



Roving Counselor Job Description and Expectations

In addition to the below expectations for the Roving Counselor, all Covenant Harbor summer staff must meet the [General Summer Staff Expectations](#) and agree to the [Summer Staff Covenant](#).

Job Description

The Roving Counselor provides surges of additional support as needed to provide excellent care for campers who have special needs. They may care one-on-one for a camper or assist another counselor within a larger cabin group. They will focus on the specific needs of the camper they are working with so that the cabin counselor can continue to care well for the other campers in the cabin. The Roving Counselor gets to know their individual camper and ensures that they are set up for a successful day and week at camp. They will coordinate with camper parents and the Youth Ministry Team to understand the camper's needs and to keep them informed regarding the camper's experience and progress at camp. This person will need to quickly build a rapport with the camper and create trust with their parents. They will need to provide honest and timely feedback on the experience so that the Youth Ministry Team can set expectations with parents, set up the camper and camp for future success, and follow up with parents to gain insights on how to create a more successful experience for the camper if necessary. The Roving Counselor position allows campers to attend camp who may not otherwise have the opportunity, and to have a positive, excellent experience.

Expectations

- Support the counseling team by spending one-on-one time with campers who have special needs and require additional support. Whenever possible, set them up to participate alongside the rest of the cabin rather than functioning as a one-on-one pair.
- Coordinate before a camp session begins with the Youth Ministry Team, the nurses, the staff counselors, the parents, and any others involved to set your campers up to succeed.
- Coordinate with the counselor of the camper you're serving to make sure they have what they need, are feeling supported, and able to connect with the camper you are specifically assisting.
- Manage the schedule for yourself and your camper(s), and balance their needs and interests with the rhythms of the daily routine.
- Advocate for your campers. Help other campers and staff understand how they can include and care for the camper.
- Be creative. If a camper you are working with cannot or will not participate in an activity, find another way to help them get involved.
- Be flexible. In this role, no week, day or minute will be the same. Find time for rest when you can, and be ready to jump into situations and with campers that need your support.
- Be nimble enough to assist with more than one cabin and more than one camper per session
- If your assistance is not needed for a particular camper, you will support the program in a different way, as assigned by the Youth Ministry Team.
- Pay special attention to the health and well-being of your campers. Depending on the individual, you may need to ask them if they need to go to the bathroom, work with the kitchen staff to make sure they eat something at meals, help them put on sunscreen, etc.

Requirements

- Be at least 18 years old by June 2, 2021.
- Be available to live onsite at Covenant Harbor for staff training (June 2-June 15), plus Session 1 (June 15-July 17) and/or Session 2 (July 17-August 12).
- Experience and skills in interacting with elementary, middle school, and/or high school students.
- Experience and skills in caring for children with special needs.
- Ability to pass a background check.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Must be able to participate in potentially strenuous physical activities.
- CPR and First Aid certifications are preferred, but not required.