



Volunteer Position Description

Position: Camp Counselor for Residential Camp, Operation: Military Kids

General Description: Residential camp counselors live in a cabin with a group of 10 to 11 campers and one other counselor. Counselors are responsible for providing a welcoming environment, facilitating positive interactions among campers and the camp staff, and ensuring the well-being of campers. Camp counseling is a 24-hour responsibility during the period of service.

Expectations:

- Follow all guidelines and policies of Ohio Operation: Military Kids, Ohio 4-H Youth Development, and the Ohio National Guard Youth Program.
- Complete a minimum of 24 hours of training prior to the camp dates. Counselors for Camp Kelleys Island must participate in on-site training before the camp date (training on August 8 and 9).
- Agree to abide by the Standards of Behavior.

Responsibilities:

- Foster the development of knowledge, attitudes, skills, and aspirations of campers by applying youth development principles, being a positive role model, and facilitating non-formal, hands-on learning experiences.
- Make sure that each camper has the most positive, educational, and fun youth development experience as possible during their stay at camp.
- Apply appropriate behavior management strategies in handling behavior challenges that occur.
- Serve as a cabin counselor and conduct daily cabin meetings to assist in making campers' experiences positive and to identify what is going well and what may need improvement.
- Facilitate program activities and groups as assigned throughout the camp program and as determined by the camp directors.

Qualifications: An individual serving as an Operation: Military Kids camp counselor will possess the following:

- Personal qualities including initiative, responsibility, integrity, flexibility, and patience
- A sincere interest in working with youth in an outdoor education setting
- The ability to exercise good judgment and solve problems as they arise, while knowing when to ask for help when needed
- The ability to exercise personal responsibility and work with minimal direct supervision from staff
- The ability to manage time and organize information and materials to achieve program goals
- The ability to motivate youth to assume leadership roles
- The ability to work as a team with other counselors and staff to accomplish the program objectives
- The ability to manage stress associated with group living and 24-hour supervision responsibilities

Operation: Military Kids agrees to:

- Provide training opportunities and program resources that will help the volunteer counselor to be successful in accomplishing the above responsibilities.
- Provide professional supervision and support during the period of service.