



Camp Sojourner
Girls' Leadership Camp

STAFF APPLICATION 2009

Camp Sojourner Overview

Camp Sojourner is an affordable overnight camp for Philadelphia area girls between the ages of 8 and 17, heading into its second year of operation. Camp Sojourner's mission is to provide girls with a rewarding and life-changing overnight camping experience that emphasizes team building, leadership development, creative arts, and appreciation of nature. We fundraise all year round so that we can provide this opportunity to girls no matter what their family is able to pay.

Our summer program takes place on a gorgeous mountain lake at the New Jersey School of Conservation in Stokes State Forest, about two and a half hours from both Philadelphia and New York City. We are expecting to serve approximately 55 campers this summer, including 15-17 year old junior counselors. Our program includes traditional camp activities such as swimming, boating, hiking, team-building, and campfires, as well as creative and performing arts such as singing, dancing, drawing, painting, drumming, sewing, and wood-working.

Camp Sojourner seeks to create a diverse community where the dignity and experience of all participants are honored. All staff must be committed to:

- the positive development of girls;
- work collaboratively with youth and adults;
- building relationships with people different from themselves;
- communicating openly and honestly; and,
- encouraging campers in their exploration of creative arts and the natural environment.

Camp Sojourner strives to provide its campers a staff that is reflective of their cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds—most of our campers are from low-income and working class communities of color. Women from these backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. Please note, however, that we welcome qualified candidates from all backgrounds, and affirm the value of a diverse community that represents a broad range of experiences and perspectives.

Volunteer/Job Announcement

Camp Sojourner seeks adults interested in working with us for two weeks to help provide girls with a fun yet challenging overnight camp experience. Applications are being accepted for the positions of Cabin Counselor, Health Director, and Program Specialists. Program Specialist positions include Teams Course, Nature Study, and Creative Arts (singing, dance, theatre, drumming, visual arts, crafts, and creative writing).

Our camp program is shaped by the skills and talents of our staff. Successful program staff come to camp with years of experience working with young people in these areas, and are ready to develop and share their program areas at camp. Successful counselors come to camp with a strong ability to both nurture young people and set appropriate limits.

The summer 2009 camp program will run from Thursday, July 30th to Sunday, August 9th. Staff members need to arrive at camp by 2pm on July 30th to begin staff orientation, and stay until 2pm on August 12th for camp clean-up and final staff lunch. All camp staff serve as volunteers, and are provided with room, board, and a small stipend of \$250.

To apply for a position with our program, please email a current resume along with a completed application to info@girlsleadershipcamp.org. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. Positions will be offered as soon as possible in order to allow applicants to finalize summer plans.

Contact

email:

info@girlsleadershipcamp.org.

mail:

Camp Sojourner, Girls' Leadership Camp
801 S. 48th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19143

fax:

(215) 724 -6302

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the camp office at (215) 951-0330 x2180 or through e-mail at info@girlsleadershipcamp.org.

We hope you choose to join us in making a difference in the lives of Philadelphia girls! We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best,

Alisha Berry and Kandace Thomas
Camp Sojourner Directors

2009 Summer Camp Staff Application

Thank you for your interest in working with Camp Sojourner. This application can be completed electronically and then emailed to our camp office at info@girlsleadershipcamp.org. Please put your name in the title of the document. This application can also be printed and faxed or mailed to our camp office: 801 S. 48th Street / Philadelphia, PA 19143/ (215) 724-6302 fax.

Full name: _____

Preferred name/ nickname: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: Home: _____ **Cell:** _____

Email: _____

Race and/or ethnicity (optional): _____

Are you from a low-income or working class background? (optional): _____

Date of Birth (optional): _____

The following questions can be answered in the spaces provided, and/or on a separate paper. Please be as specific as possible in your responses.

1. Why are you interested in being a summer staff member at Camp Sojourner?
2. What position(s) are you applying for?
3. What age group do you feel most comfortable working with? Why?
4. Please briefly describe your leadership experience working with children and youth including any supervisory experience.

11. What are some ways that you can help build the leadership skills of the campers in your care? (You may define "leadership skills" according to what is most meaningful to you.)

12. Do you have First Aid, CPR, Life Guarding, or Waterfront Certifications? If so, please be specific as to what certifications you hold. If not, would you be willing to get certified (at our expense)?

13. What other experiences or abilities do you have to offer to Camp Sojourner?

14. Is there anything else you would like us to know about you?

15. Have you ever been convicted of a crime, other than a minor traffic offense? _____
If yes, please describe. (Note: a prior conviction is not an automatic bar to employment. The type of conviction and when it occurred will be evaluated by the camp before any decision is made.)

16. How did you hear about Camp Sojourner?

17. List the names and contact information for three to four people, **other than relatives or significant others**, who can comment on your abilities in the position for which you are applying. Please indicate the capacity and dates when the people have known you. At least one reference must be a current or recent employer. At least one reference must be able to speak about your experience working with children.

Name: _____
Company/organization and title: _____
Relationship to you: _____
Telephone: _____
Email (if available): _____

Name: _____
Company/organization and title: _____
Relationship to you: _____
Telephone: _____
Email (if available): _____

Name: _____
Company/organization and title: _____
Relationship to you: _____
Telephone: _____
Email (if available): _____

I testify to the truth of this application and authorize investigation of all statements herein, including any checks of criminal records.

Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for your interest in working with Camp Sojourner, Girls' Leadership Camp! We will contact you promptly in order to acknowledge receipt of your application, and to schedule an interview if appropriate.