Emma Kaufmann Camp – MESSH Specialist
Dates of Employment (May 31 – August 10, with flexible pre-summer work)

Emma Kaufmann Camp is located along Cheat Lake in Morgantown WV. Owned and operated by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh, EKC is a co-ed residential camp with an emphasis on teambuilding, developing positive values, independence, premiere programming and activities. This child-centered environment includes campers ages 7-16. As a staff member at EKC, you will enjoy the opportunity for personal growth and develop friendships that will last a lifetime. Visit our website at www.emmakaufmanncamp.com

The MESSH Specialist, or Mental, Emotional, Spiritual, and Social Health Specialist at Camp is responsible for supporting the mental, social, and emotional well-being of all campers and staff members. This staff member will serve as a critical component of our Camp Leadership Team and guide Camp in creating an environment that’s welcoming for all. The MESSH Specialist will assist staff members with managing the social dynamics and behavior of their campers, while assisting them in meeting camper needs. Camper Care Specialists will regularly speak with parents of campers to elicit collaborating in achieving success for their camper.

Care and consideration is given to each candidate’s summer availability, including flexibility in working around start and end dates due to school work or other employment opportunities. The Camper Care Specialist will work in partnership with the entire Camper Care team, and will report to the Camp Director or Assistant Director. This position is an “in-residence” position and requires living at Camp throughout the summer.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Playing a leadership role in the planning and implementation of staff training and ongoing staff learning related to mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health (MESSH);
- Creating and implementing programming for small groups of campers focused on wellness and social-emotional learning.
- Serving as a resource to campers throughout the summer in facing mental, emotional and social health challenges, and creating environments where campers can thrive.
- Managing information about camper needs, and communicating those to staff, as well as documenting communication and plans as appropriate.
- Communicating and managing relationships with parents/caregivers in regards to camper needs.
- Preparing reports to funding agencies in relationship to mental emotional and social health of EKC and its campers, including sharing high-level understandings of interactions and interventions taking place throughout the summer.
- Participate in 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 (as the pandemic allows) per year with other Jewish camp mental health professionals.
- Be an active presence on-site at camp as a part of the community.
- Additional responsibilities as required.
Key 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 experience in working with young children is preferred
  - Exceptional skill and capacity for engagement and relationship building with both children and their parents.
- 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.

Miscellaneous Responsibilities and Expectations

- Attend Head Staff Training: May 31 – June 11
- Attend General Staff Orientation, Dates June 12 – June 19
- Complete duties as assigned.
- Attend all staff meetings as directed.

Time Off

- Arranged as needed based on need/schedule. At minimum there will be 1-day off a week.
- Additional time off for family events and college will be given on a case by case basis
- Camp will not grant special time off for concerts or other non-family events

Emma Kaufmann Camp is open and accessible to everyone, regardless of age, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or special need by welcoming individuals of all backgrounds, embracing their uniqueness and diversity under our communal tent.

Please contact Aaron Cantor, EKC Director at (412) 339-5412 or acantor@jccpgh.org for more information.