



Job Description: Bunk Counselor, YJ, Amherst, NH

Job Length: June 18 - August 14, 2024

Who We Are: For 84 years, Camp Young Judaea (YJ) in southern New Hampshire has provided a nurturing, residential summer camping experience where kids of all Jewish backgrounds feel free to be themselves, deepen both their Jewish knowledge and connection to Israel, and develop meaningful relationships that last a lifetime. We are more than a summer camp. We are a caring community grounded in the Jewish values of *chesed* (caring and compassion), *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), commitment to a diverse and pluralistic Jewish community.

Our community is composed of:

- 400 campers largely from the eastern seaboard and their families — at least 30% of our campers have a parent who went to YJ
- Summer staff of 75 counselors — 80% of whom are former campers and 20% are international
- 20 summer administrators, specialists, and medical professionals — all of whom are college graduates and some with 10+ years of experience at YJ
- 7 year-round staff
- 4,000 active alumni — many of whose children and grandchildren attend camp

At our 168-acre site on the shores of Lake Baboosic — fondly known as Baboo — we welcome children 8-15 years-old (completing grades 2-9) for 2-week, 3 ½ - week and 7-week sessions. Our oldest campers participate in a culminating, educational experience in Israel for 5 weeks and then return to camp “deep in the hills of New Hampshire” for 2 weeks of leadership training. YJ is a private, independent, non-profit organization and is not affiliated with the Young Judaea movement or other camps with similar names. We are proud to be the original Camp Young Judaea.

Bunk Counselor Position:

Bunk counselors at YJ are at the center of creating an exceptional summer for every person in camp, especially our campers (children aged 8-14). Bunk counselors go through a week long training and orientation to learn the key aspects on how to be a successful bunk counselor. Exceptional counselors show enthusiasm, creativity, adaptability, have a sense of humor, and exhibit self control and patience. We expect that all staff come to camp mentally and physically prepared to fully participate, learn, teach, and help build an incredibly strong team.

Reports to: Area Heads

General Responsibilities:

- Be a role model for campers including cleanliness, punctuality, sharing clean-up jobs, sportsmanship, table manners, language and proper dress.
- Follow all camp rules pertaining to smoking, use of alcoholic beverages, and drugs.

- Encourage respect for personal property, camp equipment and facilities.
- Manage personal time off in accordance with camp policy.

Specific Responsibilities (Bunk)

- Guide bunk or chug (age group) and individual campers in participating successfully in all aspects of camp and treat all campers with fairness, equity, and respect.
- Carry out established roles for supervising camper well being and enforcing safety regulations.
- Supervise all assigned aspects of the camper's day including wakeup, cleanup, meal times, rest hour, evening activities, getting ready for bed, "mish" (nightly bunk coverage) as assigned
- Help campers plan their participation in chug or camp-wide programs, special events and activities.
- Ensure that campers are writing home on a regular basis.
- Oversee campers' behavior to ensure that no camper is being treated unfairly and that no camper is exhibiting behavior harmful to him or herself, others or camp property.

Specific Responsibilities (Department)

- Departments include: Aquatics (Lake & Pool), Athletics, Climbing Wall, Tennis, Archery, Drama, Judaica, Music, Arts & Crafts, Media, and more!
- Teach and lead activities and groups as assigned by the head or assistant head of your department.
- Work together as a team with other members of the department to fairly split responsibilities, work load, clean-up maintenance of equipment and time off.
- Help campers learn new skills or improve current skills.
- Be willing to help out in other departments as instructed by the program directors and/or Executive Director.

Minimum Qualifications:

- 17 years of age or older.
- Previous camp experience, successfully planned and carried out activities at camp or similar setting.
- Commitment to being at YJ for the entire summer 2024 (June 18-August 14).

Other Qualifications:

- Highly motivated to create an inclusive, spirited, and fun camp experience for everyone.
- Ability to multitask and handle multiple projects at the same time.
- A willingness to step in to support unexpected turns of events.
- Great organizational skills, and a commitment to growing as an organized leader.
- Ability to address significant challenges with a positive attitude and a problem solving orientation.
- Effective communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Other qualities: Creative, flexible and a self-starter.