



WESTWIND

Job Description

Job Title: **Teen Counselor**
Classification: **Hourly, Non-exempt**
Reports to: **Unit Coordinator**

Position Purpose:

The Teen Counselor will be responsible for supervising and engaging campers, attending meetings, and providing support to other staff. The key to this position is to ensure the campers experience is positive while prioritizing safety. This includes completing camper evaluations, supporting campers, and fostering positive experiences.

Essential Job Functions:

Assist in the direction, supervision, and organization of teen campers in their tents and living areas, within activities, and throughout the camp in order to support Westwind's mission.

- Apply basic youth development principles in working with teen campers through communication, relationship development, respect for diversity, involvement and empowerment of youth.
- Assure teen campers are always properly supervised.
- Be aware of and implement safety guidelines.

Participate in and facilitate the development and implementation of program activities for campers within the mission.

- Responsible for developing, leading or assisting with the teaching of activities.
- Actively participate in all program areas as assigned.
- Provide for the progression of activities within the framework of individual and group interests and abilities.
- Assist in program areas such as hiking, backpacking, camping, waterfront, nature, all camp activities, and arts and crafts as directed.

Maintain high standards of health and safety in all activities for all staff and teen campers.

- Provide the daily care of each camper within your supervision including recognition of personal health needs.
- Ensure that teen campers receive their medications as directed by the camp nurse.
- Be alert to teen campers needs and assist them with personal and/or health problems and discuss with the nurse and/or camp director when appropriate.
- Be alert to equipment and facilities to ensure utilization, proper care, and maintenance is adhered to; report repairs needed promptly to the Camp Director.
- Assist in meal service and ensure food safety protocols are followed.

Be a role model to staff and teen campers in your attitude and behavior.

- Follow and uphold all safety and security rules and procedures.
- Set a good example to teen campers and others regarding general camp procedures and practices including sanitation, schedule, and sportsmanship.

Qualifications: *(Optimal Education and Experience)*

- Minimum age of 19
- Must be able to lift minimum 30 pounds
- 2-3 years of experience working with youth (ages 13-16 preferred)
- First Aid/CPR certification required, WFR or WFA preferred
- Experience with outdoor skills and outdoor leadership
- Comfort with multi-tasking and making decisions in a leadership position
- Experience with problem-solving in a fast-paced working environment
- Ability to be flexible and adaptable
- Strong communication, written, and public speaking skills
- Ability to practice self care and maintain a sense of humor
- Organized and consistent

Physical Aspects of the Job:

- Ability to lift and carry 30 pounds
- Visual ability to identify and respond to environmental hazards
- Physical ability to operate basic maintenance and site equipment
- Physical mobility and endurance to respond to emergencies or programs that may require hiking or traveling distances up to 1+ miles on trails or in wilderness areas