December 23, 2018

Dear Potential Camp Counselor:

Thank you for your interest in serving as a camp counselor for the 2019 Clermont / Hamilton County 4-H Camp! This year’s camp will be held June 7-11, at 4-H Camp Graham. Camp counseling can be a very rewarding experience. As a counselor you will work as a member of a team to plan and conduct a high-quality, safe and fun overnight program for young people. At the same time, you will be developing your own skills and forming lifelong friendships.

Camp counselor candidates must be 15 years of age as of January 1, 2019, and be a 4-H member in good standing in either Clermont or Hamilton County. Steps to becoming a camp counselor include, submitting an online application, signing the Camp Counselor Code of Conduct and Activities and Programs with Minors form and completing the Ohio 4-H Health Statement form. Applicants are also required to provide the contact information of three people to complete a reference form on their behalf.

Additionally, teens are required to complete a minimum of 24 hours of training. All camp counselors must attend the Multi-County Camp Counselor Training on March 2-3, at Camp Lebanon. The $40 registration fee will be included in the cost of each applicant’s camp counselor fee. Additional training opportunities such as Making Extreme Counselors and Buckeye Leadership Workshop are available but are paid at the applicant's expense. More details are available on the camp counselor fee and training schedule document.

Being a 4-H camp counselor requires a lot of time, commitment and responsibility. Counselors are selected based on their fulfillment and completion of an application, evaluation at skill stations and feedback provided on recommendation forms. Below are the important dates for completing the camp counselor application process:

**Important Dates / Checklist for Counselor Applicants:**

1. **Online Application Due**
   - Friday, January 11, 2019, by 11:59 p.m.
   - All interested candidates must complete the online application.

2. **Returning Camp Counselor Exit Interviews**
   - Wednesday, January 30, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
   - This is only for applicants who were camp counselors at 4-H camp in 2018.

3. **Camp Counselor Selection Night**
   - Wednesday, January 30, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
   - Anyone who was not a counselor in 2018 must attend the camp counselor selection night. Applicants will participate in an orientation, series of skills stations and an interview. Dinner will not be provided.

4. **Selection Notification Emails Sent**
   - Friday, February 8, 2019
   - All applicants will receive an email notification.
It is the applicant’s responsibility to complete all trainings and communicate with Kelly and Tony regarding meetings and requirements. It is expected that camp counselor obligations are at the top of your priority list. Failure to attend training or the counselor overnight could prohibit you from counseling. Absences must be pre-approved. Notify your 4-H Educator at least 48 hours in advance so we can discuss your options for continuing on in the counselor selection process.

We wish you the best throughout your camp counselor selection process. If you have questions about the selection process, counselor meetings or other concerns, please contact Kelly Royalty (royalty.9@osu.edu) or Tony Staubach (staubach.9@osu.edu).

Sincerely,

Kelly Royalty
4-H Youth Development Educator
OSU Extension, Clermont County

Tony Staubach
4-H Youth Development Educator
OSU Extension, Hamilton County