Providing Opportunities for Personal and Professional Growth to Young Leaders... ***LIKE YOU!!!***

Why Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp & Why We Need *YOU*

Vision

Cultivate opportunities for life-long connections through culture, creativity and courage in an outdoor environment.

Mission

Provide a setting and programs for the purpose of leadership training, environmental education and recreation for youth and families to develop responsible citizens.

Life changing experiences only happen when a group of people come together as a community ready to embrace culture and creativity, finding the courage inside of them to step outside of their comfort zone and make new community connections. Here at Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp for the last 70+ years we have been and continue to provide campers, teen leaders, junior counselors and staff the opportunity to do just that.

As an organization, we strive to create and facilitate an environment and programs where all who participate can grow and learn to be the best versions of themselves every day. One way we do this is to find those extraordinary people who will bring their passion for working with children and for personal growth to our community. We are looking for those that do not want to do the mundane but instead provide extraordinary experiences and life changing moments for others and themselves.

What We Do

"Without Campers We Would Just Be Bunch of Silly Adults in the Woods" - Unknown

Being a camp counselor is more than just being a silly adult in the woods, more than just playing and having fun with kids, or hanging out with your friends. These are part of the perks of the job and are a byproduct of how we intentionally plan our activities and programs. However, we pride ourselves on providing opportunities through our activities and programs for campers to learn about teamwork, independence, confidence, responsibility, trying new things, meeting new people, about different cultures, acceptance of others, appreciation of nature and how to be a leader.

Our camp provides a unique opportunity to help campers learn about living in a community of people without their adults hovering over and trying to micromanage what they do. We expect our staff to help teach and model a variety of skills that will help campers advocate for themselves and for others. As part of this community building opportunity campers and staff learn the importance of managing their positive and negative emotions leading to success here at camp and in their communities at home and school.

Requirements

- ➔ Finished High School June of current year
- ➔ Passion for working with children
- ➔ Desire for personal and professional growth

Do you have G.R.A.C.E. (Gratitude, Respect/Responsibility, Accountability, Compassion, Encouragement)? These are qualities that we not only try to teach our campers but expect our staff to possess. We work hard here at Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp to make each staff member and camper feel valued and accepted. We feel that in order to do that we have to have G.R.A.C.E.

Are we the right fit for *YOU*? Keep reading this document to find out more.

The People Here to Help *You*

Camp Director



Camp Director, Heather Logee, returns to our camp with 35 years of experience starting as a camper then counselor. She is entering her 21st year as Camp Director. She has completed her MA Degree in Camp Administration and Leadership. Heather continues her professional development through yearly ACA workshops and conferences. She is involved year-round in 4-H Camp programming and training. Heather also serves on the board of the Connecticut Camping Association and the Youth Camp Safety Advisory Counsel. Heather enjoys helping staff and campers grow to their fullest potential.

Associate Director/ Program Coordinator



Jessica "J" Ruiz is excited to return to Windham- Tolland 4-H Camp this summer as* Associate Director/ Program Coordinator*. J was a camper, junior staff and counselor. Returning for her 34th summer, J is certified in low ropes, zipline, and archery. She is a graduate of Bluffton University in Ohio with a BA in Early Childhood Education.



Senior Program Coordinator

Alyssa Harvey returns to Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp as the Year Round Senior Program Coordinator. Alyssa started at camp as a Teen Leader and then worked as a Staff member for 6 years. She is a certified Lifeguard and Ropes Instructor. She has her Bachelors Degree from Uconn in English. She is working on her Masters Degree in Special Education. Alyssa loves camp, trees and working with children and teens.

How We Work and Live at W-T 4-H

We have a team of hard working individuals, who work to make our camp an exceptional place to live and work. We want our camp to feel like a family. Here's how our family functions:

Crazy Hours

For 10-12 weeks we will live, work and build a community together. This means we don't just work 8-5 and go our own way. You will get to know the people on this exceptional team very well. You will teach 5 - 55min activity periods a day, live in a cabin of 7-10 kids, help run all camp activities and help build community in the in between times.

Where You Live

You will be living in a cabin with campers, our cabins do not have electricity. Bathrooms are in a separate building and there is a shower area in our main lodge that is available only for staff.

Time Off (How you use it matters)

Taking care of you is important and learning how to manage your time is essential to having a successful summer. You have most Saturdays off and exploring local is a great idea, even Boston, Providence, and the beach are all great day trips. We also highly recommend making sure you get lots of rest and relaxation as well. Finding time to connect with those close to you that are not at camp is important.

Professional Development

Before campers arrive we provide a minimum of 12 days of staff training. If you have special activity training it will be longer. Our goal is to help you be prepared as best as we can for the important role you will play in our family this summer.

Benefits & Resume Builders

Benefits you might know or think you will get:

- Meeting new people who you will be friends with forever.
- Hanging out and having fun with kids (maybe even teaching them something).
- Being in the woods all summer.

Benefits you might not have thought of:

- Opportunities to learn:
    - Community building
    - Problem solving
    - Advocating for yourself and others
    - Managing yourself, when having to take care of others
- Two weeks of leadership training
- Opportunity for an internship

Other Helpful Hints to Success

★ Once you have said yes.... Jump in the deep end and take every opportunity. It is our expectation that everyone takes initiative, plays the role of a leader and does their part to help campers learn our values.

★ When the going gets tough... come and talk to Heather, J or another admin team member. It is our job to help you through the little things and the big things. If all you do is gossip and gripe about the situation or the person, it is hard to contain the negative energy that has started to already spread. Camp has the fastest game of telephone you have ever heard. Everybody will know you are unhappy and with whom.

★ To be your best self, it is important that you advocate for what you need. If you don't ask, you will never know. We may not be able to accommodate every request but we want the chance to help you in any way we can.

★ Your influence on campers and staff will last a lifetime. You might not see it on those hot, sticky, rainy days but you are making a difference. And hopefully, a few years down the road you will run into that kid you thought gave you a hard time and they will tell you just how much of a difference you made. (Note: you may never hear it but I promise you, you will have made a difference.)

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp

Community Building Starts with...
EVERYBODY, including YOU!!!!

The key to your success here begins with the effort you put into your experience and helping build the community you want to be a part of.

Qualities and Mindset of an Ideal Staff Member... Is this *YOU*???

- ★ Camp is more than playing with kids, a summer job, an internship, or a resume builder. It is about building connections and community with everyone who steps foot through our doors.
- ★ You desire to be the most extraordinary version of yourself; by setting goals, living out your own core values, stepping up and stepping out of your comfort zone.
- ★ You understand that although you benefit from camp, camp is about the campers and the experience you can provide for them.
- ★ You like to genuinely get to know others and build relationships with them.
- ★ You can be flexible.
- ★ You hold yourself and others accountable.
- ★ You are self-motivated but can also work great as part of a team.
- ★ Making others smile, makes you smile too.
- ★ You are passionate about having a positive impact on the campers you will work with.
- ★ Ice cream makes you happy 😀

Some but not all of what you will be asked to do at W-T 4-H Camp

- ★ You will be working alongside others who also value this experience.
- ★ You will be assisting with campers to help them reach their full potential.
- ★ You will be helping implement policies and procedures that are in place to make sure everyone in our camp family is safe.
- ★ You will set goals for yourself.
- ★ You will be showing and teaching G.R.A.C.E (Gratitude, Respect/Responsibility, Accountability, Compassion, Encouragement).
- ★ You will be managing conflict- both your own and your campers.
- ★ You will be using techniques to limit undesired camper behavior.
- ★ You will be responsible for writing and implementing lesson plans for activities you will be teaching and all camp programs.
- ★ You will receive a mid-summer evaluation.
- ★ You will write an end of summer activity report.