



## **Camp Counselor / Staff Guidelines and Responsibilities**

*(must be read, signed and returned)*

- **PRAY:** for yourself and the young people who will be in your cabin, as well as all the youth attending our camp. You will be interacting with all of them, and are there to make sure their physical, spiritual and emotional needs are met. Campers really look up to their counselors and other staff members. You are that important link between the supervising adults and speakers to allow the spirit of Yah to work in the hearts of our youth. **OUR GOAL** is to encourage spiritual growth. Anything that distracts from what Yahweh is trying to teach them should be avoided.
- There is no special “Spiritual Time.” All day long, every activity is a spiritual or building time. Use every opportunity to build or reflect back on what is being taught. Don’t force it! Allow the spirit of Yah to work in the kids; just be ready and willing to talk.
- **ENCOURAGE** team work and building relationships. You have many different personalities with different maturity and needs. Some campers will be shy and need much encouragement to participate. If you notice this, be that special friend to help the camper adjust. If you see that they are being outsiders in the group, go to one of the campers you feel is best suited, and ask them to help make the camper included and bring them along. Some kids need more personal space than others, while some just need encouragement. Always **LISTEN** to what they are saying. Don’t dismiss or ignore it. We don’t want to force them into something they really are not comfortable with. Come see the Camp Director if you don’t know what to do.
- **MEDICAL** attention: You are to notice and tend to any minor medical care they may need. We have a first aid kit for our group to use. Be on the lookout for anything that might need attention. Sunburns need attention. It will only get worse as we will be out all week. Sun block is very important, so make sure noses, cheeks, shoulders, backs of necks, etc. are covered. Aloe Vera is for after the fact. **INSIST ON IT!** Also, bug spray! Help them if need be. For anything not so minor (headaches) or questionable, send them to the Camp Director. We do also have a certified first aid attendant/medic in our group.
- **MEAL** time: Try to sit with your campers. Encourage them to be early or on time for meals. They may not skip attending. You are in charge of making sure they help clean up the table after meals. (Team work)
- **CABINS:** The Clean Cabin award is almost “coveted” at our camp, so they will want to make a good show of it. You may want to bring “stuff” to help with it. The rest of the time, encourage them to pick up after themselves. They share a cabin, and **MUST** respect each other’s property at all times, no matter what. Encourage nightly discussions on the speaker’s topics. Pray with campers, allowing them freedom to share. This must be encouraged to be kept within the cabin and not gossiped about. Anything you think is too big for you, just pray with them about it. Ask if you can share it with the speaker or the Camp Director. We would love to pray with them and help if we can.
- Know where your campers are at all times!!! Use the buddy system for bathroom runs. You may want to take the last one of the day all together, getting teeth brushed, hands and faces washed, etc., then getting everyone back to the cabin for bedtime talks.
- **TEACHING SESSIONS:** Get your campers to meetings on time. Bring extra bug spray, Bibles, pens, and notebooks. Make sure they are respectful of the speaker and worship leaders. Encourage them to participate. Have everyone take their belongings back to the cabin, and clean up after themselves. **\*\*If they sometimes look out of it, I give out tic-tacs or mints. NO GUM IS ALLOWED ALL WEEK.** If they need to go to the restroom during a teaching session, go with them.



- PERSONAL HYGIENE: Encourage this! Insist on it! Make sure campers hang out their towels to dry!
- Additional info:
  - Leave your electronic devices at home.
  - Do not leave your campers unattended at night.

I \_\_\_\_\_ am applying for a counselor/staff position with Messiah West Coast. In doing so, I agree to:

- Follow all guidelines as outlined above
- Do my best to pay for my expense of \$380.00 before July 1
- Follow all the rules that are also applicable to campers including, but not limited to, the dress code
- Be present throughout the entire week of camp – July 21-26, 2024
- Focus on what unites us and not on what divides us (focus on loving Yahweh and each other)
- I commit to keeping myself in check emotionally by not allowing my actions or thoughts to encourage any intimate relationship, either emotional or physical, with anyone while at MWC. I understand that the standard of MWC is to keep oneself pure before marriage, thus no dating, flirting, or excessive physical contact allowed. *Any appearance or report of “crossing the line” by any member of the MWC team will be dealt with immediately. “The line” will be completely discerned and determined by the leadership of the MWC team. This is not to say that you will not develop an interest with others while at MWC, but that if you do, you will pursue your interest through your parents and leadership of MWC and not directly with the person of interest. I will not engage in any lengthy private conversations with those to whom I may be attracted. All actions must be totally above board so as to refrain from the appearance of evil. This applies to all staff members, campers, adults, counselors, etc. The spiritual climate we are creating is quite intense, so what you would normally give little thought to can be an intense battle. This may be unnecessary, but please be advised and guarded.*

I hereby grant Messiah West Coast permission to use my likeness in photograph(s)/video in any and all of its publications and in any and all other media, whether now known or hereafter existing, controlled by Messiah West Coast, in perpetuity, and for other use by all programs of Safe Haven Sustainable Farms Inc. I will make no monetary or other claim (whether for breach of privacy or otherwise) against Messiah West Coast, SHSF Inc. or Growing In Torah for the use of the photograph(s)/video for educational or marketing purposes.

**Your Statement:** I hereby attest that all the information in my application is true to the farthest of my understanding. I understand and agree to obey the rules of camp and conduct myself in a manner that is moral and upright before Yahweh. I will follow the camp schedule and participate in all camp activities to the best of my ability. I will do my best to be a blessing to everyone at camp.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature if Applicant is living at home: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this signed form to your online application or email to [MessiahWestCoast@gmail.com](mailto:MessiahWestCoast@gmail.com) or snail-mail to MWC, Attn: Chrissy Lopez, 41781 Rd. 142, Orosi, CA 93647.**