



PROGRAMMER

Job Description

The Mission: To break down the walls of kids' hearts with lots of fun, excitement, and laughter so that the gospel can flood in.

EXPECTATIONS

- **Responsible & Reliable.**
- **Servant Leader, willing to step-up and help in anyway throughout camp.**
- **Program should have great Time Management, Organization, Responsibility and Leadership Skills.**
- **Help build and enforce the camp's framework- including games, skits, characters, etc.**
- **You are the Face and Voice of camp, must be high energy and hold yourself to a high standard.**

CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION

- **Report to the Camp Director.**
- **Collaborate with Core Team Boss any schedule, location or material changes constantly.**
- **Communicate with Worship and Speaker for the stuture of Chalk Talk daily.**

PRE-CAMP RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Complete and turn in Youth Protection Training and W9 Form before the first week of camp you will be working.**
- **Connect with Camp Director and Director of Camping on what the camp schedule will look like for the week or weeks of camp you will be working**
- **Conference calls with Camp Director to establish expectations and flow of the schedule.**
- **Develop & Submit Chalk Talk Plans (Skit characters, scripts, mixers (games that include everyone), and upfront games (small group of kids) at least a week before your camp.**
- **Communicate with Camp Director to develop purchase list for weekly activities.**
- **Communicate with CTB for special needs for equipment, location use, or schedule changes**
- **Create 3 clean, uplifting, christian music playlists that can be used throughout camp.**
 - **1 - Calm Worship Music. 2 - High Energy. 3 - Instrumental**

CAMP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Keeping camp on schedule
- Attend all staff meetings (You will be in charge of walking staff through the daily schedule)
- Ensure that Chalk Talk runs smoothly (Communicate with Worship Leader to set up skits, and check-in with Speaker beforehand on any needs he/she may have)
- Check that CTB has everything ready for activities
- Check in with Coaches before SWISS for any needs/wants.

POST-CAMP RESPONSIBILITIES

- Debrief with Camp Director
- Gather and sort any and all equipment your team used
- Help with camp clean up
- Complete Staff Evaluation

THE WHY OF PROGRAM

- **Humor and fun are deeply spiritual and open a person's heart to experience the gospel.** "A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." - (ESV)
- **Laughter and fun breaks down walls between people and Christ. Our job is to come alongside leaders and help clear the path, not necessarily to be the funniest people you've ever seen.** "We must know why we do what we do... in all that we do. And we must be able to communicate that to leaders (TL's) in leader meetings (War Room), to trip leaders (CD) before arrival, to leaders when we have face-to-face opportunities with them. And if you don't know the "why" to every last thing we do, find out, because it truly matters. We also want to set leaders up for success with their teenage friends while at camp and enable them to share their lives and preach the Gospel." - Tim Teague

STEPS OF SUCESS FOR PROGRAMMING

- **Write a Script**

- **Why?** A script is the train track that keeps the program moving in the right direction. Scripts limit but don't prohibit improvisation, not everything will be perfect and sometimes improvising is needed. However, having a plan is crucial for staying on track. A script is necessary.
- **How?** A script can be complex or simple, depending on the team. Write as much as will keep the program team focused and prepared. There's no formula, but it must be done.

- **Practice**

- **Why?** The quality of our work is a direct reflection of how much we care not only about the role we play at camp but also how much we care for our campers. By practicing, we ensure preparedness and excellence.
- **How?** Everyone is built differently so how much time one dedicates to practicing scripts and characters will vary. Setting time aside to rehearse the script for each character individually and together is key to ensure the flow goes well.

- **Fun Over Funny**

- **Why?** Being fun is more important than being funny. When a program team has fun, humor is an inevitable byproduct. Trying to be funny without first having fun may lead to crude jokes and lifeless program.
- **How?** Ensure the crowd is highly engaged either through lines, hand motions, or dancing.

- **Be Brief**

- **Why?** Jim Rayburn said kids like events when songs are short, skits are short, and talks are short. When we're brief, we ensure that all the time we fill is quality and we leave people wanting more.
 - ***The average attention span of a middle schooler is 10-15 minutes, keeping

this in mind is imperative to maximize our time for the information we are filling them with.

- **How?** Rehearse and trim the script.

TIPS AND TRICKS

- **Prepare very well for weekend camps. Have a script for every appearance and extra of all supplies. Ensure the use of highly engaging characters that come out multiple times and have lots of fun throughout.**
- **Be present at some SWAT and meal times (some program teams have separate characters to run during meals during the day).**
- **Take time at the end of everyday and write down or thoroughly think through what needs to be done before the day and address the needed help early rather than later. Asking in advance even for someone to be ready to do something (if you don't specifically know what needs to happen) is better than getting to a meal time or event and not being prepared. Ask for help and advice as you need others perspectives, because a fast paced environment causes you to not think through decisions with as much clarity.**

MISSION SUPPORT

We are so excited to serve alongside you this summer!

Still Water exists to be the camp for any kid, regardless of their socio-economic status. We believe there is so much beauty in having kids from different backgrounds right next to each other in the same cabin (most camps block off weeks to bring in their scholarship campers).

As 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Still Water fundraises year round to not only cover the costs of these scholarship kids, but also raises funds to cover the cost of everyone who is on staff at camp.

Still Water pays approximately \$100,000 to cover the costs – property, food, lodging and resources – of its summer staff. This breaks down to \$500 per staffer, per camp.

2023 Summer Staff, we are asking you to join us in these efforts by providing contact information for 5-10 people in your sphere of influence that would prayerfully consider giving towards your “mission” out at camp. These are people who love you and may include family members, friends, church members, or other organizational groups that you are involved with.

Simply click the link on the "training and mission support" page on stillwatercamps.org and fill out the contact information for each person. We will reach out with a postcard explaining what you're doing this summer!

Summer is just around the corner and we cannot wait to see all that the LORD has in store! We sincerely thank you for supporting Still Water with your time, finances, community and prayers!