



# Counselor

## Elaine Quirke- Nursing Student

Elaine first joined us for camp as in 2022 at the recommendation of her mom when we were searching for more counselors. We asked her for some insight about her time at camp.

**How did you get involved with camp?** I first started camp due to my mom seeing some posts about the need for counselors for camp one year. She had done camp almost 20 years earlier, actually a year before I was born, and never got the chance to go back due to her having kids. She had loved her experience at CHAMP Camp, and thought that I would get a lot out of the experience as well.

**What inspired you to keep come back after your first year?** The entire experience of camp was what made me come back. After my first year at camp, I had so much more passion in the job I worked at the time, and realized what kind of nurse I wanted to be partly through camp. My first year at camp was one of the best weeks of that year for me, and I wanted to experience the joy you have at camp again from seeing the campers grow and become more confident throughout the week of camp.

**As a young person either in or pursuing a medical career, how do you think camp helped you to be a better clinician?** Camp has reminded me of why I want to work in healthcare and why I want to be a nurse, and camp has also helped me to navigate worst-case scenarios. Understanding what to do in case of emergency is always necessary within a medical career, but camp helps you focus on that action plan and keeps you aware of it. Camp also made me a kinder and more receptive clinician, and has made me more flexible with patients.

**What does attending camp do for you both personally and professionally?**

Personally, CHAMP Camp is a week of the year where you can be young and have fun with the campers, and professionally, CHAMP Camp has reminded me of why I want to go into healthcare and about how the holistic focus and approach of nursing works. CHAMP Camp has reminded me of what my view on providing care to people is, and has allowed me to focus on that view and reflect that view in the care I provide.

**Why should a student pursuing a medical career come to CHAMP Camp?** Anyone seeking or curious about a medical career should check out CHAMP camp because it gives you the opportunity to work with many different health professionals. You're also given the option to jump right in and learn some new skills you may not have learned in your everyday life.

## 2022 - 2023

Thanks for  
referring her mom!

