



COUNSELOR HANDBOOK

**We are so excited to see you at Bradford Woods this year!
Of course, with that kind of change, you are probably saying to yourself
“What else has changed? I should probably read my handy dandy handbook to find out!”**

Important Phone Numbers

Jamie Mitchell, Camp Director: (317) 752-5668
Dave Carter, Camp Director (317)696-7189
Jennifer Kobylarz, Executive Director: (317) 679-1860
Bradford Woods: (765) 342-2915

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Welcome CHAMP Camp Counselor!

We are so happy to have you with us this year.

What an exciting year! There are some changes due to our new facility and some of the old rules that we need to make sure are enforced. ***So, even if you are returning for your umpteenth year, please make sure you take the time to familiarize yourself with the contents.***

ROLE: As a counselor, you will be a friend, a diplomat, a mentor, a traffic cop, a communicator, a trail guide, a role model, and a coach; a wrangler, a navigator, a listener, a problem-solver, a juggler, a detective, and a server of bug juice. Most of all, you will touch kids' lives. You will offer them experiences that open their eyes and minds...which is what CHAMP Camp is all about.

THEME: We are not really having a theme this year. We will focus on getting back to nature and the fact that our camp has no limits!

If you have questions as you start to prepare for camp, please don't hesitate to contact Jamie Mitchell at jmitchell@champcamp.org or 317.752-5668.

In the spirit of camp,

Jamie Mitchell and Dave Carter
Camp Directors

ORIENTATION

ORIENTATION for **ALL COUNSELORS** begins on SATURDAY, JUNE 18th at 11:00 a.m. (Eastern daylight savings time).

Immediately upon your arrival, please check-in at the lodge where you will receive your cabin assignment. You will also meet with our medical team to receive a health screening and have your photo taken for our camp directory. ***If you did not return your Counselor Health History, please send it to the CHAMP Camp office via email, jmitchell@champcamp.org, or fax, 317.245.2291.***

Purpose of Orientation:

- Clarify for you the philosophy of CHAMP Camp
- Introduce you to our new home – Bradford Woods
- Make you feel at home in your outdoor environment
- Give you insight into the lives and incredible abilities of our campers
- Help you understand the role of the Bradford Woods staff as part of our camp experience.
- Build relationships between counselor staff to provide effective teamwork in cabins and trail groups
- Develop a camp-oriented spirit of goodwill and enthusiasm
- Clarify your role and responsibilities of the week's activities.

Camp Central:

Jamie Mitchell	Camp Director
Dave Carter	Camp Director
Kristina Watkins	Program Director
Nancy McCurdy	Program Director
Dr. Chuck Dietzen	Co-Medical Director
Dr. Sarah Kuestner	Co-Medical Director
Donna Guider	Lead Nurse
James "Tex" Gooch	Lead Respiratory Therapist
Dave Powell	Media/Mission Director
Jennifer Kobylarz	Executive Director

Camp Central is available to provide medical and program guidance as well as to help with any issues that arise. These individuals are always available by walkie-talkie. As much as we would rather be canoeing or fishing, we are here to help you be the best counselor you can be and provide the best possible camp experience for our campers. Let us know how we can help.

LOOK WHO IS COMING TO CAMP!

CAMPERS

Grace Anastasia, Mason, OH	Charlie Demetris, Indianapolis, IN	Tommy Shoup, Angola, IN
*Grace Bagadiong, Mason, OH (Not a typo – 2 campers named Grace from Mason, OH – weird!)	**Karlisee Gottlieb, Indianapolis, IN	Mac Starnes, Longwood, FL
Mary Bolyard, Bloomington, IN	Greg Hagenow, Westville, IN	**Tony Toriac, West Chester, OH
*Sarah Boury, Ankeny, IA	**Leia Heitkemper, Cincinnati, OH	Isaiah Vargus, Hobart, IN
Dylan Bower, Kendalville, IN	Joseph Hopkins, Carmel, IN	Sydney Zenor, Greenwood, IN
Cory Burchell, Sardinia, OH	**Luke Ladendorf, Fisher, IN	*New Camper
Kimani Campbell, Indianapolis, IN	**Brenden LePage, Claremore, OK	**Graduate Camper in 2011
Roxy Cooper, Indianapolis, IN	*Christopher Miller, Lebanon, OH	
	Michael Rodriguez, McCordsville, IN	

COUNSELORS

Alumni Campers

Sara Cohen
*Keith Light
Ryan Woolard
Joel Vander Molen

American Sign Language Students

*Hali Hopwood
*Zoe Windsor

Junior Counselor

*Bridget Mitchell

Nurses

Roni Blum
Anny Busick
*Melissa Ciardulli
*Karrie Coddington
Susan Fay
Bobby Flowers
*Martha Gatchel
Donna Guider
Becky Hardy
Ingrid Jacobs
Bev Kramer
Heather Mandel
Stephanie Murray
Hope Pozil
*Tammy Smith
*Michelle Steinway

Occupational Therapist

Maren Johnson

Occupational Therapy Student

Olya Mangusheva

Nursing Students

*Tiffany Glasson
*Alyssa Graham
*Leah Hester
*Kelsey Lowe
*Paige Pleima
*Kaitlin Spears
*Heidi Vander Molen
*Anjalisa Webb

Other

Fred Baldwin
Caroline Beagle
Scott Beaty
Dennis Bushur
*Elizabeth Foster
Lauren Gatchel
*Lauren Koen
*Richard Koen
*Alyssa McClure
Rick Miller
*Tori Morken
Colleen O'Connor
Dave Powell
Joe Ray
Elizabeth Reger
*Kelsey Rosswurm
Bill Vahle

Physicians

Elizabeth Carroll
Chuck Dietzen
Sarah Kuestner

Physicians Assistant Student

*Natasha Nelson

Respiratory Therapists

Carla Drennen
Vanessa Frederick
James "Tex" Gooch
Brad Locke

Dede O'Connor

Lacey Snell
Marissa Stopski
Heather Zuber

Respiratory Therapy Students

*Brittany Anthony
*Rachel Brieck
*Heather Brown
*Aaron Cortes
*Putnam Dev
*Meredith Hacker
*April Knopf
*Grace Leisenheimer
*Jessica Reyes
*Marci Scovil
*Ashley Stenger

CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

We have tried our best to make counselor cabin assignments based on your preferences, but we ask you to be flexible as medical staffing needs to be dispersed appropriately throughout the cabins. No matter what cabin you are housed in, there will be ample opportunities for everyone to interact with all campers and counselors many times during the day.

Cabins will look a little different at Bradford Woods. We will be in smaller cabins that are separate from each other. We are still in the process of working out what that looks like for camp so we will be as excited to see the final cabin assignments as you are!

MEDICAL PROCEDURES

Dr. Chuck Dietzen and Dr. Sarah Kuestner will return as our medical directors this year. Both physicians will be in attendance for the duration of camp and will be available 24 hours a day. They will verify medications and be alert to changes and needs that may arise.

During orientation, we will spend some time getting ourselves organized in terms of medication distribution, treatments, general care, counselors' schedules, etc. Each cabin will have a cabin leader, registered nurse and a respiratory therapist who will be assigned coordination responsibilities. An important thought to remember is that WE ARE A CAMP FIRST and a "health care center in the woods" second. In other words, camp emphasizes wellness, not illness; ability not disability....although we are ready and able to respond to any medical need.

In case of any emergency, campers will be transported by ambulance to the appropriate local hospital. The Pulmonary Department and the Emergency Room staff are aware of all our campers and their diagnoses prior to camp.

CAMPER ARRIVAL

Note: Campers will arrive on **Sunday, June 19th** via a staggered schedule beginning at 2:00pm.

We have a system of check-in and check-out that we will go over during orientation. Each camper will have a health care screening by our medical staff when they arrive. Medications and equipment are verified and secured. Two counselors will be identified to assist the camper and family. A parent or caregiver will be asked to assist with setting up their child's equipment in the cabin before they leave.

CAMP ACCREDITATION

CHAMP Camp is accredited by the American Camping Association. We have been accredited since 1995. Camp accreditation means that we are measured by the high standards of the camping industry, and that we comply with regulations regarding site and facility, administration, personnel, program (activities), and health care. Camp is FUN, but we never compromise the safety or integrity of camp...and that's why it's important that we communicate to you the methods of our camp madness and gladness.

Because of our accreditation and professionalism, it is absolutely necessary that we have a **copy of your medical license or certification and CPR card** if you have one. We also need a Health History, which you should have completed with your application. If not, please send it as soon as possible to Jamie Mitchell at jmitchell@champcamp.com or fax to 317.245.2291. Please also notify Jamie if you need another copy.

ACA will be visiting CHAMP Camp this year. CHAMP Camp maintains exemplary standards even on non-ACA years so we do not anticipate any issues with this year's visit.



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IT'S ANOTHER YEAR!

Many of our counselors have been returning for YEARS...giving unlimited energy, care and love. Amazing how NO ONE AGES. Please remember that as you return with unbridled enthusiasm, each season is new to itself. The campers grow and change, new campers become part of the mix, new counselors blend into the team, the dynamics of leadership change, and our camp schedule and activities vary. You will be disappointed if you expect each year to be a repeat of the year before. Each summer is new and unique to itself. Be open to the possibilities and enjoy camp as it unfolds. Let yourself be open to new magic moments, new friendships, and an experience to treasure and remember. Especially with this move to Bradford Woods, we have so many new opportunities to embrace!

FAMILY AND FRIENDS VISITATION

Counselors are welcome to have family and friends visit at camp during the week. The best days will be Tuesday or Wednesday, because at that point in the week, we have our routines patterned and running smoothly, and you are more likely to have a few moments to breathe and relax with your guests. *Guests are welcome between 10 a.m. - Noon or 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.* If you are expecting guests, they will need to check-in with the Camp Director (for security reasons). ***Please let the Camp Director(s) know if and when you are expecting friends or family.***

Families of campers DO NOT visit during the week. We have learned from experience that it is almost always disruptive and emotional because it means having to say goodbye all over again. (Most times it's harder for a parent to say goodbye to their camper than vice versa.) Campers who are able to rely on others for support and encouragement during the week learn an invaluable lesson about trust, independence, perseverance, and the power of self and friendship. We will discuss homesickness in more detail during orientation.

PROGRAMMING AND ACTIVITIES

Our CHAMP Camp program is rich in recreational activities. We feel a tremendous responsibility, and therefore much freedom, to create an atmosphere for kids to thrive. In spite of a high ratio of counselors to campers, we don't hover or smother as to make kids even more "special". Rather, we strive for and orchestrate programs for kids to go to the limits which they are physically and medically able. It is an environment in which no child sits on the sidelines or has to worry about being different. As caring, skillful adults facilitate a variety of activities, we are also able to assess, monitor, prevent and respond to vulnerable medical conditions.

Trail groups rotate among a variety of activities - stream study, arts and crafts, pottery, swimming, climbing, canoeing, fishing, pontooning, etc. Activities with horses will be back this year! Please look over the detailed program schedule to familiarize yourself for our special evening activities. Each night, the daily schedule for the next day is posted in the cabin common area. Note that you may want to pack special items for the dance. We are having our very own Sneakers Ball this year so bring your fancy footwear!

No matter what activity the campers are involved in, we must satisfy, to the best of our ability, the needs of the campers. Simply put, WE ALWAYS, ALWAYS, PUT THE CAMPERS FIRST...they are the reason we are here!

In our commitment to make activities safe and fun for everyone, counselors with a variety of skills and credentials are assigned to each trail group. It is essential for each group to have a blend of nurses, RTs, therapists and others. Some counselors may get tired of being at an activity several times, but we schedule you where the campers need you, and where you will be best utilized. We appreciate your flexibility and your willingness to have a positive attitude about your assignments.

Each activity will have at least one Program Specialist from our staff who will be at a specified activity consistently. The Program Specialist(s) has been selected by the camp and program directors. Likewise, each activity will have a Bradford Woods staff person present as well.



CHAMP Camp Program 2011

	Morning Program	Afternoon Program	Evening Program
SATURDAY	11:00 All Counselors Arrive Check-In	12:00 Lunch 1:00-3:45 Orientation 3:45-4:45 Tour of Bradford Woods	4:45 Dinner 6:00-8:00 Cabin Decorating 8:30 Closing
SUNDAY	8:15 Morning Worship 9:00 Breakfast 10:00 Cabin Meetings	12:30 Lunch 1 - 2:00 Prepare for Camper Arrival 2:00-4:30 Camper Arrival 4:30 Cabin Time	5:30 GROUP PHOTO **Wear your 2011 shirt! 6:00 Dinner 7:00 Campfire, Songs/Skits, and Hay Ride
MONDAY	8:45 Breakfast 10:00 Trail Groups	1:00 Lunch 2:30 Trail Groups	6:00 Dinner 7:30 Dutch Auction
TUESDAY	8:45 Breakfast 10:00 Trail Groups	1:00 Lunch 2:30 Trail Groups	6:00 Cookout at the Flagpole 7:30 Dance Star Gazing for Older Campers
WEDNESDAY	8:45 Breakfast 10:00 Trail Groups	1:00 Lunch 2:30 Camper Choice Activity	6:00 BANQUET 7:30 Talent Show/Closing Campfire
THURSDAY	8:45 Breakfast 10:00 Closing Ceremony with Families 11:00 Departure Cookout 12:00 Campers Depart/Clean-up/Wrap-up	COUNSELORS FREE TO LEAVE AFTER CLEAN-UP AND WRAP-UP! (or stay for overnight!)	SAFE TRAVELS FOR EVERYONE!

DEPARTURE FROM CAMP

Departure will look a little different this year as well. We will be having a closing ceremony with the families at 10am on Thursday, June 23rd. Many of our families have voiced sadness at not being able to meet more of the counselors and have the opportunity to say thank you. We feel that this closing ceremony will help to fulfill that wish as well as provide our families with more insight into their camper's week. We will still have our time together on Wednesday evening for more in depth recognition and celebration of the week.



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After the campers depart on the morning of **THURSDAY, June 23rd**, there will be some housekeeping tasks we'll need to take care of before we can hit the road. We know counselors are anxious to break camp after the energetic week, but wrapping up loose ends and packing up is important to our closure. We will also have a counselor wrap-up prior to departing camp. We are committed to getting you on the road as soon as possible and appreciate your commitment to make sure that camp is wrapped up appropriately.

***NEW THIS YEAR:** We can offer you the opportunity to stay at Bradford Woods on Thursday night. If you want a good night's sleep before driving or just want to hang out with folks you didn't have the opportunity to see much during the week. You will be responsible for your own food (options are very close to camp) and for cleaning up after yourself. Please let Jamie know as soon as possible if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity!*

BRADFORD WOODS GENERAL INFORMATION

Address: 5040 State Road 67 N
Martinsville, IN 46151

Phone: 765-342-2915

If you have calls come in while you are at camp, the office will take messages for you, and will relay those to the camp director at different times during the day. We typically distribute those messages at mealtimes, unless it is an emergency. You are also welcome to provide the number of the camp director listed on the front of your handbook to your emergency contact(s).



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Cell phones work here, although service for Sprint is not great. **Our only stipulation about cell phones is that they are absolutely not to be used (that includes texting) during program/activity times, including meal times and evening programs.** Staffing ratios are pre-determined for specific reasons based on camper acuity and it is important to maintain these ratios for their health and safety.

We ask that you make your personal phone calls and texts early in the morning, prior to camper morning routines, or late at night after campers have gone to bed.

BRADFORD WOODS GENERAL INFORMATION, cont'd

If there is an emergency, please notify your cabin leader or trail group leader prior to making and/or receiving phone calls or texts.

We have asked families not to send cell phones for camper use and it is important that we set a good example. Please do not allow a camper to use your personal cell phone to call family or friends.

Parents of campers are encouraged to call for updates, but we do not allow campers to make calls home. Phone calls home foster homesickness and dependency when they hear Mom or Dad say how much they are missed. We do strongly recommend, however, that parents send surprises, cards, and the like in the mail to maintain special contact during the week. These can be posted over the camper's bed!

Remember to have your friends, family and loved ones send you a care package, letters and cards. You'll really enjoy the pick-me-up during the week.

NOW YOU ARE A COUNSELOR

You are about to embark on one of the most rewarding experiences of your life--the opportunity to enable campers to grow, develop, learn, and enjoy; and you will set the ultimate example in outdoor living, learning, and leadership. You will be the teacher, the parent, the caregiver, the friend and the trusted ally.

What positive things will you add to these children's lives? Will you be the person that makes a difference in his or her life?

If you choose to take the hearts and minds of the campers entrusted to you, to care for them, to share with them, to make them your buddies, to be there for them, to listen to them and to provide guidance, direction and support while at camp, you will make an impression that won't soon be forgotten...not in their lives, not in your life.

Will your camper be the one who is homesick?...the camper who talks all the time?...the one who has been at camp before?...the one who is afraid?...the one who has difficulty communicating?...the one who is not so confident?...the one who clings to you?

What positive contribution will you bring to the lives of these children???

Here are a few ideas to help you catch the CHAMP Camp spirit:

- Think about how you might initiate some cabin activities, such as a cabin cheer or song. Encourage campers to write a journal or to get autographs from others.
- Bring along some favorite children's books to read at quiet time, or find a joke or riddle book and crack each other up. Bring a board game.
- Pack a couple of old scarves, hats, and funny attire. Camp has the potential to make us all a bit crazier. Look at David Powell, for instance.
- If you have some CDs and a boom box, bring them along. Music lifts the spirit and sets the mood. Please be mindful of the music that you bring, we have some young campers
- Leave your DVD's, Laptops and electronic games at home. The campers get enough of that when they are at home. This is camp!
- If you have a special skill to share, don't be shy. Bring your harmonica, guitar, magic tricks (Dr. Chuck), wildflower books, etc. Make a personal goal of teaching a camper one new thing every day!

CHAMP CAMP POLICIES

Everyone's adherence to camp policies is essential to the smooth operation of our camp community.

1. The use and possession of alcoholic beverages of any kind is strictly forbidden.
2. There is to be no smoking or use of any tobacco products on the camp property or in any camp program off the property.
**This policy will be strictly enforced this year due to contract liability. If you are unable to participate fully in camp because of this, please withdraw your application at this time.*
3. The use of marijuana or narcotics is prohibited at any time or at any place.
4. There is to be no use of weapons by counselors or their visitors.
5. Animals may not be brought to camp without the permission of the Camp Director.
6. Personal vehicles will not be used while at camp, specifically not to transport a camper unless indicated necessary in an emergency by the Camp Director.
7. No one is allowed to give rides to campers or counselors in the back of a pick-up truck or wagon where seats are not attached to the vehicle. There is an exception for hayrides (campers and counselors) other vehicles such as golf carts and gators (counselors only) that are driven at slow speeds of 5-10mph.
8. Personal sports equipment should not be used at camp unless otherwise authorized by the Camp Director.
9. Offensive language is not permitted at camp by campers or staff.
10. We will use positive behavior management techniques.
11. If you wish to have a guest visit the campsite, please notify the camp director in advance. Visitations are not permitted by campers' relatives because it creates a difficult and often emotional situation for both the camper and family when they have to say good-bye all over again.
12. Benefits: You understand as a volunteer counselor that normal and ordinary benefits supplied under typical employment are not available through CHAMP Camp.
13. Time Off: The job of a camp counselor involves being on duty in camp, except when on official time off or on unassigned free time in camp. If you are assigned to be up all night, you will be given time off the following morning. We have over 70 terrific counselors at camp and we will try to schedule everyone to have some of their own "regrouping" time during the week, but know that you will be tired and you will share much of your physical and emotional energy during the week.
14. If you are participating in camp "with" a camper you care for at home, you definitely will be a resource for that particular camper, but you will not be required to care for that child 24 hours a day for the entire week. You will have plenty of opportunities for daily interaction and you will be assigned the same cabin, but it is our intention for both camper and counselor to experience some independence and freedom in getting to know and interact with others. Since other staff will be giving you a break from time to time, we ask that you lend a hand and help others care for the other campers as well. We are in this together—share the load!

15. Pranks are a silly, memorable part of every kiddo and counselor at camp. Pranks, however, can become annoying and detract from the overall purpose of camp if they reoccur too frequently, the target is always the same, the prank is always the same, or the prank hurts someone's feelings or disturbs/destroys personal space or items. Please understand that we also do not encourage "adult" pranks, where a counselor antagonizes another counselor. Pranks are meant to be harmless, ridiculous, and funny. At the risk of sounding as though the camp directors have no sense of humor, we are finding it necessary to adhere to several rules regarding pranks. If you are part of a prank, you will be absolutely required to clean it up after it is carried out. Be prepared to repair your "damage" and sooth some ruffled feathers. Campers may NOT be late or excused from any activity because they wish to plan or implement a prank. Counselors who enable this will be in big trouble. Lastly, if as a counselor you are involved in pranks that "are not funny," the camp directors may ask you to pack your bags and hit the road. This may sound harsh, but our evaluations from other counselors (yes, your peers) have indicated that pranks have gotten out of hand. Parents have also expressed concerns with the safety of some pranks as well.
16. Full, wholehearted participation and involvement is part of the job. This means being part of everything that goes on at camp...being on time at all meals, campfires, and activities with the campers.
17. Counselors will be evaluated by the lead nurse and lead RT with guidance from cabin and trail leaders to evaluate the camp experience and to promote further development of counselor skills.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

NEW FOR 2011

At Bradford Woods, there are certain activities that will require us to transport our campers via bus or van to optimize the time they are able to participate in those specific activities.

Bradford Woods will be responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles and for providing drivers to transport our camp.

CHAMP Camp will adhere to the following policy when utilizing Bradford Woods for transportation:

1. The approved supervision ratio of 2.5 counselors to 1 camper will be adhered to even during vehicle transportation.
2. The appropriate medical equipment (wagon) and documentation must remain with campers.

If group is split in two for transportation, this cannot be done until a second set of appropriate equipment and documentation is secured.



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CHAMP Camp believes that, while it is not ideal to use mechanical transportation during an outdoor camp, this will provide the best opportunity for our campers to participate in multiple activities and reduce the wear and tear on their personal equipment.

Time spent in mechanical transportation should be treated just like walking to an activity. Camp songs are highly recommended for travel time. They sound even better when you are closed in a tight space and sing loudly!

JOB DESCRIPTION – CHAMP CAMP COUNSELOR

Responsible to: Camp Director

Minimum Qualifications:

- Desire and ability to work with children
- Love of outdoor environment
- Able to relate well to others
- Competent in a medical specialty or have expertise in area of identified need
- Possess enthusiasm, sense of humor, patience, initiative, self-motivation, and good judgment
- Minimum age is 18 years
- Minimum education required is high school diploma

General Duties:

- A. To identify and meet camper needs by:
 - Actively participating in health care routines
 - Recognizing and responding to opportunities for problem solving
 - Facilitating interaction between camper and camper, camper and staff
 - Encouraging possibilities for success and individual achievement
- B. To carry out camp programs by:
 - Guiding cabin groups/individual campers to full participation in all aspects of camp
 - Reinforcing camp safety regulations
 - Developing cabin activities with campers and other staff as appropriate
 - Supervising all assigned aspects of the campers' day, including wake-up, cabin clean-up, mealtimes, quiet time, medical routines, daily trail groups, evening programs, bedtime
- C. To fulfill other roles by:
 - Actively participating in orientation and staff training, assigned staff meetings
 - Setting a good example for campers including cleanliness, punctuality, sharing chores, sportsmanship, table manners
 - Following camp rules and regulations
 - Encouraging respect for personal property, camp equipment, and the site facility
 - Managing personal time off in accordance with camp policies
 - Maintaining positive public relations with camper's parents
 - Some duties may be reassigned and other duties may be asked of you as required

Essential Functions:

1. Ability to communicate and work with children with varying ages and skills; and provide necessary guidance, support, and supervision to campers at all times.
2. Ability to observe camper behavior and participation, assess appropriateness of such, and enforce safety regulations and emergency procedures.
3. Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other risks related to an activity.

4. Physical endurance to lift/move children and adolescents and their respective equipment.
5. Physical strength and ability to respond appropriately to situations requiring medical intervention.
6. Cognitive ability to provide leadership to achieve camp goals and objectives.

We also welcome counselor applications from former campers, who may be unable to perform essential functions #4 and #5 because of a specific medical diagnosis or physical disability. In such situations, requirements #4 and #5 are waived.

Previous campers who wish to participate as counselors must be independent in their own care and daily living skills OR arrange for their own 24 hour care by bringing a nurse, therapist, or attendant from home, or perhaps two persons, if necessary. These persons will not be counselors to the campers but will be specifically in the role of providing care and support to the particular counselor with special needs.

JOB DESCRIPTION – CHAMP CAMP JUNIOR COUNSELOR

Note: Junior Counselor applicants will be required to complete an application along with a written letter on why they should be considered for a junior counselor position. The Program Committee will then review the documentation to determine maturity and ability to be successful at requirements. All Junior Counselors will be placed in a cabin with campers of the same gender, younger than the Junior Counselor.

Responsible to: Camp Director

Minimum Qualifications:

- Desire and ability to work with children
- Love of outdoor environment
- Able to relate well to others
- Possess enthusiasm, sense of humor, patience, initiative, self-motivation, and good judgment
- Minimum age is 16 years
- Minimum education required is current high school attendance

General Duties:

- A. To identify and meet camper needs by:
 - Actively assisting mentoring counselor in health care routines
 - Recognizing and responding to opportunities for problem solving
 - Facilitating interaction between camper and camper, camper and staff
 - Encouraging possibilities for success and individual achievement
- B. To carry out camp programs by:
 - Assisting to guide cabin groups/individual campers to full participation in all aspects of camp
 - Reinforcing camp safety regulations
 - Developing cabin activities with campers and other staff as appropriate
 - Under the supervision of mentoring counselor, monitor all assigned aspects of the campers' day, including wake-up, cabin clean-up, mealtimes, quiet time, medical routines, daily trail groups, evening programs, bedtime
- C. To fulfill other roles by:
 - Actively participating in orientation and staff training, assigned staff meetings
 - Setting a good example for campers including cleanliness, punctuality, sharing chores, sportsmanship, table manners
 - Following camp rules and regulations
 - Encouraging respect for personal property, camp equipment, and the site facility
 - Managing personal time off in according with camp policies
 - Maintaining positive public relations with camper's parents
 - Some duties may be reassigned and other duties may be asked of you as required

Essential Functions:

1. Ability to communicate and work with children with varying ages and skills; and provide necessary guidance, support, and supervision to campers at all times.
2. Ability to observe camper behavior and participation, assess appropriateness of such, and enforce safety regulations and emergency procedures.
3. Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other risks related to an activity.
4. Physical endurance to lift/move children and adolescents and their respective equipment.
5. Physical strength and ability to respond appropriately to situations requiring medical intervention.
6. Cognitive ability to provide leadership to achieve camp goals and objectives.

We also welcome junior counselor applications from former campers, who may be unable to perform essential functions #4 and #5 because of a specific medical diagnosis or physical disability. In such situations, requirements #4 and #5 are waived.

Previous campers who wish to participate as counselors must be independent in their own care and daily living skills OR arrange for their own 24 hour care by bringing a nurse, therapist, or attendant from home, or perhaps two persons, if necessary. These persons will not be counselors to the campers but will be specifically in the role of providing care and support to the particular counselor with special needs.

CHAMP CAMP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To encourage the limitless potential of the human spirit.
2. To promote self-esteem.
3. To be challenged (intellectually, spiritually, and physically) in an outdoor environment.
4. To develop feelings of independence and achievement.
5. To facilitate a “normal” childhood experience.
6. To experience closeness to nature for children who are housed indoors for the vast majority of days.
7. To provide respite for families who may be caring for a child with a tracheostomy or ventilator.
8. To meet and socialize with others who have similar needs and to build a sense of shared community among children and counselors.
9. To have opportunities to express concerns and fears in a non-threatening environment.
10. To have fun.

HISTORY OF CHAMP CAMP

CHAMP Camp, Inc. had its beginnings in early 1991 when David Carter, a hospital administrator with a respiratory therapy background; and Nancy McCurdy, a child life specialist, had a vision of providing a summer overnight camping experience for children with tracheostomies and those requiring technological and ventilator assistance. Working in the hospital setting, they were involved with children on a daily basis whose lives were being saved by the advances in medical science...many of whom had a diagnosis of quadriplegia...and now felt an ethical responsibility to make sure these young people had opportunities to experience and enjoy life. Because of the medical fragility and vulnerability associated with “living” on a ventilator and the necessity for round the clock supervision and care, these children were not able to participate in other camping programs. They were determined to make the outdoors accessible to these potential campers. Research showed that there were only a handful of other camps in the country serving this target population. A Steering Committee began meeting in May 1991 to accomplish this mission.

With the strong logistical support of Lifelines Children’s Rehabilitation Hospital, once located in central Indiana, and financial gifts from individuals and several businesses in the community, a weekend pilot program was launched at Camp Isanogel in Muncie, Indiana in August 1991. It was a memorable time full of new and exciting experiences! Our second year of camp was held at Bradford Woods, near Martinsville, Indiana. Since summer 1993, CHAMP Camp has found a home at Recreation Unlimited in Ashley, Ohio, just north of Columbus. The number of campers participating has grown each year, with campers traveling from thirteen states to participate. In the summer of 1998, additional enrichment experiences were introduced for adolescents and their changing needs and interests. In 2011, CHAMP Camp made the decision to return to Bradford Woods bringing camp back to Indiana.

Program development has been extraordinary. Camp activities included canoeing, horseback riding, climbing a 50 foot alpine tower, fishing, swimming, recreational games, creative arts, outdoor living skills, pontoon boating, and nature and stream study.

Our exceptional volunteer staff, comprised primarily of health care professionals, has adapted activities and equipment so that campers may be fully involved. We are most certainly a “can-do” camp!

CHAMP Camp received its incorporated status from the State of Indiana on August 23, 1991. We established a nonprofit, 501c3 status with the Internal Revenue Service, and contributors may make tax-deductible donations. We are funded by the generosity of individuals and corporations, grants from foundations, and through special events, including our annual Silver Sneaker Benefit Ball.

Camp leadership is provided by an active, committed Board of Directors who meet bi-monthly. The Board of Directors is dedicated to financial stability and responsibility. They communicate our mission and needs to the community at large. CHAMP Camp employs one part-time employee at the present time and utilizes the talents of over 100 volunteers on an annual basis. CHAMP Camp has successfully achieved camp accreditation with the American Camping Association and meets the high standards of the camping industry.

CHAMP CAMP MISSION STATEMENT

We believe in the limitless potential of the human spirit. CHAMP Camp provides extraordinary opportunities for recreation, socialization, education, and public awareness.

Our outdoor activities and enrichment experiences foster tremendous self-esteem and independence for children and adolescents with tracheostomies and those requiring respiratory assistance.

We encourage others who support our ideals and philosophy, and we promote growth and understanding of this unique and exceptional population.

CHAMP CAMP PHILOSOPHY

CHAMP Camp is not a physical place, but a community where children who are technologically-assisted experience the wonder, beauty, and challenge of the outdoors. The American Camping Association accredits our program; and we utilize facilities that adhere to site regulations outlined by the ACA.

It is a community where campers and counselors think of each other first; giving and receiving from each other; and supporting each other in our feelings and experiences.

It is a community where health care professionals become counselors, modeling their love of the experience; allowing kids to be kids; and making medical arrangements as to not compromise the adventure and enjoyment of camp.

It is a community rich with personal expression, individual differences, and opportunities to grow and succeed physically, intellectually, emotionally, and socially, and “discover one's place in the sun.”

SUPPLY LIST for COUNSELORS

- Laundry bag
- Backpack/fanny pack
- Flashlight and batteries
- Hat
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Jeans
- Kleenex
- Sleepwear
- Pillow
- Poncho or raingear
- Sheets (single size); warm blanket, quilt or sleeping bag
- **Shirts/long and short-sleeved
- Shorts
- Sneakers or deck shoes (Beware of squished toes if you wear sandals)
- Flip Flops for shower and pool
- Socks
- Sunglasses
- Sweatshirt/jacket
- Windbreaker
- **Swimming Suit (Girls: one piece suits only please)
- Beach towel
- Toilet articles (soap, shampoo, toothbrush, comb, etc.)
- Towel/washcloth
- Umbrella
- Underwear
- Water bottle

Optional Items:

- Camera and Film
- Fishing Pole
- Guitar
- Boom Box and CDs
- Crafts and Books
(for Quiet Time/Skits)

*****Please remember that we have adolescent girls and boys present at camp. Swimsuits and tank tops should adequately cover cleavage and derrieres. Please avoid spaghetti straps and shirts that are low-cut in the armpits and/or chest. We have some pictures from last year that might make you wonder if anyone read this particular reminder!***

A WORD ABOUT FOOD

Camp emphasizes good nutrition, and although we have “camp food” three times a day, Jennie and her staff do the best to keep us fed and happy! We will all eat together in the dining hall at our specified times. If you choose to bring your own snacks, they must be kept with your name on them in the staff cupboard or refrigerator. We would expect you to use good judgment and common courtesy when enjoying them. Your food from home is not an acceptable substitute for campers or counselors who don't like our menu!

Also, it will be important to be sensitive to any allergies AND others who utilize the camp facility who should absolutely not have access to your food.

No alcoholic beverages are permitted on the camp property.

“So You Are Off to Summer Camp”
Excerpts from the book by Margaret Queen

1. Good friends are worth their weight in gummy worms.
2. Hang up your towel. A wet towel thrown in the corner overnight really smells bad the next day.
3. Take a sturdy flashlight, one that won't break the first time you drop it.
4. Put on fresh sox and underwear everyday. Just because they still look white doesn't mean they are clean.
5. Do something nice for one of your fellow counselors.
6. Bring some zany clothes to camp, especially outrageous hats. Try to out do Dave Powell.
7. Don't bring expensive, coordinated outfits. You'll look too much like Dr. Chuck.
8. Be a role model. Wear your sunscreen and eat your vegetables. The campers will be impressed.
9. Take lots of pictures and keep one in a frame on your desk during the winter months.
10. Don't rush, flush! The next person will appreciate it!
11. Learn the camp table blessing.
12. Every day, pick one camper you don't really know and get acquainted.
13. Keep dirty clothes in a laundry bag, not stuffed under your bed.
14. There are no bats in our cabins to get entangled in your hair, so no need to sleep with a shower cap on.
15. Try to sleep. Camp days are full of activities and you'll need some rest.
16. Bring your sense of humor. It's a fine attitude to have at camp.
17. You'll survive without TV, an iron, electric rollers and sex.
18. Nobody enjoys being around a chronic complainer.
19. Leave anything really valuable or highly breakable at home.
20. Brush your teeth.
21. Help a camper catch some fireflies or identify some constellations. Everyone likes to wish on a star!
22. Sweeping is an important job.
23. Don't slam cabin doors.

24. Remember to respect ants, spiders, nests, and wild mushrooms. This is their home. You are just a visitor.
25. It's great fun to catch toads, butterflies, turtles and salamanders. Enjoy getting acquainted and then set them free.
26. Don't gripe about the rustic nature of camp. This is not the Hyatt. This is not the hospital.
27. Volunteer to play right field.
28. Don't worry about your weight at camp.
29. Bring more socks than you will need.
30. Help clear the tables. Compliment the camp cooks. Remember this is camp food.
31. Don't leave open bags of Doritos or Oreos in your cabin unless you want visitors (mostly other counselors!).
32. If you play a musical instrument, bring it. Camp is a great place to share your talent.
33. Go back to camp for several summers. You will renew friendships, feel connected, and enjoy being a veteran.
34. Keep your toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and shampoo in a plastic bucket that you can easily carry to the shower. Flip flops are nice, too.
35. Bring pictures of your family, friends and pets to tack up by your bunk.
36. Bring insect repellent. Mosquitoes seem to know if you left yours at home.
37. Encourage your loved ones to write you at camp...and don't forget to leave little notes for all the campers on their pillows.
38. If you are given a nickname at camp, consider it a compliment. Just ask James "Tex" Gooch.
39. Don't make a fellow counselor wish you lived in another cabin.
40. An empty sneaker holds your glasses or watch really well.
41. If your camp experience isn't what you think it should be, don't wait until it's over to speak up. Talk to one of the Leadership Team.
42. Let the campers go first.
43. Listen to the creatures that produce your bedtime lullaby (other than the vents.)
44. If someone in your cabin has a birthday, make it a big deal.
45. It is sometimes said that camp is not the real world...isn't that too bad?