



April 10, 2020

Dear Tall Oaks Family,

We hope you and your loved ones are staying safe during these unprecedented times. As we all do our part to keep one another safe and flatten the pandemic curve, we came to the difficult decision not to reopen Tall Oaks until August 2020. Preparing for the summer camps to open begins in May, with the hiring and training of staff. The Tall Oaks Board reviewed current data about the pandemic. While we hope the pandemic eases by summer, after much discussion, we felt we would be unable to ensure the safety of staff and campers if we opened our camps during the early summer months. We are greatly saddened.

While our beloved camp is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions, we promise to continue to make improvements to the buildings and grounds that provide us with safe spaces for retreat and reconnection. Much like a bear coming out of hibernation, ***Tall Oaks will emerge from this time of isolation stronger than ever; ready to house, welcome, and provide a safe place for all who call it their "Happy Place."***

Many have asked how they can help Tall Oaks during this time. For this, we thank you for your offers and suggest specific ways you can help Tall Oaks during this quiet time.

Monetary gifts and donations

Make a gift to our **"UNDER THIS ROOF"** campaign. Roof repair on our buildings is necessary to keep our camp open and safe for all of the groups who utilize Tall Oaks. Safe roofs provide safe spaces. Safe roofs are expensive. Tall Oaks has a \$30,000 need to replace and correctly repair the roof of our Dining Hall. If you are able to make a financial gift or a recurring monthly donation, please visit talloaks.org.

If you have already made a payment for an upcoming camp to Tall Oaks and are able to donate that down payment to Tall Oaks, please consider making this financial gift. Financial gifts such as these will allow us to make repairs, clean spaces, and keep our buildings safe while we are closed to campers.

Gifts of Service

Many people have asked about volunteering time and services to Tall Oaks. We need you, very much. If you would like to lend a hand painting, gardening, mowing, etc., please visit talloaks.org for details and to sign up to visit Tall Oaks to make your gift of service. Please note we are practicing responsible social distancing and all volunteer shifts will be scheduled with your safety, and the safety of our Tall Oaks staff in mind.

When we think of retreat, rest, and reconnection, we think of Tall Oaks and all it means to us, and to the thousands of others who utilize it each year. During this time when so much is unknown, it is a comfort to know that Tall Oaks will be available to provide a place where we can be our authentic selves, and to provide opportunities to renew our connections with nature and with one another.

Your support, either financial or through gifts of service, will help **ensure that our beloved camp will be available to future campers** once we have come through this difficult time.

Thank you for this consideration. Be well.
Bill Drake, Tall Oaks Board President



UNDER THIS ROOF WE...

love	laugh	grow	build community
pray	share	learn	share stories
gather	connect	celebrate	create memories

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