

TR PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Club Lily

March 2019

With spring retreats and camp season just around the corner, we thought that this was a great time to talk about one of our camp programs – Club Lily. Easterseals Western and Central PA's Club Lily program is a camp opportunity specifically for adults, 18 and up, with any disability/special need. And when we say 18 and up, we mean it! Our oldest camper in 2018 was 77; proving that you are never too old to enjoy the fun of camp.

And now you might be asking yourself, "what exactly is the 'fun of camp'?" Well, we are glad you asked. Camp is a wonderful place where you get to leave your everyday behind and make great friends, enjoy awesome adventure, relax by the pool, let loose at a dance, explore new possibilities, and have the freedom to be you. As our Camp Director, Allie Scott, put it, "Club Lily campers have become a second family to me over the years. Watching [the campers] explore new possibilities and the joy in their eyes as they surprise themselves with the obstacles they can overcome is the highlight of my year."

We started Club Lily in 2010 with 12 campers and it has grown over the years not only in numbers to having 50+ campers at a summer session, but also in the sessions we offer. In 2019 we have 2 summer sessions and 4 weekend retreats (2 in the spring and 2 in the fall). Activities at camp cover a wide range of interests – arts and crafts, boating, fishing, zip line, climbing, cooking, archery, dances, group games, and more. Our goal is to provide a safe, caring, and fun environment where our campers can explore, grow, and be independent.

Alright, you have heard enough about Club Lily from us, see what our campers, caregivers, and counselors have to say about their experience at camp.



"My favorite camp story has always been a particular camper in a wheelchair look at the rock-climbing wall and insisted that she could not climb the wall. We were able to get her in the adaptive harness and we told her if she was ok with it that we would lift her a few feet up the wall and if she was uncomfortable, she could come down. Once she felt herself going up the wall, we asked if she wanted to come down, to which she responded- 'I'm not afraid, I'm going all the way!'" – Allie (former counselor turned Camp Director)



"Club Lily is a safe haven for a mini vacation for clients and family loved ones and also a place to have tons of fun and try new adventurous things in life no matter what the disability/capability is that we may have, we are treated with dignity and respect by a great group of staff at CLUB LILY. We love Club Lily." - Deb and Theresa (Caregivers) with some input from their clients, Brian and Ken (campers)



"I like Chef Gail's food. It's good! I like the counselors and all the cool activities. I like seeing old campers and meeting new campers. I like to be outside doing fun things. I really like getting away from home and parents. It's nice to get a break." - Sarah (camper)



"Our daughter has enjoyed Easterseals camps since she was preteen. As soon as the holidays are over she starts planning for her three yearly Club Lily visits. Thanks to her camp experiences we have seen her become more independent, while learning many new problem-solving skills. Camp has been a very large part of Sarah's growth." - David and Shirley (parents of Sarah)

For more information on this program contact
Allie Scott at ascott@eastersealswcpenna.org

www.eastersealswcpenna.org | 717.741.3891

 **easterseals**
Western & Central
Pennsylvania