

Camp Mental Health Professional

Job Description

About our overnight camp:

Camp Ben Frankel is an overnight summer camp located in Makanda, Illinois for Jewish children and teens ages 7-17. At CBF, campers build lifelong friendships, have wholesome fun, and learn valuable life skills. Jewish children from all backgrounds are welcomed to CBF's inclusive environment. Camper capacity is up to 120 campers.

Camp Ben Frankel's Vision:

For every Jewish child, a place to belong

Camp Ben Frankel's Mission:

To build a lifelong community for Jewish children of all ages and backgrounds to explore their identities in a fun and inclusive environment, one amazing summer at a time

Camp Ben Frankel's Core Values:

- *Prioritizing campers* - We use training, experience, and good judgment as guides towards the primary responsibility of ensuring each camper's physical and emotional safety.
- *Enjoying good friendship, fun, and excitement* - We endeavor to create an environment where every camper makes friends through fun and joyful experiences.
- *Living Jewishly* - We provide opportunities for each camper, from any Jewish background, to create meaningful Jewish experiences to ensure they feel positively connected with Judaism, tikkun olam, and Israel.
- *Promoting inclusivity* - We support and celebrate each camper's individual needs by valuing diversity, guided by the belief that every Jewish child deserves a welcoming Jewish community that supports their emotional, physical, and financial needs.
- *Pursuing growth, learning, and exploration* - We create an environment that welcomes curiosity and embraces innovation by supporting campers as they develop the skills of independence, responsibility, confidence, and resilience.
- *Creating immersive experiences* - We encourage campers to feel immersed and present in camp's rich experiences in order to appreciate the unique community and activities that camp offers.
- *Creating family* - We aim to build a lifelong community of campers and staff who respect and support one another through open communication, respectful debate, and shared experiences.

Statement of Inclusivity:

Although we serve Jewish children, we welcome staff from all religious backgrounds into our inclusive environment. We believe it is important and enriching to have a diverse team. Our non-Jewish staff are asked to respect our Jewish religious practices and to help our campers participate in them. Non-Jewish staff are never required or expected to say prayers.

Reports to: Camp Director

Compensation:

- \$6000 to \$7500 plus room and board (valued at \$1365)

Dates:

- Part-time remote hours prior to the beginning of summer TBD
- Seasonal summer full-time dates onsite: June 5 - July 19, 2022

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

The Camp Mental Health Professional, in tandem with the Camper Care Director and summer Leadership Team, is responsible for ensuring the positive resolution for any and all camper and staff issues that may arise during the camp season. The Camp Mental Health Professional is expected to provide campers and staff with meaningful and critical guidance and tools to help them thrive at camp. The Camp Mental Health Professional plays a key role in training and supporting the other camp staff.

This role is a seasonal summer full-time non-exempt position, with part-time hours before summer session begins.

Primary responsibilities:

- Together with other members of Camp Ben Frankel's Community Care team serve as a resource to campers and staff throughout the summer in facing mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health (MESSH) challenges, and creating environments where campers can thrive. Examples may include:
 - Determine appropriate responses to all camper and staff issues related but not limited to: anxiety, behavior management, interpersonal disputes, homesickness, hygiene, and previously diagnosed disorders
 - Assist staff members with challenging camper situations and provide ongoing support to staff to respond to campers' MESSH needs.
 - Debrief and provide guidance to campers and/or staff after crises or stressful and traumatic events
- Serve in a leadership role in the planning and implementation of staff training and ongoing staff learning related to mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health (MESSH). Examples may include:
 - Help develop and present training modules and/or coordinate ongoing staff development opportunities to give camp staff the tools and skills to meet the MESSH needs of campers
- Managing information about camper needs, and communicating those to staff, as well as documenting communication and plans within Camp Ben Frankel's systems.
- Communicate with and manage relationships with parents/caregivers in regards to camper needs.
- Prepare reports to funding agencies in relationship to mental, emotional, and social health of Camp Ben Frankel and its campers, including sharing high-level understandings of interactions and interventions taking place throughout the summer.
- Participate in the Foundation for Jewish Camp's Community of Practice as part of our camp's place in the [Yedid Nefesh program](#), including two or three virtual gatherings and one in-person gathering per year with other Jewish camp mental health professionals.
- Adaptability and flexibility - due to the fast-changing and rapidly changing environment caused by Covid-19 it is possible that our needs could evolve. Adaptability and flexibility are paramount.
- Be an active presence on-site at camp as a part of the community.

Duties of all members of Leadership Team:

- To act as a positive Jewish role model at camp.
- To be ethical and act with integrity at all times. To do the right thing.
- To ensure that our staff members deliver a high-quality program that is safe, secure, and has great impact on the children we serve.
- To be an outstanding leader of our team.
- To always wear the hat of the “organization,” and advocate for initiatives that may benefit our overall mission, even if it sometimes produces short-term challenges.
- To provide clear direction and training to your team, so they know exactly what is expected of them – and they feel comfortable gaining clarity when required.
- To provide direct reports with recognition of their accomplishments, constructive feedback when necessary, and celebration when goals have been met.
- To make our staff members feel recognized and appreciated for their tremendous contributions to CBF's mission.
- To provide leverage to the director by displaying ownership over areas of responsibility, and providing the director with good visibility to how we are doing, where there are concerns, and seeking input when needed.
- Participate in activities with camp.

Qualifications:

- Graduate-level or higher degree in a mental health field. Including, but not limited to: social work, mental health counseling, psychology, youth psychiatry, family therapy, etc.
- 3-5 years of post-graduate work experience in a related field.
- Prior camp and/or school experience in working with children, teens, and young adults is strongly preferred
- Proven ability to plan, originate, and organize programs.
- Proven ability to provide emotional support to a wide range of ages.
- Strong understanding of, and a willingness to be creative with, strategies to ensure campers of varying needs can be part of a mainstreamed program.
- Be a leader, self-starter, and strong collaborator.
- Ability to accept guidance, constructive feedback, and support from teammates.
- Must be able to think critically and act swiftly in high stress situations