



Camp Oakhurst

2016-2017 Volunteer Activity Counselor Program

Please read this information before filling out a volunteer application.

Camp Oakhurst's year-round respite program is seeking **Volunteer Activity Counselors** for our respite sessions that run from September 29, 2016 to June 7, 2017. **Volunteer Activity Counselors** at Camp Oakhurst gain valuable hands-on work experience through participating in a wide range of volunteer tasks, including helping to plan, organize and help facilitate recreational activities for our clients with disabilities. These activities include: arts/crafts, music, drama, media arts, cooking, swimming, nature studies, sports or respite season party/holiday activities.

Volunteers at Camp Oakhurst will not only assist our trained counselors and activity specialist staff to provide therapeutic recreational activities for our clients with disabilities, but the volunteers will also have a unique and valuable eye-opening experience right in their local community. Volunteering at Camp Oakhurst can also satisfy school or program community/public service requirements. If a volunteer applicant or their parents have any questions about volunteering at Camp Oakhurst, please contact Charles Sutherland at volunteer@nysh.org or at 732-531-0215

Volunteer Activity Counselor Requirements

Applicants must be at least 16 years old for volunteering to work with our clients in their therapeutic recreational activities on Saturdays during our September-June respite season. Volunteers must sign up in advance for either 2 or 3 hour Saturday shifts. **See the attached volunteer shift schedule for details.** Volunteers ages 13, 14 or 15 can only volunteer for special or group projects -- please call Charles Sutherland at 732-531-0215 about these possible volunteer opportunities. No children under age 13 can volunteer at Camp Oakhurst.

We are seeking volunteers who will serve as good role models, follow all rules and have a positive joyful attitude toward others and be respectful and mindful of all the clients and the staff they will interact with.

Application Process

We have a formal application process for volunteers. Our expectation for volunteers is that they will assist in our recreational activities in a mature, responsible and appropriate way, and will keep to their agreed-upon volunteer shift schedule. All volunteers are required to adhere to the requirements above and process that follows:

1. The attached volunteer application must be completed in full at least 2 weeks prior to volunteering. Applications may be submitted by scan/email to volunteer@nysh.org or faxed to 732-531-0292 or mailed to Camp Oakhurst, 111 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755.
2. Applicants will receive an email or phone call confirmation after submitting a volunteer application form. Applicants will be informed at that time if they will or will not be invited to Camp Oakhurst for a volunteer interview. For those invited, they will be **scheduled for an in-person interview at Camp Oakhurst.**
3. **All applicants must provide one non-family member adult reference** (teacher, guidance counselor, coach, job or volunteer supervisor, etc.) and must bring with them to the in-person interview either the letter of reference or the contact information for a phone reference.
4. Applicants that meet the requirements of volunteering, successfully complete an in-person volunteer interview at Camp Oakhurst, and whose reference is satisfactory, will then be notified they are accepted as a Camp Oakhurst volunteer and will be provided a date to attend a required **Volunteer Training** prior to being scheduled as a Camp Oakhurst volunteer. This **Volunteer Training** will be scheduled on an individual basis or may be grouped with others.
5. After attending the **Volunteer Training**, volunteers will be asked to **submit their volunteer shift requests at least 3 days prior to their first shift.** We request a minimum of at least 3 Saturdays in the respite (September-June) season.

We thank you for your time and we look forward to meeting you and working with you!

Volunteer Program Contact Information:

Charles Sutherland, Camp Director
732-531-0215
volunteer@nysh.org
Camp Oakhurst
111 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

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