

PEAK 7 ADVENTURES

June 2015 Newsletter



upcoming events

DIRTY DASH (ES)!

Saturday, June 27: Olympia

Saturday, July 18: Spokane

Saturday, July 25: Oregon

Contact us to *volunteer* or go to their website to *register* using promo code *peak7*.

Both ways earn funds for Peak 7!

Spokane SLIDE THE CITY:

Saturday, August 8

Sign up to *volunteer* with us or *register* to run using promo code *Peak7Slider*

Contact us for more info! All summer events support Peak 7's efforts to serve youth!

Spokane BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT:

Sunday, September 13

Contact us for more info!

Seattle BASE CAMP Benefit Auction:

Thursday, October 22, 2015: 6-8 p.m.

Contact us for more info!



a story from Becky: Seattle guide

During our spring season, I had the privilege of taking a group of teenagers from Vine Maple Place, a Seattle-based organization that works with single parent families in need, to the Olympic Coast.

As we set out on the tree-lined trail leading to the Pacific Ocean, I began getting to know the kids and learned that none of them had ever been backpacking before, and most had never even camped. All of them came from single parent homes and hard family situations. They were astonished (and a little concerned) that we were going somewhere without Wi-Fi and cell service.

Apart from these similarities, the kids were seemingly very different from one another. The personalities varied greatly as a group of strangers - boys and girls, extroverts and extreme introverts, 13 year-olds and 17 year-olds, were about to share an adventure. My fellow Peak 7 guides and I were curious about how the group's differences would play out over the next few days. With the range of ages and personalities, we weren't sure if the group would mesh and allow each individual young person to feel comfortable.



Throughout the trip, we spent many long hours pushing each other to keep hiking. Some of the kids were not much bigger than their packs, so they had it even harder than the rest of us! To their credit, they pushed themselves and kept hiking with excitement and gratitude for the chance to be in such a beautiful place. One girl in particular, a sweet, peppy girl named Virginia, seemed to come alive on the trail. Her constant smiles and lightheartedness encouraged the group to keep walking.

For these kids, every minute of this trip was a minute free from everyday life. The group began to grow together in a way that we couldn't have dreamed on our first nervous morning in the gear warehouse.

While we watched the sun sink into the Pacific Ocean on the last night, I began sharing with the group the story of Jesus and the woman who washed his feet with her tears. This woman, with a well-known and questionable reputation, walked uninvited into a party where she did not belong. Skipping introductions, she fell at Jesus' feet, without thought to the formalities or judgments of those around her. She just knew she needed Jesus. I explained to the group why I admire this woman deeply.

The kids were captivated by this story. Despite their cold fingers and tired eyes, they hung onto every word and processed its implications. I could see that Virginia in particular was deep in thought.

A few days after the trip, the leader from Vine Maple Place called to tell me that Virginia shared with him that she had never felt more like herself than she had during the Peak 7 trip.

Hearing that, I was once again reminded why meaningful time in God's creation can be vital to today's youth. The adventures we provide can allow a 16-year-old girl to feel like her true self, and be genuinely comfortable sharing that with a diverse group of her peers. In the midst of God's creation and a community that encouraged her despite only knowing her for three days, Virginia was able to skip the formalities and discover who she was created to be.

meet the summer team

BOBBY

From: Anderson, Indiana
Program: Seattle Ascent
Fun Fact: My life dream is to be a cowboy.



KAT

From: Washington
Program: Spokane Climbing
Fun Fact: I played semi-pro basketball in Australia for a year.



BETH

From: Yakima, WA
Program: Spokane Ascent
Fun Fact: I like to stick my head out the car window like a dog.

CALEB

From: Couer d'Alene, ID
Program: Spokane Ascent
Fun Fact: I was born in the front seat of a station wagon.

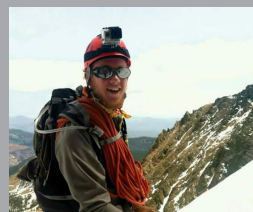


TYLER

From: Puyallup, WA
Program: Spokane Ascent
Fun Fact: Peak 7 is where I found my love for the outdoors!

SAVANNAH

From: Pagosa Springs, CO
Program: Seattle Ascent
Fun Fact: My favorite book is *The Hobbit*.



NATHAN

From: Pickens, SC
Program: Seattle Ascent
Fun Fact: My mountain goat impression is on point!

STEPHANIE

From: Richland, WA
Program: Seattle Climbing
Fun Fact: I love to dance and I want to retire in Iceland.



SUZANNE

From: Missouri, now Seattle
Program: Seattle Ascent
Fun Fact: I like to juggle and mime, but not at the same time.

PAUL

From: Oregon
Program: Oregon Raft/Climb
Fun Fact: Peak 7 staff call me a lab because I smile a lot and have a lot of energy.

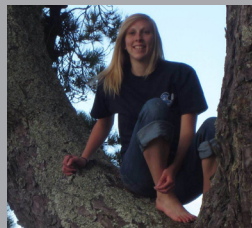


MEGAN

From: Spokane, WA
Program: Oregon Rafting
Fun Fact: If I could only eat one thing it would be a tie between ice cream and Taco Bell.

ALICIA

From: Francesville, IN
Program: Oregon Raft/Climb
Fun Fact: I would love to travel the world to build relationships with people.



ETHAN

From: Upstate New York
Program: Spokane Ascent
Fun Fact: I've played lacrosse my whole life!

DUSTIN

From: Coos Bay, OR
Program: Oregon Raft/Climb
Fun Fact: I love learning random useless facts!





highlighted giving opportunity

Sponsor a Climber

Peak 7's goal is to brighten the lives of young people through meaningful outdoor adventures. This summer we'll be taking close to 1,000 kids on rock climbing trips. Kids love the challenge of climbing and they're relying on Peak 7 and our supporters to be able to go!

- ~For \$60, you can give one youth a rock climbing trip this summer
- ~For \$15/month, you can sponsor 3 climbers over the course of a year

Check out our website www.peak7.org to donate!

MACY'S SHOP FOR A CAUSE! ~ SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH

How it works:

Step 1) You purchase a shopping pass from Peak 7 for \$5.

Step 1.5) You share on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram how excited you are about your shopping pass and encourage everyone you know to buy one from Peak 7 as well.

Step 2) We give you a shopping pass to Macy's.

Step 3) You go to Macy's on Saturday, August 29th and use your pass to save 25% on regular, sale, and clearance items and 10% on electronics, furniture, and mattresses.

Step 4) You are happy to donate to a great cause and to save a bunch of money on fun new things and Peak 7 uses your \$5 to brighten the life of a young person through an outdoor adventure.

You can use the enclosed envelope to donate your \$5 or you can click the 'Make a Donation' link on our website and do it that way.