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Twenty-six Oklahoma Kids who are Blind Participate in NewView Oklahoma's Sports Camp
NewView Oklahoma hosts seventeenth year of OWL Camp in Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City, OK: Sitting volleyball, gymnastics, bowling and swimming were just a few of the sports made available to children who are blind and vision impaired at last week's OWL Camp. NewView Oklahoma hosted its seventeenth OWL Camp, short for "Oklahomans Without Limits," at the University of Central Oklahoma from July 18 to July 22. OWL Camp encourages students to challenge societal and self-imposed limits, and to try new things - things they never thought they could do without eye sight. As a result, campers gain confidence, build self-esteem and leave camp ready to take on the world.

"OWL Camp is an amazing experience that makes me feel like a regular kid with kids just like me," said Kaylee. "I can't wait to come back next year!"

Each camper is partnered with a sighted buddy at camp. Buddies help their camper with daily tasks and with participation in camp activities. The role of sighted buddy benefits not only campers, but it also serves as a learning experience for volunteer buddies. These volunteers get to see first-hand that with small adaptations and a little encouragement all things are possible for campers with vision loss.

"This camp is a truly life-changing experience for campers and staff alike," said Brady Nevels. "We saw our campers grow so much in one short week. They went from thinking they couldn't do some activities to diving into everything with confidence. It was an incredible transformation to see. They truly are Oklahomans without limits!"

NewView Oklahoma's summer camp was created in 2000 to provide youth, who are blind and visually impaired, with an unforgettable camp experience that will prepare them to live happy, independent and productive lives. At camp the focus is on capability rather than disability. Over the past 17 years, OWL Camp has expanded to include two week-long camps, one in Oklahoma City and one in Tulsa. With the support of community partners and generous donors, camps are free of charge for campers.

For photos and videos from Oklahoma City's camp visit: www.newviewoklahoma.org/okcowlcamp16

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NewView Oklahoma is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve their maximum level of independence through employment, low vision rehabilitation, and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the state's leading employer of individuals who are blind and visually impaired and offers the only two comprehensive Low Vision Clinics in the state. Visit them online at www.newviewoklahoma.org.