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**A NETWORK OF DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS COMING
TOGETHER AND BUILDING COMMUNITY!**

2026 Summer Camp Registration is Open!



Vernon Township's 2026 Summer Camp registration is officially open! This year, camp has grown to welcome children up to the age of 8, and the day has been extended from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., giving campers even more time for arts and crafts, games, sports, and lifeguard-led swim lessons (every third day). Each week brings new themes, special guest entertainers, and plenty of opportunities for laughter, learning and making memories. Camp is open to children turning 4–8 by September 1, 2026. Secure your child's spot now for an unforgettable summer! Register [here](#).

2025 Food Pantry Recap



In 2025, Vernon Township's Food Pantry continued to be a crucial resource for neighbors experiencing food insecurity. The Pantry was supported by 418 generous donors, countless volunteers, and a network of committed community partners. Watch the accompanying video to see the difference that was made throughout the year, and learn more about generous contributions [here](#).

Donate Blood, Save a Life



Vernon Township, in partnership with State Representative Daniel Didech and the American Red Cross, is hosting its first Community Blood Drive of 2026! The Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, February 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the [Community Service Building](#). Every donation helps save lives - make a difference in your community today! To register or learn more, click [here](#).

Mental Health Board Awards Funds



Last month, the Vernon Township Community Mental Health Board awarded \$232,200 in its second round of FY26 Community Grants to 17 local agencies that are working to strengthen mental health, support those facing substance use challenges, and

A yellow poster for hiring lifeguards and camp counselors. On the left is the logo for 'The Jacob Grossman Aquatic Center', which features a stylized blue and black wave design. On the right is the logo for 'Summer CAMP', which is a green shield with the word 'Summer' in yellow and 'CAMP' in large, colorful letters (C in green, A in orange, M in blue, P in red). Below the logos, the text 'WE ARE HIRING' is written in large, bold, black letters. Underneath that, in smaller text, it says 'We are looking for lifeguards, pool attendants, and camp counselors, to work at Vernon Township'. There are small starburst graphics on either side of the text.

Summer Employment Opportunities

Get ready for a summer of fun and leadership with Vernon Township! We're looking for enthusiastic [lifeguards and camp counselors](#) to join our team. No prior lifeguard experience? No

assist individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Among the recipients are three new organizations - [Avenues to Independence](#), [Homegrown Therapy Dogs](#), and the [Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center](#). These grants help ensure that individuals and families across Vernon Township have access to critical services, guidance and support when they need it most.

Additional/returning grant recipients include: [Cancer Wellness Center](#), [Center for Enriched Living](#), [Clearbrook](#), [Glenkirk](#), [Josselyn Center](#), [KAN-WIN](#), [NAMI Cook County North Suburban](#), [Partners in Aging](#), [A Safe Place](#), [Sanjeevani 4U](#), [Second Nurture](#), [Shelter Inc.](#), [Special Recreation Association of Lake County](#), and [Youth & Family Counseling](#).

problem! Training will be provided. Job descriptions are provided below:

Lifeguards (Part-Time)

- Keep the pool safe and welcoming for all visitors
- Serve as both lifeguard and pool attendant, including admission and concession duties
- Pre-season training begins mid-May: weekly paid training sessions are required
- The 2026 pool season runs from Memorial Day (May 25) through Labor Day (September 7)
- Applicants must be at least 15 years old - shifts are available afternoons and evenings 3–5 days per week

Camp Counselors (Part-Time)

- Lead activities and supervise camp groups
- Communicate with parents and assist in preparing daily activity materials
- 2026 Summer Camp runs for seven weeks, from June 15–July 31, from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Orientation is June 10–12 (evening session on June 11 for parent-camper orientation)

Join our team to make a difference in the lives of children and community members this summer! Learn more [here](#).

Vernon Township Welcomes New Assessor & Mental Health Board Member



Bruce Piepenbrink



Emily Crutchfield

Vernon Township is thrilled to announce two new appointments to key leadership roles over the last month. Bruce Piepenbrink was appointed Township Assessor on January 8, bringing more than 40 years of professional experience, including 41 years at Hoyne Savings Bank, as well as a long history of

community involvement through youth sports and local Rotary clubs. Emily Crutchfield was appointed to the Vernon Township Community Mental Health Board on January 15. A Vernon Township resident since 2008, Crutchfield is actively involved in educational leadership at both local and national levels. She is passionate about raising awareness of resources for those facing mental illness, disabilities, and substance use challenges. To learn more, click [here](#).

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