

Camper Support Specialist

Job Description

General Statement of Responsibilities:

The CSS should coordinate efforts with the Program Director/ Assistant, counselors, and FAC to implement strategies or take steps to help campers with a diverse array of abilities and social and emotional needs to positively engage in camp. The CSS will communicate with and act as a resource for staff and campers.

Responsible To:

Program Director's Assistant

Helpful Pre-requisites:

- Certification in mental health first aid preferred
- Minimum age 21+ preferred
- Bachelors in Education, Child Development, Social Work, Counseling, Special Education, Psychology, Child Psychology, Human Services or a related field is preferred; or working toward such a degree.
- Passionate and inspired to work with youth that are autistic, intellectually and/or developmentally disabled
- Minimum of 2 years' experience working with youth and/or experience in the special needs community, health field, or related field highly preferred; some camp experience is preferred

Specific Duties:

- Supervises and assists with specific camper supervision. Ensures that all staff are accounting for campers and safety at all times, especially campers who need extra support.
- Works closely with camp administration, FAC and cabin counselors providing resources, suggestions, and direct support for campers who need extra attention due to behavior, health (mental and physical), or life circumstance.
- In conjunction with camp administration, communicate directly with parents or guardians pro- and re-actively to gain tips for working with specific campers and to give updates on the campers' experience.
- Provide on-going coaching and support to camp staff as it relates to meeting camper mental, behavioral, social and emotional needs; intervene when appropriate to prevent or resolve problems
- Ensure proper response, follow-through and debrief on situations arising with campers
- Make referrals to support services in home communities of the campers
- Establish relationships with youth that reflect Christ-like love, respect, trust, and empathy
- Assists counselors and logistics specialists with plans, schedules, and program activities that are developmentally appropriate and which promote camper inclusion
- Create a culture of positive support and behavior management
- Be a trustworthy, reliable, Christ-like leader of campers. Pray for campers on a daily basis.

Qualifications for all staff:

- A professing and active Christian faith, including regular quiet times of Scripture reading and application, prayer, worship, and fellowship
- Spiritual and emotional maturity, personal integrity and honesty
- Desire to be a Christ-like role model for campers, guests, and fellow staff, and possess a genuine love for and desire to serve others
- Willingness and flexibility to cheerfully perform tasks and duties beyond those typically assigned
- Physical stamina and ability to daily perform duties assigned
- Understanding of and support for Camp policies, mission, and summer program goals