

Special Persons Camp Counselor

Accountability

The Counselor is accountable to the Special Persons Camp Director and the Volunteer Dean.

Qualifications

1. Eighteen (18) years old or older preferred.
2. High school diploma or equivalent work experience preferred.
3. Understanding and supportive of the goals for Christian Camping at Wanake.
4. Understanding and supportive of basic beliefs of the United Methodist Church and the Discipline.
5. Demonstrated ability to relate to other counselors, support staff, children, and youth.

Additional qualifications preferred

1. Certification in first aid, CPR, Wilderness First Aid, and/or Lifeguard Training.
2. Prior experience in one or more of the following areas: leading or assisting adults with developmental disabilities.

Primary Responsibilities

1. Be on a team with a summer staff peer or volunteer 24 hours each day for a small group of campers, providing all the leadership and supervision for that small group.
 - a. Greet and orient campers to the site.
 - b. Interact with campers, getting to know each camper individually.
 - c. Lead Bible studies, discussions, prayer and activities in such a way that Christ is lived and campers are encouraged to ask questions, explore, grow, and practice being Christians.
 - d. Share your personal spiritual journey with campers in positive and encouraging ways
 - e. Foster campers' leadership skills.
 - f. Help campers experience and enjoy the special emphasis of the week.
 - g. Care for the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being of campers.
 - h. Take care of camp, the cabin or shelter, inventory equipment, clean and maintain facilities, and use resources wisely.
2. Assist in planning the week in conjunction with the dean, and other Special Persons personnel.
3. Prepare your site and equipment for the week ahead of camper arrival and leave the site ready for the next week as your week concludes.
4. Prepare for each week of camp with a briefing with the area director; time spent planning Bible studies, charts and reviewing the schedule with your co-counselor; moving into your living location before noon on Sunday; and reading get acquainted forms from the campers.
5. Participate in the debriefing and evaluations with the area director and your co-counselor at the end of each week's session.
6. Share joys and concerns about the program and the campers with your co-counselor and the area director on a daily basis. Take time to pray about joys and concerns and be open to the leading, correction, and suggestions of the Holy Spirit, the area director, and your co-counselor.
7. Take photographs and/or save quotes that may be of use in marketing future seasons.
8. Sanitization of cabin, eating locations and other assigned areas.

Essential Functions

1. Ability to communicate and work with groups participating (age and skill levels vary throughout the programs), and provide necessary instruction to campers.
2. Abilities to observe camper behavior, assess its appropriateness, enforce appropriate safety regulations, and emergency procedures, and apply appropriate behavior-management techniques.
3. Visual and auditory ability to identify and respond to environmental and other hazards related to the activity.
4. Ability to receive and respond to written and verbal communications from supervisor and co-counselor.
5. Possess physical strength and endurance required to maintain constant supervision of campers.
6. Able to assist campers in an emergency (fire, evacuation, illness, or injury).