

## June 2024

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#### S.T.E.A.M.S Summer Camp!

The Peoria Friendship House kicked off its 2024 S.T.E.A.M.S Summer camp! This year, we have had the opportunity to take 150+ children "All Around the World." Thus far we have been to Turkey, Mexico, Africa, and Japan! Our Children have learned a variety of culture, religion, ethnicity, and much more. They have even had the opportunity to learn different types of music, dancing, and different

foods!

All of our seats are completely full. The energy in our facility is unmatched. In this edition we want to send a special thank you to our generous supporters and their willingness to help us bring our vision of Summer Camp to life!





## **MONTHLY SNAPSHOT**

In June we...

- Had **125** golfers for our Celebrity golf Fundraiser, followed by **22** local celebrities.
- Had **15** teens from the Peoria Mayors Program join us for the summer.
- Had 150+ register for the Kendrick Green Camp 53.

## CELEBRITY GOLF EVENT!

The Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service is excited to announce The Putt Club Celebrity Golf fundraiser, was a HUGE success! The Putt Club allowed enough space indoor and outdoor for each foursome group to hit 18 holes per team. We had 125 golfers and a total of 22 local celebrities! The night was filled with food, fun, and purpose. We are extremely thankful for those that attended. All proceeds will go toward our mission, programs, and many services.



ITTCLUB

## **KENDRICK GREEN:** CAMP 53



Kendrick Green touched down at The Peoria Friendship House on June 7th to speak with our students. The children were super excited to talk with a former Peoria Native and hear about his journey in the NFL. They asked about his workouts, favorite movie, favorite super hero, where he lives, etc. Kendrick shared many key pieces of advice such as listening to mentors and how impactful mentorship was during his journey. On Saturday June 8th many staff and board members attended the Camp 53 Kick off. The camp sold out at 150 kids. Everyone received a T-shirt and water bottle at the entrance. As the children filled the Peoria Stadium with excitement, special guest -

Tony Adams from the New York Jets made an appearance. After Kendrick Green spent his 2023 season with a torn meniscus he expressed a great deal of gratitude being able to be out "giving the kids something to do." here in Peoria!



#### S.T.E.A.M.S Corner: Partnering with the Peoria Friendship House!

In June we had a variety of partnership efforts made within our community! During our first week of summer camp we learned about Turkish music and we even got to do some dancing! In the same setting we had Olympia Bar and Grill & Shared Blessings in the House preparing Baklava and Hummus with vegetables for students to try. We were also provided the opportunity to learn how to make it, and send home recipes with every student!





During Week 3 of Summer Camp at the House, Friends Friendship House at the joined the Friends of Proctor for a S-MAC-K-Down game of Handball in the memory of Mac Pogue, a former board member of the Friends at Proctor. As for most of our students this was a first time They experience. were thrilled to learn the game in addition to their cool T-Shirts they received!





# Safety Around Water 2024

What is a better way to cool down on a hot summer day, than a pool and safe swimming? An amazing partnership between the YMCA and Easter seals has created a space for us to do just that! We have partnered for a FREE entry-level swimming program for the campers at the Peoria Friendship House. Students are learning essential water techniques, building confidence, and practicing preventative drowning mechanisms. The program includes 30 students total that attend the swimming program every Tuesday and Thursday.

#### GUEST SPEAKERS IN THE HOUSE: CAT LATINO GROUP & OSF ILLINOIS NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE



A huge THANK YOU to the CAT Latino Group for coming to speak to our students on the 13th of June. They talked to our students about where they come from, things they had to overcome, and also shared insight on how CAT

actually operates in Mexico! Not to mention, bringing in Conchas (sweet bread) for the kids to try! Another HUGE Thank you to Lisa Maynard from the OSF Neuro Group & ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation for teaching our students about the importance of Bicycle safety! Each student was fitted for their very own helmet!



### Our Sponsors: The Putt Club Celebrity Golf

We received tremendous support for our Putt Club Celebrity Golf Fundraiser. We would like to recognize the following sponsors.

Glen Oak Christian Church, RLI, Shared Blessings, Darren LaHood for Congress, Bremer Jewelry, Kids First Community, MH CPA PLLC, Prairie Home Alliance, Rammos Plastic Surgery & MedSpa, David Vaughan Investments, Morton Community Bank and CEFCU.

We are truly honored for your support of our mission -"Empowering families by giving them hope and a path to prosperity."



Thank you for supporting the Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service! June 2024

