

Summer Camp Counselor

Rising Treetops at Oakhurst

Location: Oakhurst, New Jersey

Position Type: Seasonal (In-Person)

Dates: Summer Season (June through August)

Housing: Room and board provided

Position Overview

Since 1906, Rising Treetops at Oakhurst has provided year-round services to children and adults with special needs through summer camp, overnight respite (planned and emergency), and day respite care programs.

Summer Camp Counselors provide direct care and supervision to campers, supporting their daily living needs while creating a fun, safe, and inclusive camp environment. Staff receive training to meet the diverse needs of individuals with a wide range of abilities, including autism.

Position Goal

The goal of this position is to support campers in successfully adjusting to the camp environment, meet their physical care needs in accordance with organizational policies, and provide opportunities to participate in engaging and adapted recreational activities.

Camper Care Responsibilities

- Assist campers with activities of daily living, including dressing, bathing, feeding, toileting, and transfers
 - Safely lift and support campers (must be able to lift 50+ lbs.)
 - Learn and follow individualized care needs through direct communication, briefings, and documentation
 - Monitor and respond to camper needs, including toileting routines, medication schedules, allergies, and health precautions
 - Provide care in a safe, respectful, and dignified manner, following proper hygiene and safety protocols
 - Report discrepancies between documented care needs and actual needs to a supervisor
 - Document care discrepancies within required timeframes
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Camper Support & Adjustment Responsibilities

- Prepare for camper arrivals (bed setup, cabin organization, labeling personal spaces, etc.)
- Foster a sense of belonging and emotional safety for each camper
- Maintain a clean, safe, and organized cabin environment
- Encourage cooperation, independence, and respect for others
- Address and discourage bullying, aggression, or inappropriate behavior
- Set consistent expectations in collaboration with team members
- Implement approved behavior support strategies

Program & Activity Responsibilities

- Assist with group activities such as recreation, media arts, arts & crafts, cooking, drama, swimming, nature, music, trips and evening activity
- Adapt activities to meet individual physical, cognitive, and social needs
- Encourage participation and engagement from all campers
- Maintain and return program supplies appropriately
- Support fellow staff in activities and contribute to a positive team environment
- Help create an energetic, inclusive, and memorable camp experience

General Responsibilities

- Follow assigned duty and program schedules, maintaining punctuality
- Assume leadership roles such as Overnight Duty (OD) when assigned
- Attend meetings when requested, briefings, and complete camper evaluations
- Maintain confidentiality at all times
- Report health concerns and incidents to Health Center Staff promptly
- Conduct clothing inventories at the beginning and end of sessions
- Remain on duty during emergencies
- Immediately report any suspected or observed abuse or neglect to a supervisor or director

Qualifications

- Ability to pass a background check
- Ability to meet the physical demands of the position
- Strong communication, teamwork, and interpersonal skills
- Willingness to learn and follow established policies and procedures
- Experience working with children or individuals with special needs is preferred but not required

Additional Information

- This is a seasonal summer position with potential opportunities for future employment
- Room and board provided for the duration of the summer season
- This position is not remote

How to Apply

Please submit your resume for review to csutherland@risingtreetops.org. Qualified candidates will be contacted directly.