



CHE-NA-WAH'S SENIOR CAMPER PROGRAM ***For girls entering the 10th and 11th grades***

Leadership development is a continuous process. Various skills acquired by returning senior campers serve as a foundation for their training to become future leaders and eventually counselor staff members. A feeling of loyalty to the camp and a familiarity with its traditions turn into great assets for campers ready to assume more responsibility. In other words, a leadership development/training program translates camper experiences into counselor expertise. A camper's leadership grows from grass roots involvement in all aspects of camp life. Eventually they enter into a program that allows them to "experience by doing" through a gradual assumption of a variety of responsibilities.

Older campers generally are well-adjusted to camp routines and practices. Their comradeship, energy, enthusiasm, expression of warmth, love and affection towards camp life are all qualities that are immediately recognized by others who are new to the experience. They represent "camp spirit" sought by children, parents, and alumni.

A senior summer at camp is a unique youth oriented living/learning experience. Relationships between camp directors and campers are based on feelings of mutual trust and confidence. Time is invested by both through acceptance and supervision of "jobs", encouraging the development of a sense of responsibility and an understanding and appreciation of the camp operation. For the entering 10th grade campers (14 to 15 years old) special leadership responsibilities and a selection of camper/worker assignments are provided. For the entering 11th grade camper (16 years old) a camper/waitress program is provided which emphasizes field experience and "hands-on" training for the position of camp counselor.

The culmination of this program is realized when the senior camper is invited to return as a staff member. This achievement nurtures self-esteem and personal satisfaction, which are essential for healthy, maturing youth and future counselors.

BASIC PREMISES INFLUENCING ATTITUDES AND PROGRAMS FOR TEEN-AGE CAMPERS

A camper's leadership grows from grass roots involvement in all aspects of camp life. Campers start early by learning to participate in planning schedules and programs for themselves and others in camp. They share in arriving at their own individual and group goals for each season. A result of good communication by directors and staff, is that campers learn what makes camp really "tick". Eventually they enter into a program that allows them to "experience by doing" through a gradual assumption of a variety of work responsibilities. Follow-up sharing sessions, and further demonstrations of instructional, leadership, and motivational techniques continue to reinforce the basic skills that were already acquired. Senior campers are given opportunities to understand the total camp process including different management functions.

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SENIOR CAMPER (BK 22) PROGRAM & RESPONSIBILITIES

In addition to participating in a full camp program as campers, the entering 10th grader has a wide variety of options and choices for involvement in our leadership program. The girls of Bunk 22 will be eligible to participate in the "Senior Show". In addition, the girls of Bunk 22 will be assigned to various jobs in camp which will serve to reinforce our commitment to "experience by doing". Bunk 22 responsibilities include:

1. Organize, coordinate and lead the camp in "**Spirit Day**".
2. Serve as **song leaders** at all camp gatherings (in the dining room, the social hall, etc.)
3. Lead the camp in **PENN/CORNELL & BLUE/GOLD** as team captains.

Bunk 22 jobs could include:

1. Assist at Pajama Parties
2. Officiate or Coach Jr. Leagues
3. Serve as a "HOST" during home inter-camp games or tournaments.
4. Assist at Juice Call or Milk Call
5. Videotape camp events and shows.
6. Take photos for the camp website photo gallery.
7. Assist in the office ("office duty")

CAMPER/WAITRESS PROGRAM & RESPONSIBILITIES

The camper/waitress program is for girls entering the 11th grade. It is a transitional year ... the final experience as a camper and the initial experience as a counselor-in-training. The waitresses have their own counselors who guide them through the summer and supervise their work in the dining room, during activities, in the bunk, in the evenings and on out-of camp trips. They have the opportunity to participate and benefit from all camp activities on a group and/or individual basis. In addition to participating in a full camp program, the waitresses enjoy special status as leaders in camp life.

In the dining room, waitresses:

1. Set tables
2. Serve meals
3. Clear tables etc.

As counselors-in-training they:

1. Participate in leadership training sessions with key staff members and directors. These sessions have an emphasis on:
 - a. What does it mean to be a counselor?
 - i. Supervision of campers' health and safety
 - b. Communication skills:
 - i. Listening
 - c. Teaching skills:
 - i. Preparation
 - ii. Motivation
 - iii. Demonstration etc.
 - d. Child development:
 - i. Stages of emotional and physical development.
2. Assist counselors in program areas of their choice, teaching assigned campers various related skills.
3. Assist "O.D.'s" (counselors on duty at night) watch campers before and after bedtime.
4. Help plan special events, evening activities, and rainy day activities for campers.
5. Organize and lead the Baco Che-Na-Wah Bazaar along with the Baco waiters.
6. Participate in the Big Show
7. Publish the Che-Na-Wit

LIFEGUARD TRAINING PROGRAM (LGT)

American Red Cross Lifeguard Training (LGT) is available to qualified girls in Bunk 22 and Bunk 23. Campers that pass LGT while they are in Bunk 22 will be able to be assigned to waterfront activities as a Counselor-In-Training (CIT) when they are Waitresses. Other campers in Bunk 23 will be assigned to various activities on land as a CIT.