

THE EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

CAMP CUMMINGS

Camp Director
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The Educational Alliance, Inc.



An agency of UJA-Federation



A Greater New York/United Way Agency



An agency of United Neighborhood Houses



*A Summer Camp
Experience for Children,
Adolescents and Adults
with Mental Retardation*

Special Programs Offer “Life Skills” and Summer Fun

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND RECREATIONAL CAMPING (SPARC)

for children 8 to 16 years

First time campers and those returning for another season will enjoy a full range of recreational camping activities. Children grow both in their individual skills and in learning to live with others. Emphasis is on personal care, life skills, following daily routines and social activities. Most of all — our children have fun!

“PREP FOR INDEPENDENCE”

for adolescents 15 to 21 years

The goal of this pre-vocational program for high functioning adolescent campers is to help them prepare for independent living. These campers reside in their own village, learning to build a sense of community. This program is made possible by a special grant from the Jack and Zella Butler Foundation.

Located on the Loeb campus of Camp Cummings, campers will learn to assume responsibility for themselves, their unit and throughout the camp. Decision making skills, money management skills, work related attitudes and responsibilities are all part of the camp program. Some campers will participate in a Staff Assistant Program involving skilled work assignments and increasing independence.

Learning to be independent is exciting when accompanied by all sorts of wonderful recreational and social activities.

ASSURANCE, INDEPENDENCE AND MATURATION (AIM)

for campers with autism 14-21 years

Designed to encourage socialization and offer new experiences to teens with autism, this program helps campers expand their confidence in themselves and in the world around them. This very special program focuses closely on the individual camper and attempts to foster relationships and increase communication skills through therapeutic recreational activities.

ADULT VACATION PROGRAM (AVP)

for adults

Exceptional children and adolescents become exceptional adults. The AVP campers are treated with dignity and encouraged to participate in planning their recreation program. Friendships develop between campers and staff as they participate in a full range of activities that are part of this supervised vacation program.

AVP cabins include large bedrooms, semi-private bathrooms, and living rooms — combining a need for privacy with an opportunity for socialization.

Because adult campers often have job commitments, the AVP programs are scheduled in two-week sessions, allowing those who can to remain at Camp Cummings for multiple sessions.



What are the facilities like?

Situated on its own lake at the foot of the Berkshire Mountains a little more than an hour from New York City, Camp Cummings is surrounded by over 300 acres of woodland. A modern recreation hall, dining rooms, activity areas and beach — all in a beautiful rustic setting — provide a wonderful backdrop for educational, vocational and recreational programming.

What are some of the activities?

Recreational opportunities include swimming, boating, arts and crafts, music, drama, nature, gardening, sports, cooking, campfires, dances, trips and special events. Campers may attend Sabbath services.

Functional academics with emphasis on reading, telling time, and managing money are offered where appropriate. Some teenagers and young adults will have the opportunity to participate in on-the-job training and pre-vocational workshops.

Who are the staff?

Camp Cummings professional staff are individuals with training in social work, psychology and special education who have worked with exceptional people for many years. Like our campers, staff members are exceptional people who are selected for the warmth, maturity and dedication they bring to the job along with their professional training.

Camp counselors are college students, some of whom are from Europe and come specifically to work at Camp Cummings. Junior counselors are highly motivated pre-college students who exhibit special skills and dedication.

What is the food like?

Nutritious, ample and delicious meals are served at camp. Dietary laws are observed. Special attention is paid to ensure that all campers eat a balanced diet. Healthy snacks are served for special activities. Campers may purchase supplies and snacks at the Canteen.

What about medical facilities?

A fully equipped infirmary is staffed by registered nurses and support personnel, safeguarding the health of our campers. All medication is dispensed by the nursing staff. Physicians are on 24 hour call and a modern medical center is nearby.

How do I register?

All campers must complete a registration form and be interviewed by our camp director. A health examination is required for all campers prior to arrival at camp.

In order to receive application forms and schedule an appointment for an interview, or if any additional information is needed, please call our registrar at (212)475-6200 ext. 381.



CAMP CUMMINGS

*A Special Environment
for Personal Growth*



Camp Cummings provides summer residential camping experiences for children, adolescents and adults with mild to moderate retardation. The camp has a series of separate and special programs that reflect the needs of different groups of campers including a program for individuals with autism.

The goal of Camp Cummings remains the same as it has been for over 20 years — helping individuals to develop to their fullest potential. Campers are encouraged to take initiative and responsibility by making choices that govern their lives in an informal camp environment. Staff provides campers with guidance to help them learn new skills, achieve increased self-esteem and broaden social skills that will enable them to live in the community.

The Educational Alliance recognizes the need for families to have respite from the day to day responsibilities of caring for a child with special needs. Parents and caregivers are comfortable knowing their child is in a safe, healthy and nurturing camp. Camp does not end at the close of the season — campers and their families are encouraged to maintain contact with the camp director and professional staff throughout the year.