

Journey's End Farm Camp

364 Sterling Road, Newfoundland, PA 18445 T: 570.689.3911

Journey's End Philosophy

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.

We as staff must realize that our actions teach our values much more strongly than our words. We are influential role models to 100 campers each summer for a brief--yet powerful--two or three weeks. Here are some of the basic ideas which underlie our approach to camp life at Journey's End.

1. Positive Reinforcement: All children are potentially happy, considerate, and enjoyable. We try to respond to their best qualities. The best response to negative behavior is not punishment, but helping the child to do better. We use no physical punishment, and we try not to use verbal put-downs or sarcasm.
2. Cooperation and respect for others: Children need practice in working together rather than competing against each other. Sports are very low-key here, with winners on all teams. The basis of cooperation is learning to respect other people as being equally important as oneself. In this spirit of Quaker consensus, we approach conflicts with the aim of reaching a solution that is good for everyone, not just good for one person or for the majority.
3. Simplicity: We show the children that they can be happy with much less than they think. Without TVs or other electronic entertainment, we focus attention on "homegrown" activities that rely on our own resources and creativity. A farm is an ideal setting to demonstrate this, but we hope that they will realize that it applies everywhere. What is in our spirit is more important than what is in our house or our bank account. Simplicity is also an important basis for our stand against smoking, drinking, and drug use by staff. We feel that genuine well-being does not come from chemicals.
4. Self-discipline: We are here not to impose discipline, but to teach it. The children do not make the camp rules, but they are made aware of the reasons behind the rules. Rules here grow out of necessity--they are not made to teach obedience. Therefore, when asked "Why do we have to do this?" the best response is a direct, reasonable answer without evasion or intimidation. The campers participate in enough planning that they are motivated out of their own enthusiasm, with a minimum of coercion.
5. Responsibility: There is no better place than a farm to demonstrate the necessity of working to take care of one's own needs. We believe that if children learn to take responsibility for their needs, then they will--as adults--be less likely to exploit others to do their work for them. The campers keep the bunkhouses clean, set tables, wash dishes, clean the bathrooms, and help with the farm and garden chores. An enthusiastic staff is invaluable in transmitting an acceptance of work as a necessary and enjoyable part of living. For many urban children, accustomed to supermarket food and labor-saving appliances (or maids), this will be a new experience. The staff role is to teach work skills or learn along with the campers. Help kids do the work without doing it for them.
6. Quiet and listening: If we are constantly active or making noise, we cannot listen. Every child needs to learn the skill of pausing to hear what others are saying, to notice beauty, to be aware of other people's feelings, or to hear what their own inner wisdom may be trying to tell them. Counselors need to be calming influences, rather than rabble-rousers. We have a short quiet time for observations and reflections every morning after dorm work, and a longer one on Sunday mornings. Camp-outs, hikes, and tipi trips are also opportunities for learning to be quiet and hear what is going on in our natural surroundings.

Through all of what we do, it is crucial to be aware of the individuality of each child. Each has different needs and strengths. It is our job to help each camper to be a happy and constructive part of the group. Stay flexible in your approach.

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What We Hope For

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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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Camp Nurse Responsibilities

As of 2008 head checks for lice are done immediately upon camper arrival prior to bunk assignments.

Check campers in on arrival day, collect meds and vitamins, talk with parents about any concerns, make sure medical form is in order and release is signed. Record height, weight and temperature.

Alert staff of noteworthy conditions/situations/needs re: medical form info, parental consultation, or check-in. We may ask for a presentation during staff orientation week on a pertinent health topic or standard procedures for injuries.

Oversee/dispense daily medications and supplements. Make health announcements as needed. (Ex: wash hands, drink water, wear a sun hat, etc.)

Care for injuries or illness that may occur. Serious conditions will be referred to camp physician(s). Pediatric Practices—3 miles. Wayne Memorial Hospital—22 miles. Call parents as needed.

Complete accident report for our camp insurance agency for each incident or illness that requires a visit to health professionals off site. This can be done online or on the phone.

Keep First Aid kits stocked. Make sure hikes and overnights have adequate First Aid kit along. Kit with sunscreen goes with swimming counselors (daily) to the pond.

Check out campers and staff for “soundness” prior to all overnight campouts and long hikes. Check in upon return, including temp. and head check (preferably after they have showered).

Campers who have special dietary needs (due to “selective” eating or allergies) can present a challenge. It works best for the camp nurse to coordinate with cooks to supply their food. For example: availability of defrosted gluten-free bread, cooked plain rice, etc.

Keep infirmary ready for occupancy, changing bedding, emptying trash, etc. Dishes, utensils, and cups used by sick people must be sterilized in a separate wash basin.

Advise directors and staff of health/safety concerns.

Make sure Epipens and OTC medications are available and currently dated.

Coordinate with directors to make sure other medical supplies are on hand.

Keep thorough records in medical notebook.

Involvement in the daily camp program is encouraged (morning meeting, assembly, activities, etc.) as this will give you a valuable perspective as to the total program and the kids themselves.

End of session: Make sure camp families take home meds, vitamins, etc.

End of summer: Inventory supplies, list needs for next summer. Alphabetize current health forms (all sessions) for file.

Add to this list as needed. Write down your reflections for future reference.

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July 7th, 2011

Dear Journey's End Staff,

As we reflect upon the summer of 2011, we seek your feedback by asking you to evaluate your experience and yourself. Our hope is to learn from this summer and take your input to heart as we plan for future ones. Even if you will not be returning for summer 2012, we'd like you to respond. Your perspective is important to everyone one of us.

Simply, we'd like to know if you were satisfied with the work you did at Journey's End this summer. You may answer these questions individually or in one long paragraph. It will be very helpful to us to have these on file with your application and our notes from your phone interviews and our discussions with your references.

We know you're all busy with your lives and activities, but we hope you'll take 15 – 30 minutes to give us your thoughts. Reading all the questions and then letting your thoughts flow is probably the best approach. Thanks in advance!

- 1.)Did you feel that staff week prepared you for the work you were asked to do over the summer?
- 2.)Were you able to share your interests with campers and staff through activities or in conversation?
- 3.) What was disappointing for you about Journey's End?
- 4.)Were you ever disappointed in yourself?
- 5.)Could you have made any changes in your work and relationships that would have improved your experience?
- 6.)Did we succeed in creating a working community as a staff? Did you feel supported as well as supporting? Did your session(s) come together as a community?
- 7.)Did you feel respected by others on staff? By campers?
- 8.)Were you challenged by the work expected of you? Was it a good challenge, or was it daunting?
- 9.)Do you feel that you did your best to meet the expectations set before you?
- 10.)How well do you think you upheld your responsibilities?
- 11.)Would you have appreciated more feedback from experienced staff? Less?
- 12.)Were you able to appreciate the farm lifestyle?
- 13.)Did you find it difficult to refrain from smoking, drinking, drugs, or TV?
- 14.)Did anything you experienced at camp create a lasting change in the way you want to live your life?
- 15.)Do you feel that you were a positive influence in the campers' lives? Did you see positive results from your interactions with campers?

From your friends at JEFC

~ Tim, Kristin, Mim, Sarah + Critters

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Camp Nurse Application 2012

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Social Sec. # _____ - _____ - _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail _____ home phone _____ work phone _____

Best time to call _____ Nursing License # _____

Certification/Degree(s) _____

Experience in medical care/nursing _____

Current employment (if applicable) _____

Camp Dates Please indicate preference for session(s) available

_____ Session 1 June 24 – July 7 _____ Session 2 July 8 – 28 _____ Session 3 July 29 – Aug. 11
(2 weeks) (3 weeks) (2 weeks)

Family Camp _____ August 13 – 19 (1 week)

Can you arrive the day before the session starts? _____

Are you available to fill in for a different session? _____

If yes, please specify what day(s) or week(s) _____

Camper-aged (7 - 12) children who would attend camp:

_____	Date of birth _____	Gender _____
_____	Date of birth _____	Gender _____
_____	Date of birth _____	Gender _____

We can offer \$200/week plus free tuition for one camper-aged child or \$500/week if you bring no children. We can negotiate a mutually agreeable arrangement if there are other needs or circumstances.

Please see the attached sheet of responsibilities. We are a small camp, so you would be the sole certified medical person on staff. We would expect you to live on site, upstairs in the farmhouse. Down time/time off varies from day to day. We will count on you to let us know if/when you need a few hours or a day to yourself.

1. Do you have any dietary restrictions?

2. How willing are you to spend the session/summer here without TV, tobacco, or illegal/recreational drugs?

3. Have you ever been convicted of abuse, sexual offense, or a felony? If yes, please explain the circumstances.

4. What physical, mental, and/or emotional health issues, if any, do you have that would impact your ability to function well as a camp nurse?

5. Do you have a valid driver's license? Driver's license # _____ State _____

6. Would you be bringing a vehicle to camp?

7. Please list names and phone or e-mail contacts for 2 references
