

# 2012 Counselor Application

"Campers for a week; friends for a lifetime."

## General Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_ F

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address (if different from above)  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### The following information is needed as we are required to run background checks:

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size S M L XL XXL XXXL A T-Shirt will be provided to you.

### Professional Reference Request

First reference name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reference name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

**Dietary Modifications or Requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Health-Related Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Should an emergency arise, we will contact your family and/or friends. Please include the requested information below.

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

## **Position Available: Counselor**

This is a unique opportunity for students or professionals that work in the medical or special education field to experience, (to a very small extent) what it is like to live with a person with an autism spectrum disorder. Lifelong friendships often develop during this experience and many have described it as one of the most valuable of their life.

## **Expectations**

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**A staff retreat will be held Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 22, 2012 at Moon Beach Camp in St. Germain, Wisconsin. It is mandatory for our new counselors/staff to attend this retreat. It is important that returning counselors/staff attend too.**

**Camp will be held Sunday, June 17 through Friday, June 22, 2012.**

**Counselors/staff need to arrive Saturday, June 16 to get ready for camper arrivals on Sunday, June 17. Campers leave camp on Friday, June 22. Counselors/staff are requested to stay Friday afternoon to participate in a feedback session. This allows us to make improvements where necessary and continue with strategies that work and is very important for future camps.**

## Requirements

1. Must be 18 years of age at the start of employment.
2. Demonstrate a desire and ability to learn and be taught about autism and approaches for managing the challenges associated with it
3. Be physically able and willing to maintain constant supervision of campers and to fulfill all responsibilities.
4. Be patient, energetic, fun-loving, and hard-working – and a sense of humor doesn't hurt!
5. Be willing and able to put the needs of others before your own.
6. Be flexible and able to work well with others, maintain open and effective communication.
7. Be accepting and respectful of those who think, behave, and interact differently than what is considered normal.

## General Responsibilities

1. Participate in pre-camp staff training. Become familiar with and implement camp policies, procedures, and philosophy.
2. **BE ON TIME** for all on duty shifts and meetings. This is a sign of respect for the people you are working with.
3. Assume full responsibility for and supervision of 4 campers for the week.
  - o Prepare for the arrival of each camper by reading their folders thoroughly, including all information/forms, medical information, and behavior plans; discuss each camper with supervisory staff and/or consultants as needed. Prepare a list of any questions about information that is unclear.
  - o Provide appropriate supervision and instruction to each camper in all settings and activities. Let the Camp Director know if you need assistance with supervision.
  - o PARTICIPATE in all activities with the campers. Encourage and facilitate the camper's participation in all activities.
  - o Implement behavior management strategies according to the guidelines presented in the Camp AweSum training. Discuss these strategies with supervisory staff.
  - o Monitor and report any health and/or medical concerns to the Camp Nurse (i.e. scratches, ticks, first aid needs, etc). Except in an emergency, the Camp Nurse should handle all First Aid, even if you are certified in First Aid.
4. Perform assigned rest and night duty responsibilities.
5. Attend and participate in all meetings. Keep supervisory staff informed of any situations.
7. Follow all policies and guidelines as explained in the Camp AweSum training.
8. Maintain the cleanliness of all areas of camp utilized by camp staff. Complete assigned cleaning jobs before leaving on Saturday.
9. Perform all other duties as assigned.

## About You

Describe your experience serving children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder. Please include ages, settings, and degree of disability.

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Describe your beliefs/philosophy about child discipline. Describe any experience you have had with the discipline of children.

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Describe your camping experience (as a camper and counselor).

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Describe your teaching and/or work experience and standard of proficiency in the area you teach or work.

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Do you have any health problems that would require special accommodations or otherwise limit your work at camp? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there any other information that you would like to convey about your qualifications and/or experience which would have a bearing on this application?

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As mentioned above, we are asking all staff to attend a weekend training retreat lead by Dr. Glenis Benson. This retreat will be held at Moon Beach, St. Germain, WI on **Saturday, April 21, 2012, 8:00 am through Sunday, April 22, 2012, 12:00 pm. Please arrive by 6 pm Friday, April 20.**

This training will provide information about autism, Camp AweSum philosophies and methods to assist with working with children on the autism spectrum, policies and procedures of Camp AweSum, camp activities, and safety and medical regulations. Is there any reason you would not be able to attend this session? If yes, please explain.

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**Additional Certifications**

List any American Red Cross (or equivalent) Water Safety, Life Guarding, First Aid and/or CPR certifications you hold. Please note that this information is merely helpful and certainly not required.

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**Liability Waiver**

As a volunteer or staff member for Camp AweSum, I understand that I hereby agree to waive any claim for liability against the Camp AweSum Board of Directors and its members or Moon Beach Camp based on injury arising out of participation in any activities during the camp session. This is a voluntary release for any and all future injuries or accidents arising out of participation in any activities of Camp AweSum. The undersigned is aware of the risks of attending, traveling to and from, and participating in all camp events and hereby assumes all risks.

I have read and understand all of the above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Confidentiality Agreement**

I have expressed interest in a participation opportunity at Camp AweSum. I understand that during the course of this experience, interactions with individuals and youth with autism spectrum disorders, their families, and review of private records will occur. Information about campers is confidential and is not to be used for any personal or private use. No identifying information about campers is to be revealed in subsequent discussion or writing about the camp experience. Such discussion and writing is to be only for professional growth.

Disclosure of additional information or prior knowledge of these individuals by volunteers or staff members in other roles or setting is not to occur. Interactions and records may include but are not limited to student intervention techniques, health history, and social, economical, or emotional information.

I have read the above and respect the confidential nature of all information obtained during the course of this experience.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Background Verification**

I understand that in applying for a camp position the information that I have furnished on this form is subject to verification, which may include a criminal history check.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I will attend the weekend training retreat on April 20 – April 22, 2012. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Send your completed application to:**

Debbie VanDerLijn  
1512 High Street  
Rice Lake, WI 54868  
Or email to [campawesum@yahoo.com](mailto:campawesum@yahoo.com)

After receiving completed applications, recommendations, and necessary background checks from all applicants, interviews may be conducted prior to making final decisions. Should any questions arise prior to your notification, feel free to contact the Debbie VanDerLijn at 715/236-2413 or email at [campawesum@yahoo.com](mailto:campawesum@yahoo.com) .