

Journey's End Farm Camp

364 Sterling Road, Newfoundland, PA 18445 T: 570.689.3911

What We Hope For

Our aim at Journey's End—besides having fun—is to help children grow. To do this, we try to create a supportive, cooperative community that responds to each camper as an individual. We hope that each child's time here will increase their ability to live in harmony with each other and with nature. We also hope that being at camp will help each child to become more committed to these goals.

Our actions teach our values much more strongly than our words. As an influential role model to the campers, we hope you will:

- Enjoy working and playing with children
- Be positive toward others
- Favor cooperation over competition
- Be hard-working [and enjoy it!]
- Be listeners: to children, to each other, to nature, to the voice within yourself
- Appreciate quietness as well as activity
- Communicate freely, sincerely, and sensitively
- Be committed to nonviolent resolution of conflicts
- Be non-sexist and non-racist
- Enjoy a rustic lifestyle with few conveniences
- Be patient, understanding, and flexible
- Place the needs of children, and camp as a whole, before personal desires
- Be able to handle stress
- Appreciate the natural world and want to preserve and care for it
- Be prepared to get up by 7 a.m. each day (except cooks)

Some Requirements:

We feel strongly about the following, as we are all role models for the campers we live, work, and play with. If you cannot willingly and cheerfully abide by these policies, you should **not** apply to work at Journey's End.

STAFF SHOULD NOT USE TOBACCO

STAFF SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOL

STAFF SHOULD NOT USE ANY OTHER RECREATIONAL OR ILLEGAL DRUG

Staff should not communicate an attitude that promotes the use of any of the above.

ALSO: If you need a significant amount of personal or private time on a daily basis, this type of job may not be for you.

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Counselor Helper Job Description

Counselor helpers are generally high school age (16 or 17 years old), and are invited to join the staff for part of the summer -- one or two sessions. Helpers may take a turn helping the cook in the kitchen once or twice per week, and may wash dishes a little more often than counselors, and if so would have a little more time off. Counselor helpers get one day off per week, from daylight/6 am until supper/6 pm. Once you feel experienced and comfortable with your role, there will be opportunities to take leadership for daily activities or other daily tasks. Helpers, especially if returning for a second year, may put forth as much effort as a counselor, and take on most of the same tasks. This is your opportunity to see how well you adapt as a counselor, and see if it is right for you.

Your role is very similar to that of a counselor, although counselors are expected to take more of a leadership role in most areas, while you will assist in more of a support role. You *will* be as much of a role model to the campers as any staff member, and it is important that you are ready for that. *It is tiring work*, more so than you might imagine if you are a former camper. (The daily workings are now partly your responsibility.) If you are prepared for the work, it should also be very rewarding and a lot of fun. It does require a lot of positive energy focused on providing a high quality experience for *all* campers. **This often requires putting the needs of others ahead of your own.** If you have done babysitting or other types of child care, you probably already know that working with children is demanding of time and energy, patience, and understanding beyond the usual limits. Our rewards are usually proportionate to our efforts.

If you are under 18, the Camp Directors are acting as your parents/guardians while you are employed at Journey's End, and respect for their authority should be acknowledged. If a director, assistant director, or coworker offers you advice or counsel on the job, it is expected that you will respond to their direction, if not immediately then in consultation with an assistant director that same day.

Camp life is simple and rustic. You will be sharing the (mostly) unlighted bunkhouses with the campers. Bathrooms (with shower, sink, and toilet) are a short walk from the sleeping quarters. We hope that you are not dependent on electronic entertainment. If you bring an iPod or cell phone, please limit use to days off away from campers. Laptops must be kept on the counselor porch, and we ask that you keep their use to a minimum.

Compensation is minimal, especially for younger less-experienced helpers, and generally starts at \$45 per week for a first year (16-year-old) helper. Second year compensation is generally a bit more, the amount being at the discretion of the director. Certified lifeguards earn an additional \$40/week, and we always need this skill so you may want to consider joining a certification program in the winter/spring.

Hiring prospects:

In recent years, the desire to be a counselor helper ("junior counselor" etc.) has become increasingly strong among former JE campers. While this gives us many prospects to choose from, it also means that each year it is likely that several of you will not get hired. We also consider applicants who have not been at Journey's End before if they are otherwise qualified and interested. Generally 17-year-olds have priority over 16-year-olds, but all hiring decisions are at our discretion. If we do not hire you it does not mean that you would not make a good counselor. We may simply have too many strong candidates to choose from.

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New Helper Application 2010

Name:	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Birth Date: __/__/____	SSN:
Occupation:	E-mail:		
Present Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Present Telephone #:	Permanent Telephone #:		
Permanent Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Name of Parent(s):			
Years of High School at:	Main Interests:		
Other education/training:			
Major interests (academic, recreational, hobbies):			

Availability:

<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Session III
<input type="checkbox"/> Session I	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Camp
<input type="checkbox"/> Session II	

Please note: our preference is to hire former staff for Family Camp, but if you're available please let us know anyway.

Staff Training: (1 week) June 21 – June 26*
 Session 1: (2 weeks) June 27 – July 10
 Session 2: (3 weeks) July 11 – July 31
 Session 3: (2 weeks) August 1 – Aug. 14
 Family Camp: (1 week) August 16 – 22
***Required**

Skills: Indicate your level of knowledge, skill and interest by a 1 or 2

- 1) Indicates you have knowledge and experience and feel confident taking a leadership role along with a counselor.
- 2) If someone else takes the main responsibility you would like to learn by assisting.

[Please mark only those skills with which you would like to work with children.]

<input type="checkbox"/> Pottery <input type="checkbox"/> throwing <input type="checkbox"/> firing	<input type="checkbox"/> Pond/stream study	<input type="checkbox"/> Animal care
<input type="checkbox"/> Dramatics	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Study	<input type="checkbox"/> Farm maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Crafts	<input type="checkbox"/> Nature crafts	<input type="checkbox"/> Gardening
<input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor/cooperative games	<input type="checkbox"/> Maps/orienteering	<input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking (hand tools)
<input type="checkbox"/> Soccer/Frisbee	<input type="checkbox"/> Minimum impact camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifeguarding
<input type="checkbox"/> Song leading	<input type="checkbox"/> Overnight camping	<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming/boating
<input type="checkbox"/> Musical instruments (list):	<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking/backpacking	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing
<input type="checkbox"/> Auto mechanics	<input type="checkbox"/> Firecraft/outdoor cooking	<input type="checkbox"/> Quantity cooking
<input type="checkbox"/> Knife/axe safety & use	<input type="checkbox"/> Edible wild plants	<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbing
<input type="checkbox"/> Electrician skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

Describe your proficiency in all of the following in which you have experience:

Hand garden tools:	Tractor driving:
Weed identification:	Farm maintenance/repairs:
Garden rototiller:	Lawnmower:
Conflict resolution:	Power tools:
Head checks & lice detection:	Care of sick or injured children:

Certifications: Indicate expiration date of certifying organization:

<input type="checkbox"/> Lifeguarding:	<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid:
<input type="checkbox"/> CPR:	<input type="checkbox"/> EMT or Wilderness First Aid:
<input type="checkbox"/> CDL/Chauffeur's license:	<input type="checkbox"/> Driver's license #: State:

Please list contact information (name and phone and e-mail) for at least 2 adults not related to you who know you well. It's helpful if these persons are familiar with your interactions with children younger than yourself. Ask their permission before listing them here.

Reference 1:	Relationship:
Telephone #:	E-mail address:
Reference 2:	Relationship:
Telephone #:	E-mail address:

Please read the job description for helpers, the Journey's End philosophy (ask Kristin to e-mail an attachment if you didn't receive it), and "What We Hope For" before answering the questions on the following page and signing your application.

I realize that as a Journey's End staff member I will be expected to observe reasonable bedtime hours (11p.m. or what we agree on as a staff during staff week) on a regular basis, and be ready to function by 7:00a.m. I look forward to spending the summer without tobacco, alcohol and other illegal/recreational drugs.

(applicant signature)

(date)

Use back or additional sheet if you wish...

1) How fully do you support our camp philosophy? Which part of the JE philosophy speaks to you most strongly?

2) What are the strengths that you look forward to sharing with the Journey's End community?

3) Based on your current knowledge of Journey's End and yourself, what do you think will be the biggest challenge for you as a helper?

4) Have you had opportunities to interact with people whose background/lifestyle is different from yours? In what ways did this feel comfortable or uncomfortable?

5) If you are a former J.E. camper, what were the most important things you gained from that experience? How do you think being a helper will be different?

6) Please tell us why you believe that you are prepared to be a nurturing role model for campers.

- 7) Describe any other summer camp experiences you may have had that had an impact on you.
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- 8) If question 7 doesn't apply to you, how have you spent your last few summers?
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- 9) Do you have any special dietary requirements or preferences we should know about ahead of time (food allergies, vegetarian, vegan, high protein diet, etc.)? If you are vegan how willing are you to eat foods prepared with Journey's End milk or eggs as ingredients?
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- 10) What physical, mental and/or emotional health issues, if any, do you have that would impact your ability to function well as a counselor helper?
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- 11) While we strive for Journey's End to provide a low- or no-tech experience for counselors, helpers, and campers, we recognize that staff may occasionally need to be online during the summer. Do you anticipate needing to spend significant time with phone calls and/or e-mail? If yes, please clarify.
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- 12) Are you able to thrive away from TV shows, cell phone, e-mail and pre-recorded music?
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- 13) If you are not certified as a lifeguard, would you be interested in taking the course in your area?
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- 14) How willing are you to spend a summer without tobacco, alcohol, or illegal / "recreational" drugs? Are you able to function at top performance without these?
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- 15) Have you ever been indicted or convicted of abuse or a sexual offense? If so please explain the circumstances.
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- 16) As a JE helper, you would be away from parental guidance (perhaps for the first time) in a working situation that is also a social situation. This requires that you rely on *yourself* to get enough rest to do your job well every day. If you don't, it places a burden on other staff to cover your responsibilities in ways that you might not see. How would you rate your ability to maintain a healthy balance of work, sleep, and play?
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