

Counselor

Chris Mead - Respiratory Therapist

Chris is a quiet, confident presence at camp. We appreciate that in his role as Lead RT in our big boys cabin....RAYMOND!

You started as a counselor as a respiratory therapy student from Ohio State University. How many years ago was that and why did you want to participate in camp? I started as a student in 2017. I wanted to keep coming back to camp after my student year because I could feel the connection that everyone had to both counselors and campers. When it came to be the end of my first week and we were returning from the closing ceremonies, one of the campers asked if I'd come back the next year, which was pretty unexpected because I didn't get the opportunity to get to know him as well as the other campers in the cabin that week. That stayed with me, and was the first thing I thought of when I got the email to apply for camp the next year.

How has your experience changed from your first year to this last year?

First year was a lot of nerves and trying to get the rhythm of camp, how the campers liked to do things, and getting the hang of how campers and counselors do things. The first few days I was so focused on doing my job as a respiratory student that I think I forgot camp is supposed to be fun. Since then I feel a lot more comfortable, have a better sense of what to expect and what camp is all about, and feel like I can be a resource for our new counselors as well as campers.

What impact does camp have on your personal and professional life?

Camp is something to look forward to each summer. It is a nice break from the usual every day tasks of your work (especially as someone that works primarily with adults). Personally, I have met so many incredible people with incredible stories through camp and seeing them each summer and sharing these memories with them is an unbelievable honor. It always amazes me the impact that camp has for the short time that we're together.

What advice would you give someone who is considering becoming a counselor?

Absolutely do it. It is a long week, but the memories we make and experiences we share can't be found anywhere else.



Chris keeps our campers safe and provides a fun experience for all!



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