



Cheshire County YMCA / Camp Takodah



JOB DESCRIPTION — CABIN LEADER

LENGTH OF SEASON

Five weeks (four weeks of boys' or girls' camp, plus one week of orientation)

MINIMUM BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Sincere interest in living and working with children
- Positive presentation of personal character, personality, appearance, and maturity
- Strong communications skills; a team player, team leader, and team builder
- Ability to relate to both individuals and groups in a warm, positive manner
- Previous camp and/or youth work experience desirable and helpful
- Teaching ability
- Camp-related skills (aquatics, athletics, hobbies, etc.) desirable
- Ability to assimilate the diversity of individuals' uniqueness into team effort
- Acceptance of the commitment to the Camp Takodah personnel procedures and practices

AGE/EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS

- College-age students are our goal
- High school graduates with camp experience are welcome

RESPONSIBLE TO

- Division Head (of assigned age group division)
- Camp Director(s) - in areas of program, personnel, and administration

OBJECTIVE

Camp Takodah's stated objectives are to

- Stimulate positive interpersonal friendships
- Foster individual growth and self-discipline
- Encourage independence and self confidence, while recognizing the worth of all persons
- Teach new skills
- Cultivate leadership potential
- Sharpen an appreciation of God's creations
- Nurture friendships and memories that will last a lifetime

Resident Camp Takodah is a unique environment that provides tremendous growth opportunities for campers and leaders alike. Our major focus is on camper growth and development, according to our above stated objectives. The cabin leader is the most critical position on our camp staff, being the person closest to the implementation of our purpose. The cabin leader creates the environment within her/his cabin for these objectives to be realized.

The leader represents the adult influence in a camper's life, and at different times can be a substitute parent, older sibling, older friend, teacher, spiritual leader - and often a combination of all these things.

Cabin leadership includes the responsibility for living with and directing the activities of a specific age group of campers; maintaining discipline and control; providing a positive residential group experience for the group and providing a positive role model for all campers.

PRIME RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Be a live-in leader (24 hours a day) and supervisor of a group of eight to ten campers; responsible for each camper's health, safety, and participation in all aspects of camp life. This responsibility demands enthusiasm, humor, patience, energy, maturity, focus, and creativity on a continual basis in order to be an effective leader.
2. Leaders are to at all times represent themselves as positive role models to all campers during programs and in cabins; in conversation, dress, grooming, manners, actions, and appearance.

SPECIFIC SEGMENTS

1. Attend and participate in orientation week (one week prior to camp opening)
2. Meet and greet incoming campers and parents; help with check-out of campers during closing
3. Assist with planning and leadership of assigned program instruction areas, division activities, special events, and evening programs
4. Attend all meals with assigned cabin group and supervise them in the dining hall as to manners, clean-up behavior, and eating habits
5. Assist campers in observing positive daily health habits
6. Plan, supervise, and participate in all cabin - oriented activities; and supervise assigned campers in all total -camp activities
7. Assist campers in adjusting to, understanding, and enjoyment of camp schedules, activities, and camp life
8. Function as an adult with parenting skills toward all campers in your care
9. Use positive forms of control in maintaining camper discipline - reinforcement of good behavior is always desired over punishment of bad behavior
10. Instruct or assist in assigned daily program activities (sports, hobbies, aquatics)
11. Become a warm, functional member of the Camp Takodah Staff Family
12. Exhibit an ability to take guidance and supervision (from the leadership staff)
13. Complete all assigned evaluations and camp paperwork on time as required.
14. Maintain cleanliness and safety in cabin, division, an total camp areas and activities.
15. Pay attention to your own mental and physical condition, taking necessary measures to ensure your own health and well-being - inform the Camp Director of special needs as they arise
16. Work and live in accordance with Takodah's personnel procedures and practices