

## JCC Day Camp CIT Program Outline Summer 2017

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders: June 26-August 4, 2017

Are you a student interested in becoming a camp counselor or working with children?

Are you looking to gain valuable work experience in a supportive, caring environment with an outstanding reputation?

Do you want to do something fun and rewarding over the summer besides just sitting on the couch and watching TV all day?

If your answer to any or all of these questions is a resounding yes, then you just might be interested in joining the JCC Day Camp Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program!

Welcome to the JCC Day Camp located near Harvey's Lake on 40 acres of land where we provide camps for ages 2 through 15. Camper activities include instructional and free swim in our three swimming pools with a diving board and slide, Jewish culture, tennis in our three tennis courts, soccer, softball, t-ball, kickball and football on our three fields, hockey in our outdoor arena, nature and sciences, archery, biking, cooking, drama, music, arts & crafts, sailing and canoeing at Harvey's Lake (located just a minute away), and of course, ga-ga! Overnights are also provided for our older campers in our four new cabins. A full buffet lunch is served every day and transportation is included to and from camp each day. Our campsite also features a full length indoor gymnasium, a full-time nurse, a high and low ropes course and even physical education.

What can we say about a program that boasts the perfect balance of being both a camper and a counselor in training? JCC Day Camp's CIT program is a one of a kind experience that cannot be found at any other day camp in the area! This six-week training program for 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders is designed to transition campers into their role as a future staff member. The unique blend of daily CIT activities, off-campus trips, overnights and the opportunity to learn the "ropes" of becoming a counselor is what makes our program special. Our CIT supervisor will accompany the CITs on all off-campus trips and work closely with each of them to provide

supervision and training as they prepare to join our staff. Come aboard and see why JCC Day Camp CIT's enjoy a summer of both work and play as they transition from our oldest campers to become our youngest and most devoted counselors for years to come.

All CIT's and their parents have a pre-camp meeting with our CIT crew members to review the program carefully, as well as the expectations we have for them during the summer. CITs are carefully placed in this area where we feel they will be the most successful. CITs are campers with limited counselor responsibilities. This is their time to observe seasoned counselors, grow as individuals, learn crucial skills for caring for children and most importantly have a summer filled with memories they can cherish forever!

### **Responsibilities with Campers**

The CIT's will be subject to the same code of behavior and policies as regular program staff and will participate in all aspects of camp life. Under the supervision of a senior staff member they will:

- Supervise children at activity periods
- Make the camp a fun place to be, helping to devise and plan games and activities
- Supervise cleaning and meals
- Help provide a safe and supportive atmosphere for campers
- Help campers resolve conflicts
- CIT's will always work with a counselor and/or the CIT coordinator.
- CIT's will work with the CIT Coordinator to learn the basics of child development, programming, and supervision procedures and policies, etc.
- CIT's will work with staff to develop and co-lead activities.
- CIT's will participate in activities with campers.

### **Leadership & Team Building**

Team Building Activities: Becoming a strong team and gaining leadership skills is vital to the success of the CIT's-as a group and as individuals. CIT's will gain lifelong skills such as leadership, communication and trust through a variety of activities in camp and on out-of-camp trips.

Positive Leadership: Almost anyone can be a leader, but not all people can be a positive leader. Our program provides CIT's with knowledge and tools that they will be able to use as positive leaders both in and outside of the camp community. CIT's will also gain practical experience as leaders in the camp community which will allow them to further develop their leadership skills and methods.

### **Camp Behavior**

Every member of the camp community is expected to act in a safe and appropriate manner at all times. CIT's will learn the importance of insuring that appropriate consequences are made for inappropriate behaviors. CIT's will also learn the importance of recognizing rewarding positive behavior in campers.

### **Team Building Trips**

- The CIT's will be introduced to the CIT program through a team building activity that will occur at the beginning of the summer. The focus of this activity is to allow them to get to know each other and begin forming strong bonds within the group.
- CIT's will attend day trips as a camper and also some as a counselor assistant, allowing them to gain a greater understanding of the role and responsibilities of a counselor during out-of-camp trips.
- CIT's will also experience overnights at camp and may also have the opportunity to participate as assistant trip leaders during overnight camping experiences with the younger campers.

Sample Daily Camp Schedule:

|                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 9:30 am-9:40 am    | Flag, attendance & announcement |
| 9:40 am-10:25 am   | CIT Training                    |
| 10:30 am-11:15 am  | CIT activities                  |
| 11:20 am-12:10 pm  | Swim/Lunch I                    |
| 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm | Swim/Lunch II                   |
| 1:05 pm-1:50 pm    | Camper Choice                   |
| 1:55 pm-2:05 pm    | Snack                           |

2:10-3:00 pm Camper Choice

3:05 pm-3:30 pm Flag, Announcements and Dismissal