and climbing trips in Seattle.

ZACH O'BRYANT—Hailing all the way from South Carolina, Zach has enjoyed backpacking, climbing, and snowboarding since his childhood. He's studying Environmental Science at the University of South Carolina and plans to pursue a career in land conversation. Zach will help lead Ascent and climbing trips out of Spokane this summer.



BRITTA LAVOIE—Having grown up in Spokane, Britta has always loved the outdoors and sharing it with others. She helps lead outdoor trips at Pacific University where she is studying German, Education, and Outdoor Leadership. Britta also enjoys pole vaulting and skiing. She will be guiding climbing trips in Spokane this summer.

DERRICK QUIRIN—Another east coast native, Derrick grew up on trails and lakes in Virginia with his family. Also studying Outdoor Leadership at North Greenville University with his wife Bekah, he loves sharing Jesus with others through the outdoors. This summer Derrick will be leading climbing and Ascent trips in Spokane.



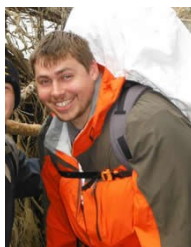
KIRBY GRUBAUGH—An eastern Washington native, Kirby developed a passion for the outdoors through the help of his pastor in high school. He's grown to love climbing, cycling, and eating. He is pursuing a B.A. in Outdoor Recreation from Eastern Washington University and will be a climbing guide in Spokane this summer.

BEKAH QUIRIN—With the Appalachian trail a short walk from her childhood home in Virginia, Bekah has always loved the outdoors. Studying Outdoor Leadership at North Greenville University in South Carolina, she enjoys whitewater kayaking and satisfying her sweet tooth. Bekah will be a climbing and Ascent trip leader in Spokane this summer.



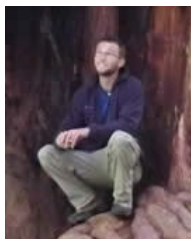
KELLI WILLIAMS—Also growing up near the Appalachians, Kelli has a love for rafting and climbing. A recent graduate in Outdoor Leadership from North Greenville University, Kelli spent time leading outdoor trips for her university's student body. We're excited to have Kelli lead climbing and Ascent trips in Spokane.

KYLE PETTIT—Born into a military family, Kyle followed suit, serving in the US Army for nine years. He has since retired and lives in the Spokane area with his wife and three kids. This is Kyle's second year guiding rafting trips in Spokane. He also hopes to begin the Outdoor Recreation program at Eastern Washington University this fall.



KATIE PITT—A native of the Seattle area, Katie loves experiencing God's presence in the outdoors. Before finishing her nursing degree at Seattle Pacific University next year, she plans to travel to London and Vietnam. This is Katie's second year with Peak 7 and she'll be leading climbing, and backpacking trips in Seattle.

ALEX NYCUM—Alex grew up hiking and camping with his family in southern Maryland, developing his love for the outdoors. He earned a degree in Physics and Math from James Madison University where he also spent a semester at the National Outdoor Leadership School. He is looking forward to leading climbing and rafting trips in our Oregon office.



SARA-ANNE LEAVITT—A recent homeschool graduate, Sara has been a Guide in Training with Peak 7 and has also been interning in our Oregon office. Living on a small farm she loves animals and wide open spaces but dislikes vacuum cleaners and the color orange. Sara-Anne will be leading rafting and climbing trips in Oregon this summer.



Challenging the body | Engaging the Spirit

Peak 7 Adventures
14617 N. Newport Hwy, Ste. 7
Mead, WA 99021

EVEN MORE SUMMER TEAM!



AARON LEHMANN—Born in Oregon, Aaron spent much of his childhood in Pakistan where his parents served as missionaries to refugees. He is currently working toward a B.S. in Math Education and Mathematics at Corban University. He feels privileged to serve youth through Peak 7 by leading rafting and climbing trips for the second time this summer.



MEGAN JAMIESON—Though she's been volunteering with Peak 7 for a few years now, Megan is excited to be part of this year's summer staff. She grew up in a whitewater-loving family from Spokane and plans to pursue a major in Outdoor Management next year. Megan will be leading climbing and rafting trips in Oregon this summer.



JOSEPH OEHLSCHLAEGER—A central Oregon native, Joe has always enjoyed being in the outdoors. After high school, he attended a two-year academy in Texas called ALERT (Air Land Emergency Resource Team) where he learned various wilderness emergency response skills. We're looking forward to having Joe lead rafting and climbing trips in Oregon this summer.



TJ KICHENMASTER—Also from central Oregon, TJ has always been passionate about the outdoors and sharing his faith and is thrilled to be able to do both through Peak 7 this summer. A man of many talents, TJ enjoys singing, photography, and shotgun shooting. TJ will be help lead climbing and rafting trips out of our Oregon location.

www.peak7.org

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